

DON'T JUDGE A BOOK BY ITS COVER

A negotiation education activity created by

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Summary

It is a brainstorming activity before introducing the theme and the moral of the literary piece "Mr. Know All". The story presents that first impression is often misleading since physical appearances might be deceptive. The teacher presents to the class ten photos of various people around the world. In pairs, the students are asked to choose one photo and answer ten questions.

Learning Objectives

Concepts- ladders of Inference (noticing, interpreting, jumping to conclusions)

Skills- evaluating, making a judgment, exploring, inquiry, different interpretations.

Lead-in / Preparation

Ten photos of different people from different cultures. See attachment.

Estimated Class-Time Required

35 minutes

Description of Activities

The teacher presents ten photos of various people around the world. In pairs, the students choose one photo and answer the following ten questions. After 10 minutes, the teacher invites the pairs to share their answers and discuss their evaluations with other pairs of students who have the same photo, another 10 minutes. Then the students: group of four are asked to present their different views of judgments in front of a class (15 minutes).



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The last 10 minutes, the teacher presents the theme of Mr. Know All, where personal impression or judgment can mislead people. People tend to stereotype people based on skin color, nationality and physical appearances. And Prejudice arises because it is human nature to stereotype new people based on race or how they look before getting to know them.

Answer the following questions according to your own judgments: in your opinion....

What is his/her nationality?.....
 What is her/his profession?.....
 What is her/his levels of education?.....
 What is her/his financial situation?.....
 What is her/his social status?.....
 What is her/his major goal right now?.....
 What kind of person is he or she? Name three qualities

 In your opinion, what's her/his strongest quality?
 Can you trust him/her? Yes /No
 What makes you trust him /her

Key Vocabulary / Phrases

- ✓ First impression
- ✓ Physical appearance
- ✓ Judgment/ to judge
- ✓ Qualities / traits of personality; trustworthy, likeable, humble, confident, reliable, ambitious, stylish, old-fashioned, arrogant, dishonest, aggressive, artificial, childish
- ✓ To possess
- ✓ Financial situation
- ✓ Social status
- ✓ Stereotypes
- ✓ Posture / gesture
- ✓ Facial expressions

Assessment

A homework task: writing about a similar event or experience when your own personal judgment misleads you. It can be a new student who has joined the class, a job interview, meeting a manager for the first time, or meeting a new teacher and etc.



Reflection

The students can reflect on the activity by sharing their own insights orally or written: how creative they were in evaluating the photo of a person, why they come out with this specific conclusions, what skills they demonstrate when they judge and evaluate, what lesson they can learn from judging people.

Comments

I believe, the students will become actively involved in the lesson when there is a link between the lesson content to real life situations and personal experiences. In that sense, the students will have the opportunity to demonstrate skills of analysis, evaluation and creativity.



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