



Stereotypes

Task: Stereotyping and Prejudicism

Activity 1: Listening

Welcome to a practice listening task for the GESE 11.

You are going to hear a talk about **stereotyping and prejudicism**. You will hear the talk twice. The first time, just listen. Then I'll ask you to tell me generally what the speaker is talking about. Are you ready?

Audio Script

It is understandable how somebody might confuse the difference between stereotyping and prejudicism, because sometimes they are similar in a given situation. However there are differences between the two. So, let's consider the differences.

Firstly, stereotypes are seen both positively and negatively, depending on the person's point of view. For instance, if somebody likes to play video games, they may be called a geek. Now if the other person also likes video games, they may be saying that, in a way, it is showing admiration to the game player. Although, if it is the contrary, it might come off a bit more like an insult, sadly enough. So, what compromises a stereotype, you may be wondering. It is usually a collection of opinions that cover characteristics, such as behaviours and traits, that are correlated with particular social groups. Furthermore, some of these stereotypes can be so general and common that a lot of the time most people don't even realize that they are surrounded and even participating within the stereotype. For instance, one of the most used stereotypes when it comes to children is that girls should play with dolls and boys should play with trucks. Not only does this force children to feel they have to act a certain way according to their gender role, but supposedly it is said that colour isn't tied to a gender, yet we see that colours are assigned to genders all the time. We can see this from a young age. Baby boys are often assigned the colour blue and baby girls the colour pink, with yellow and green being appropriate for both genders. So, from infancy, children are already being guided into what is allowed and what isn't. Something else that we can see with stereotypes is how it can effect employment for people. An example of this is rather jaw-dropping in itself. It is assumed that women don't need as high salaries as that of a man because their husbands can support them and that they are less dedicated at work because they have children. While men, on the other hand, are thought to be more dedicated if they have a family to support.

Now, turning to what it means to be prejudice. This is where an opinion is made relatively quickly without it being based on any evidence, reason or experience. In addition to this, it is often found rooted in the thought that particular kinds of people are considered less worthy and capable than others. A common example of this is for a person to have an extremely negative attitude against people that were not born in that person's country. They don't feel that way because they personally know these people, but more because the person



disapproves of them since their status must have been listed as a foreigner. Digging in deeper, it is seen that there are some explanations for being prejudice, such as having an authoritative personality and social identity issues. Namely, having problems with certain races, gender or gender preferences. This is where such terms are created and have come to light, in regards to labels like racist, sexist and homophobic.

In closing, most people, as do I, firmly believe that stereotypes and prejudism is totally brought on by discrimination. Therefore, from an early age it is important to teach children to have an open mind and understand that difference isn't horrible but really something that should be cautiously explored and appreciated. If we had realized that our opinions had caused our children to create stereotypes and become prejudice, we would be upset and bothered by our influence in this and would try to alter their upbringing so that it would be a different world for them.

Can you tell me in one or two sentences what the speaker was talking about?

Now listen to the talk again. This time make some notes as you listen, if you want to. Then I'll ask you to tell me about the point of view of the speaker, and the differences between stereotyping and prejudicism.

Now tell me about the point of view of the speaker, and the differences between stereotyping and prejudicism. You have one minute to talk.

This is the end of the listening task.

Answers:

Point of View	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discrimination brings on stereotypes and prejudism; teach children to have an open mind at an early age
Stereotypes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stereotypes are both positive and negative; game player being called a geek, depending on point of view• Opinions that cover characteristics, behaviours and traits, of social groups• People don't realize are surrounded or participating within stereotype; girls play with dolls and boys trucks; act a certain way and oppress anything else• Colours based on gender from infancy; baby boys blue and baby girl pink, yellow and green for both genders

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effect employment; women paid less and less dedicated if they have children, men more dedicated if they support a family.
Prejudice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Being prejudice; making an opinion without evidence, reason or experience. • Rooted in thinking that some people are less worthy and capable • Negative feelings to people who are foreign / foreigners • Explanations: authoritative personality and social identity issues; races, gender or gender preferences; racist, sexist and homophobic

Marks: +_ / +10

Grammar Used in the listening task:

- **inversions: not only....but**
- **compound adjectives: jaw-dropping / well-to-do**
- **modifiers: absolutely / extremely / incredibly / totally**
- **Past participle as adjective: the most wanted player / a written document / a confused girl**
- **superlative + postmodifier + noun: best possible location / highest possible level**
- **adverb + enough: surprisingly enough / sadly enough / luckily enough**
- **adverb + adverb: perfectly well / extremely well / relatively quickly**
- **Mix Conditional: If society had realized this mistake earlier, it would be a different world today.**
- **Perfect Infinitive**