4 Mind and body

Reading and vocabulary Perfect people

Lead-in

In small groups discuss the following questions:

1. **Which science fiction books have you read or science fiction films have you seen?**

2. **Which ideas from these books/films do you think might come true in the future?**

SPEAKING

Imagine that before you were born your parents could modify your genes and change your character. Answer the questions.

1 Which two things would you have liked them:

- **to change?**

■ to keep the same?

2 How would your life be different because of the changes that they made?

2 Read the article and answer the questions. In which paragraph does the writer mention:

Question	Paragraph
1 the ethical problem in relation to genetic engineering?	
2 that our society is becoming similar to the one in Gattaca?	
3 a difficult decision the parents have to make?	
4 why Vincent won't realize his ambitions?	
5 why genetic engineering is a logical step for society?	
6 the selection process parents might go through?	
7 laws which could enforce genetic engineering?	

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3 SPEAKING Discuss the questions.

1. **How do you think Vincent feels about his brother Anton? How would you feel?**

2. **Do you think parents have a right to'play God'and genetically engineer their children? Why might they be considered 'immoral' if they don't?**

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Vocabulary

Verbs and nouns with the same form

4 Study the highlighted words in the article. Complete the pairs of sentences with a highlighted word. What is the difference in meaning? Find three more examples in the article.

a Don't look at the computer ..... for too long. You'll get a headache.

b Doctors had to ..... people for bird flu, to try and stop it from spreading.

2 a Einstein had an amazing ..... . He thought about science in a different way from other people.

b I don't ..... if you disagree with me, just listen to my point of view.

3 a Designer babies will ..... a lot of problems in the future.

b This charity is a good ..... to support.

4 a There needs to be a ..... in attitude – we need to start accepting genetic engineering.

b Can you..... these boxes out of the way? They're blocking the corridor.

5 a The whole area of genetics will ..... us with serious ethical debates.

b Old people often live in care homes because they don't want to be ..... a on their children.

6 a My brother is passionate about science and mathematics. He plans to become an .....

b She tried to influence and .....the debate so she was the clear winner.

Lesson feedback (write about 70-100 words for each question):

1. **What are the pros and cons of screeing embryos for conditions such as depression and tendency to addiction?**

2. **Would you genetically engineer a child if this gave them a better chance in life?**

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