

# Stereotype

Word of the month

a cura di Sarah Gudgeon

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## 1. Join the sentence halves to find the definition of 'stereotype'.

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| a. Stereotypes are a common belief or idea...  | 1. ...often untrue.                          |
| b. The belief or idea is...                    | 2. ...groups of people or individuals.       |
| c. Stereotypes label...                        | 3. ... not the way we expect them to behave. |
| d. Stereotypes are an unfair...                | 4. ...way to judge people.                   |
| e. We should judge people on their behavior... | 5. ...about someone or something.            |

## 2. Tick the six sentences that are stereotypes.

- a. All English people dislike foreign people.
- b. All football fans are hooligans.
- c. All Italians are gangsters.
- d. Manchester is a violent city.
- e. All bank managers are boring.
- f. Some English people aren't very polite to foreign people.
- g. It always rains in London

### 3. Read and underline all the words/phrases connected to stereotypes.

Stereotypes can be very dangerous because they reinforce discrimination against certain people, places or behaviour. When we discriminate against people, we treat them in an unfair way. Maybe they can't get a job or a place to live because of their ethnicity or social background. Inequality in society results in social injustice. When people are victims of social injustice they have less opportunities (education, housing, employment for example) and this lack of opportunities results in the reinforcement of the stereotype. We should respect the civil rights of all citizens and give equal opportunities to everyone.

### 4. Complete the sentences with words from exercise 3.

- a. Basic c..... r..... include freedom of speech and freedom of movement.
- b. Foreign people living in a new country often face d.....
- c. Examples of s..... i..... include poor housing conditions for vulnerable people and poor social services for the disabled.
- d. The distribution of wealth is u..... in many countries.
- e. I..... is a global problem and we must find a solution.
- f. There are still not e..... o..... in society for men and women.

### 5. Talk to a partner. Think of 3 stereotypes about English people and 3 stereotypes about Italian people.

Italian people think that the English...

English people think that the Italians...

## Teacher's Notes

1. Join the sentence halves.

a 5   b 1   c 2   d 4   e 3

2. Tick the six sentences that are stereotypes.

Don't tick 'e' because it only says 'some' and therefore is not an over-generalisation.

3. Read and underline the words/phrases connected to stereotypes.

Stereotypes can be very dangerous because they reinforce discrimination against certain people, places or behaviour. When we discriminate against people, we treat them in an unfair way. Maybe they can't get a job or a place to live because of their ethnicity or social background. Inequality in society results in social injustice. When people are victims of social injustice they have less opportunities (education, housing, employment for example) and this lack of opportunities results in the reinforcement of the stereotype. We should respect the civil rights of all citizens and give equal opportunities to everyone.

4. Complete the sentences with the words from exercise 3.

- a. Basic civil rights include freedom of speech and freedom of movement.
- b. Foreign people living in a new country often face discrimination.
- c. Examples of social injustice include poor housing conditions for vulnerable people and poor social services for the disabled.
- d. The distribution of wealth is unfair in many countries.
- e. Inequality is a global problem and we must find a solution.
- f. There are still not equal opportunities in society for men and women.

5. Talk to a partner. Think of 3 stereotypes about English people and 3 stereotypes about Italian people.

Sample answer

*Italian people think that the English are rude, very reserved and eat fish and chips every Friday.*

*English people think that the Italians are loud, lazy and eat pizza all the time.*

### \* Sarah Gudgeon

Sarah Gudgeon is a trained journalist and EFL teacher from Manchester, England. She has written numerous books for Pearson over the years and is a regular contributor to the Pearson Portal on pearson.it.