

# Impact ISSUES 2

PRESENTING YOUR IDEAS IN ENGLISH



Richard R. Day   Joseph Shaules   Junko Yamanaka  
Series Editor   Michael Rost



Lesson 1

# First Impressions

relationships, appearance, gender equality



## Get Ready

Work with a partner. Ask and answer these questions.

1. A “first impression” is your first “opinion” of someone. When are first impressions important?
2. What do people usually think of you when they meet you for the first time?

## Engage

A

1

### READ AND LISTEN

**SITUATION** Sandy and Tamara are college roommates. They are going to a party at the university. Sandy has some advice for Tamara. What is her suggestion?

**Sandy:** Tamara, wait a minute...

**Tamara:** What?

**Sandy:** Is that what you’re going to wear to the party?

**Tamara:** Well, yeah. Don’t you love it?

**Sandy:** Tamara, that’s very... revealing...

**Tamara:** Why, thank you.

**Sandy:** No, what I mean is, it’s too... sexy. Why don’t you change into something a little more... normal?

**Tamara:** Normal? You think I should look “normal”? I want to look attractive.

**Sandy:** But we’re going to a party for the physics department. You look like you’re going to a club.

**Tamara:** What should I wear? A white lab coat... maybe safety goggles?

**Sandy:** Hah-hah. Funny. I just want you to look intelligent. You’re the top student in our class.

**Tamara:** Oh, thank you! But you know there are going to be a lot of cool guys at the party, right?

**Sandy:** So?

**Tamara:** Well, I don’t want guys to think I’m too smart.

**Sandy:** Oh, Tamara. Wh-why?! Why do you do that? Whenever you meet a cute guy, you hide

how intelligent you are.

**Tamara:** Hey, this is another kind of smart. It’s called flirting.

**Sandy:** Aren’t you worried that men aren’t going to take you seriously?

**Tamara:** Guys don’t like it when you sound too smart.

**Sandy:** But it’s the truth! You are smart. Be yourself.

**Tamara:** I am being myself. They already know I’m a physics major. That’s why we’re invited.

**Sandy:** Well, suit yourself. But I want guys to know that I’m intelligent.

**Tamara:** Good for you.

**Sandy:** But you, you just smile and pretend you don’t know anything.

**Tamara:** Don’t you think a woman can be both—beautiful and smart?

**Sandy:** Yes!

**Tamara:** Then we agree. That’s why I’m wearing this dress.

**Sandy:** You’re terrible. You know, a real man will appreciate you for your talent—and not just your looks.

**Tamara:** Well, let’s go find out. Hurry! We’re going to be late for the party!



B

**GLOSSARY** Say these expressions.

**attractive** = having a pleasing appearance

**flirt** = show romantic interest in someone

**major** = a university student’s area of study

**talent** = an ability to do something well

## Understand the Situation

### A CHECK YOUR COMPREHENSION

Work with a partner. Answer these questions. Circle the best answer.

- Sandy is upset at Tamara because Tamara \_\_\_\_\_.  
a) pretends she's not smart      b) talks too much      c) is too quiet
- Tamara doesn't talk to guys about her studies because she \_\_\_\_\_.  
a) doesn't like what she studies      b) thinks guys don't like smart women      c) thinks Sandy is smarter
- Sandy thinks women should \_\_\_\_\_.  
a) be proud of their intelligence      b) try to look good      c) not talk to men
- Tamara thinks guys are \_\_\_\_\_.  
a) interested in smart women      b) scared of beautiful women      c) scared of smart women

### B DRAMATIC READING

Work with a partner. Read the conversation out loud. One person is Sandy. One person is Tamara.

### C LANGUAGE PUZZLE

Find similar expressions in the conversation. Underline them.

I want to look good.  
Don't pretend to be someone else.

You're the smartest person in our class.  
That's fine for you.

## Think about the Issue

### A LISTEN Do you agree or disagree with these opinions?



**IRIS**

*You should always be yourself. If other people don't like it, that's their problem.*

agree / disagree



**SHIN**

*Intelligence is really attractive in a woman! Smart women should be themselves.*

agree / disagree



**ANNA**

*Men like to feel smarter than women. If you want to date a guy, pretend he's the smart one.*

agree / disagree

### B THINK What do you think about Tamara's approach to meeting men?

MY IDEA (I think... / I don't think...)

### C SHARE Now work with a partner. Ask for your partner's opinion. Say your opinion.

#### INTERACTION MODELS

What	do you think	of Anna's opinion?
I	disagree with agree with	Anna.
She's	completely right. totally wrong.	

## Explore the Topic

**A**

### ON YOUR OWN

When you meet someone for the first time, what do you look for? Read the two lists. Then add two new ideas. Finally, rank the features in order of importance to you. (1 = very important, 6 = not important).

APPEARANCE	RANK	PERSONALITY / LIFESTYLE	RANK
Hair style / color		Intelligence	
Height		Sense of humor	
Smile		Interest in sports	
Eyes		Education	
Clothes		Job	
MY IDEA		MY IDEA	



**THINK ABOUT** physical qualities, personality, hobbies and interests

**B**

### GROUP EXCHANGE

Talk to your classmates. Ask for their opinions.

“When you meet someone for the first time, which features are the most important about his or her appearance?”

“When you meet someone for the first time, which features are the most important about his or her personality or lifestyle?”



When you talk, take notes. Fill in the table.

<p><b>Name</b> _____</p> <p>Appearance</p> <p>•</p> <p>•</p> <p>•</p>	<p>Personality / Lifestyle</p> <p>•</p> <p>•</p> <p>•</p>	<p><b>Name</b> _____</p> <p>Appearance</p> <p>•</p> <p>•</p> <p>•</p>	<p>Personality / Lifestyle</p> <p>•</p> <p>•</p> <p>•</p>
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Which opinions are most popular?

Appearance

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

Personality / Lifestyle

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

## Present Your Ideas

What I look for in a person.

- A**  **WATCH** Take notes on Lara's presentation. (Script is on page 90.)



- B** **BRAINSTORM** What do you look for when you meet someone for the first time? Write your ideas: 5-10 key words.



- C** **ORGANIZE** What do you want to say?

The title of your presentation:  
Introduce your topic:  
Your main ideas:  
Your conclusion:

- D** **PRESENT** Give your presentation to a partner.

- E** **FEEDBACK** Listen to your partner's presentation. Fill in this form.

Partner's name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title of the presentation: \_\_\_\_\_  
What is your overall impression?  |  |  |   
Did you understand the main idea?  |  |  |   
What are some important words from the presentation? \_\_\_\_\_  
What do you want to ask your partner? \_\_\_\_\_  
Other feedback: \_\_\_\_\_

### CONTENT

Are these statements true or false?

1. Lara doesn't really notice people's clothes.
2. Sense of humor is very important for Lara.
3. Lara likes people who smile.
4. Lara doesn't like to hear jokes.

T / F  
T / F  
T / F  
T / F

### YOUR REACTION

Work with a partner. Ask and answer these questions.

1. What did you like about Lara's presentation?
2. Lara talks about impressions when she meets someone. Do you think her points are important? What is important to you when you first meet someone?
3. What was effective about Lara's communication?