Score:

Hi everyone. I'm Emily Jones. Thank you for having me here today. As promised, I'm going to talk about how we form first impressions—not only of people, but also of social issues like gender equality, cultural diversity, human rights, and migration. We all form impressions every day. We assume things quickly—sometimes too quickly—based on a brief encounter, a single behavior, or a stereotype. And those first impressions can shape how we treat people and how we understand the world around us. Let's imagine a situation that connects to the issues we've been studying. You're at school, waiting for a community event on *human rights and cultural diversity* to begin. People from different backgrounds, ages, and genders are arriving. As you wait, you notice a young man standing near the entrance. He looks nervous and keeps checking his phone. He speaks with an accent, and you overhear someone whisper, *"He must be new here... probably a migrant."* When an organizer asks for volunteers to help set up chairs, he steps back. You assume he doesn't want to help. From this brief encounter, you form an impression: *"Maybe he's unfriendly or doesn't care about the event."* But what you don't see is the full picture. He may be anxious because he doesn't know anyone. He may be shy in a new cultural environment. He may be learning the language and feels embarrassed to speak in public. Or he may be dealing with trauma from leaving his home country. Now another person walks in: a confident woman who greets everyone, speaks loudly, and gives instructions. She seems friendly and assertive, so you assume she must be a leader or a professional expert. You might even assume she is empowered, successful, and free from limitations. But she might be facing the gender gap, struggling with the wage gap, hitting the glass ceiling, or dealing with misogyny, sexism, or cultural expectations about gender roles. These quick assumptions show how easily bias, prejudice, and cultural stereotypes can shape our impressions. Later, the event finally begins. The organizer introduces the nervous young man as the *keynote speaker*, an activist who works in advocacy for refugees and who builds allyship networks to support newly arrived families. He speaks about equality, diversity, inclusivity, and social justice. And the confident woman? She turns out to be a first-time volunteer attending her very first meeting. Suddenly, your first impressions flip. You realize that a small sample of behavior didn't reflect a person's true traits. You judged one person too quickly because of cultural assumptions and judged another based on social expectations about confidence and leadership. This is why understanding intersectionality, showing empathy, and challenging stereotypes matter. When we rely only on first impressions—especially in areas like gender equality, migration, and human rights—we risk reinforcing inequality rather than breaking it down. Now, let's reflect on How First Impressions Work. One common mistake we make is thinking that a tiny example of someone's behavior tells us everything about them. For example, because the woman at the event seemed confident, you might assume she has no struggles. Because the young man stepped back when asked to help, you assume he is uncooperative. We often think a small behavior reveals a complete personality. And here's another interesting thing: when *we* act negatively, we explain it by the situation. *"I was stressed. I didn't sleep well. My boss yelled at me."* But when someone else acts negatively—especially someone from a group we already have biases about—we blame their personality. We don't look into the situation; we jump to conclusions. This is why awareness, education, advocacy, and solidarity are so important. They help us break down barriers, speak up when something is unfair, and stand up for the rights of others. They also help us open up, question our assumptions, and take a second look before judging people or social issues. In conclusion, first impressions matter. They help us navigate new encounters and make sense of new information. But they can also be misleading—especially when stereotypes, discrimination, or social norms influence how we see others. So whenever we meet someone new—or hear about an issue like gender equality, migration, or cultural diversity—it's important to slow down, reflect, and take a second look. Because equality, fairness, dignity, and human rights require more than a first impression. They require understanding.

1. What causes people to form quick first impressions?
a) Knowing someone well before judging
b) Observing a brief behavior or encounter
c) Asking many questions about a person's past experiences
d) Listening carefully to everything a person says

2.Why do people assume the young man is unfriendly at the event?
a) He avoids eye contact and politely smiles at the other participants
b) He seems quiet and keeps to himself during the first few moments
c) He is new to the event and is unfamiliar with what is happening
d) He appears nervous and steps back instead of helping with the tasks

3.What stereotype is applied to the young man?
a) That he is shy but helpful and tries to get along with others
b) That he is a student who is new and still learning the routines
c) That he is confident, able to lead, and knows exactly what to do
d) That he is a migrant who doesn't want to participate or help

4.What stereotype is applied to the confident woman?
a) She is likely impatient with others and does not wait for instructions
b) She must be assertive and organized because she is clearly confident
c) She must be a leader or expert because she speaks confidently to everyone
d) She seems dominant and unfriendly and might intimidate other participants

5. Which issue affects the confident woman according to the script?
a) She faces challenges such as the gender gap and the glass ceiling
b) She has no experience in leadership and is unsure about her abilities
c) She struggles to participate in community events due to time constraints
d) She lacks confidence and may feel limited because of social expectations

6.What is revealed about the young man later in the event?
a) He is a student observing the event and taking notes about the process
b) He is a volunteer helping with chairs and preparing materials for the meeting
c) He is the keynote speaker and activist who supports migrants and refugees
d) He is a newcomer attending for the first time and learning the rules

7.Which concept explains overlapping social identities like gender, culture, and migration status?
a) Allyship means supporting others actively when they face discrimination or inequality
b) Intersectionality shows how different aspects of identity combine to affect experiences
c) Advocacy requires taking action to defend equality and promote human rights
d) Representation is when different groups are seen and included in positions of power

8.Which behavior reinforces discrimination?
a) Asking questions politely without really listening to what the other person says
b) Listening carefully to personal stories but forming opinions too quickly afterward
c) Forming quick judgments about others based on stereotypes or limited information
d) Participating in community events without reflecting on personal biases and beliefs

9.What tools help challenge unfair first impressions?
a) Advocacy and allyship, taking action to support equality and human rights
b) Avoiding sensitive topics in discussions with people who hold different views
c) Criticizing people who make assumptions instead of explaining the reasons calmly
d) Staying silent when you notice discrimination instead of speaking out immediately

10.What does the speaker say about our own negative behavior?
a) We ignore the effects of our actions on other people in the group
b) We always take full responsibility for our actions even when it is difficult
c) We often blame the situation rather than our own personality for mistakes
d) We usually blame other people for mistakes instead of thinking about ourselves

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