

Teenage pressures

I can understand a text about the pressures on teenagers to look good.

Revision: Student's Book page 37

1 Complete each pair of labels using the opposite adjectives below.

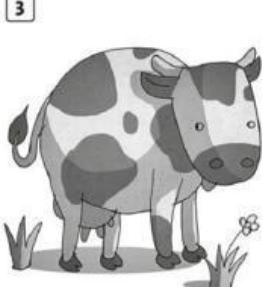
artificial fake female male natural ordinary real special



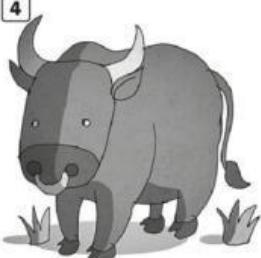
a fake photo



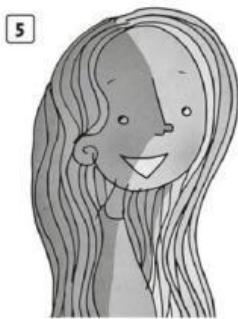
a real photo



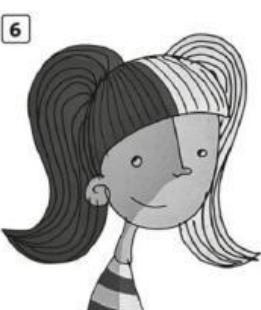
a female animal



a male animal



hair colour



hair colour



a real cake



an artificial cake

2 Read the text. Which of the four teenagers sometimes tries to copy the appearance of famous people?

Personal perspectives

1

'I'm not interested in images from the internet or magazines. Celebrities all look the same these days. And a lot of girls my age try to copy them. But I'm different – I try to find my own look. I usually buy my clothes at charity shops, and I have my own ideas about make-up too. My friends say I look great – but my dad doesn't always agree!'

Elsie
16

2

'I'm not really interested in celebrities, but I care about my appearance and I want to be fit and muscular. I go to the gym four times a week. It's a good place to meet friends. And it's a healthy hobby. I never take tablets, but I sometimes have special drinks for building muscles. They aren't bad for my health. Is it a problem? I don't think so. A lot of my friends are the same as me.'

Oscar
17

3

'A lot of the girls at school talk about hairstyles all the time – and make-up and fashion. They all have favourite celebrities and they try to copy their look. But I find all that boring. I've got other hobbies – like sport. I go swimming three times a week and I'm in the basketball and volleyball teams at school. My close friends are similar to me. They don't worry about their appearance, they just want to be fit and healthy.'

Bella
15

4

'When I'm on my own, I wear very casual clothes – just a tracksuit, or a sweatshirt with jeans. I don't wear make-up. But when I'm with my friends, we sometimes dress up in nice clothes and change our hairstyles. We wear make-up too. We sometimes copy pictures of celebrities from magazines or the internet – but that isn't a problem for us. We don't worry about our appearance, we're just having fun. What's wrong with that?'

Grace
15

Reading Strategy

When you do a matching task, check your answers by trying to match the extra headings with each paragraph. They should not match any of them.

3 Read the Reading Strategy. Then match paragraphs (1–4) in the text with headings (a–f) below. There are two extra headings.

a Fun with friends	d A personal style
b Body beautiful	e Sad about looking ordinary
c Pressure to look good	f Preferring sports