

Senior 6 May Exam

Tenses

CNN

A man covered his face with tattoos and turned his eyes black. He says it cost him his kindergarten teaching job

Story by Reuters

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A school teacher whose body, face and tongue _____ (**cover**) in tattoos and who has had the whites of his eyes surgically turned black said he was prevented _____ (**Teach**) at a French kindergarten after a parent _____ (**Complain**) he scared their child.

But the teacher, Sylvain Helaine, 35, still _____ (**teach**) children from the age of six up, and said that, after an initial shock when they see him for the first time, his pupils see past his appearance.

"All of my students and their parents _____ (**Always be**) cool with me because, basically, they knew me," said Helaine, who is estimated _____ (**Spend**) around 460 hours under the tattooists' needle.

"It's only when people _____ (**See**) me from far away that they can assume the worst."

He said last year he _____ (**Teach**) kindergarten at the Docteur Morere Elementary School in Palaiseau, a suburb of Paris, when the parents of a three-year-old child complained to educational authorities. They said their son, who _____ (**Not Teach**) by Helaine, _____ (**Have**) nightmares after seeing him.



Word Formation

A couple of months later the school Authorities [**Author**] informed him he would no longer teach kindergarten children, he said. "I think the 1) _____ [**Deside**] they took was quite sad," said Helaine.

A spokesman for the local education authority said an 2) _____ [**Agree**] was reached with Helaine to move him away from teaching kindergarten. Pupils under six "could be frightened by his 3) _____ [**Appear**]", the spokesman said.

Despite the setbacks, Helaine said he would stick with his 4) _____ [Choose] career. "I'm a primary school teacher ... I love my job."

He said he started getting tattoos at the age of 27 when, while teaching at a private school in London, he had an 5) " _____ [Exist] crisis". Since then, he said, "Getting tattoos is my passion."

He said he hoped to show his pupils that they should 6) _____ [Acceptance] people who are 7) _____ [Differ] from the norm. "Maybe when they are adults, they will be less racist and less 8) _____ [homofobia] and more open-minded," he said.

LISTENING COMPREHENSION

You are going to listen to a British girl talking about tattoos and piercings. From questions 1-10 choose **true (T)** or **false (F)**.

- 1) Tattoos used to be worn by low class people. _____
- 2) Tattoos are regarded as taboo nowadays. _____
- 3) Everyone except for political figures may have a tattoo. _____
- 4) The speaker's mother liked her daughter's piercings. _____
- 5) Tattoos are a way of showing who you really are. _____
- 6) The speaker and her mother's generation's opinion about tattoos are not really so different. _____
- 7) Some cultures believed Tattoos have powers to heal. _____
- 8) Different cultures have similar views of tattoos. _____

Paraphrasing

- 1) "Do you know where I can have a piercing done?" Emma asked me. **(Know)**

- 2) I can't wait to have a tattoo done. **(Forward)**

- 3) He can't get a tattoo because he might lose his job. **(If)**

- 4) Having so many tattoos done was such a bad idea. **(Should)**

- 5) From my point of view, tattoos and piercings shouldn't be a discriminatory condition. **(Concerned)**

Composition

You have been working with the topic Tattoos and Piercings. Now, write a **for and against Essay** giving your opinion of the topic in around **150 words**.