



Youth Behaviour

Task: The Impact of Peer Pressure on Youth Behaviour

Activity 1: Listening

Welcome to a practice listening task for the GESE 10.

You are going to hear a talk about **the impact of peer pressure on youth behaviour**. 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

The impact of peer pressure on youth behavior is certainly a topic worth exploring. Peer pressure, the influence exerted by one's social circle, can significantly shape the choices and actions of young individuals. It may be wrong, but it's hard to deny that peer pressure has the potential to steer youth towards both positive and negative behaviors. The desire to fit in and avoid social rejection often leads adolescents to conform to the norms and expectations set by their peers. Whether it's engaging in risky activities or participating in superficial small talk, the influence can be profound. However, it's important to consider the pensive nature of young minds and their innate resilience. Despite the pressures they face, young individuals have the capacity to resist negative influences, think critically, and make independent decisions. Understanding the complexities of peer pressure and its impact on youth behavior is crucial in fostering an environment that nurtures their individuality and empowers them to make choices aligned with their own values and aspirations.

The influence of peer pressure on decision-making and risk-taking behavior among youth is quite significant. Adolescents, driven by their heightened need for social acceptance and the desire to fit in, are completely susceptible to the sway of their peers. In the quest to maintain social status and avoid rejection, rational decision-making processes can be overridden when influenced by peers, leading to impulsive and risky choices that they would not typically make on their own. This influence can manifest in various forms, such as engaging in substance abuse, reckless driving, or other dangerous behaviors. Firstly, the inscrutable nature of peer pressure lies in its ability to manipulate young individuals into disregarding their own judgment and succumbing to the influence of their peers. The consequences of such influence can have long-lasting impacts on youth, affecting not only their immediate well-being but also their personal development and future choices. To counter this, it is essential for young individuals to cultivate the strength to make a move based on their own values and aspirations, embracing an unfettered sense of self that remains resilient in the face of peer pressure.

Peer pressure essentially functions as a powerful force in shaping social norms and fostering conformity among youth. Adolescents, driven by a yearning for social acceptance and the fear of rejection, frequently find themselves succumbing to the behaviors and opinions of their peer group. In their quest to fit in, they often adopt certain attitudes and behaviors, aligning themselves with the prevailing norms. The influence of peer pressure can basically be both positive and negative, as it reinforces specific social expectations and practices.



From fashion choices to music preferences, language usage, and even lifestyle decisions, peer pressure leaves an indelible mark on various facets of young individuals' lives. In this sink or swim scenario, they must navigate the delicate balance between conforming to societal expectations and yearning for individuality. While conformity can absolutely create a nonchalant attitude towards uniqueness, it is crucial to recognize that ultimately, each person has the power to shape their own identity. By embracing their genuine aspirations and values, youth can finally break free from the clutches of conformity and carve their own path towards self-discovery and personal fulfillment.

The impact of peer pressure is a topic that cannot be ignored when considering youth behavior. It is totally evident that this influence can have a detrimental effect on young individuals, preventing them from exploring and embracing their true identities. Instead, they often succumb to societal expectations, sacrificing their personal growth in the process. Don't you think it might be disheartening to witness young minds turning a blind eye to their own passions and aspirations, simply to fit in and gain social acceptance? However, it is important to remember that the journey to self-discovery and individuality can transcend the pressures imposed by peers. While peer pressure may seem inevitable, it is crucial to empower youth to resist its negative influence and encourage them to stay true to themselves, even in the face of conformity. By doing so, we can support young individuals in their quest for personal growth and allow them to flourish into confident and authentic individuals.

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, the Influence of peer pressure on decision-making and risk-taking behavior among youth, as well as the role of peer pressure in shaping social norms and conformity among youth.

Now tell me about the point of view of the speaker, the Influence of peer pressure on decision-making and risk-taking behavior among youth, as well as the role of peer pressure in shaping social norms and conformity among youth. You have one minute to talk.

This is the end of the listening task.

Answers:

<p>Point of View</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peer pressure can hinder youth from discovering their true identities and expressing their individuality, causing them to conform to societal expectations and sacrificing their personal growth in the process.
<p>The Influence of Peer Pressure on Decision-Making and Risk-Taking Behavior among Youth</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peer pressure can lead youth to make impulsive and risky decisions they would not normally make on their own. • Adolescents are more susceptible to peer pressure due to their heightened need for social acceptance and desire to fit in. • Peer pressure can influence youth to engage in substance abuse, reckless driving, or other dangerous behaviors. • The desire to maintain social status and avoid rejection can override rational decision-making processes when influenced by peers. • The impact of peer pressure on decision-making and risk-taking behavior can have long-lasting consequences for youth, affecting their personal development and future choices.
<p>The Role of Peer Pressure in Shaping Social Norms and Conformity among Youth</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peer pressure plays a significant role in shaping social norms and promoting conformity among youth. • Adolescents often conform to the behaviors and opinions of their peer group to avoid rejection and maintain social connections. • Peer pressure can reinforce both positive and negative social norms, influencing youth to adopt certain behaviors or attitudes. • The influence of peer pressure on social norms can extend to areas such as fashion, music preferences, language, and lifestyle choices.

Marks: +_ / +10



Grammar Used in the listening task:

- **Modifiers:** basically / quite / certainly
- **Intensifiers:** absolutely / completely / totally
- **Tentative Expressions:** I may be wrong but.... / Don't you think it might be....?
- **Signposting Words:** firstly / finally
- **Idioms / Expressions:** under the weather / to be bored to tears / sink or swim / a shoulder to cry on / turn a blind eye to / to my mind / small talk / get it off your chest / be at a loose end / make a move / laugh your head off