

**Speaking and listening assignment: “The danger of a single story”: Questions and TED-talk: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D9lhs241zeg>**

**A. First write down what you think of when you hear the word prejudice (mindmap). Then read questions 1-5 and discuss them in small groups.**

1. Where do children get their ideas from about other people, about other countries, other continents? Can you think of examples from your own youth?
2. How do children deal with prejudice, do you think? How vulnerable are they? Are they told that they have the wrong impression, if that’s the case, or do they grow older thinking they have the right ideas about others? Give examples.
3. Have you or anyone you know ever encountered prejudice of any kind? What remark set this off? What was the response? How can you deal with prejudice?
4. With whom do you identify at present? Have you got a ‘hero’, a person or relative you believe in? Why is that person the one to inspire you? If you haven’t got one, why not?
5. How can people avoid putting ‘labels’ on others? Do you ever raise questions when it comes to labelling people as poor, stupid, rich, arrogant, superficial, etc.?

**B. Vocabulary:**

Which of these words do you **not** know? Look up those you don’t know and study them.

- abject
- close-knit
- repressive
- to devalue
- to invade
- to dispossess
- conventional
- affordable
- a sequel
- justified
- contemporary
- innovative
- to nurse ambition
- resilience
- to thrive
- to refurbish

**C. Listen to the TED talk by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie (± 20 min.). Take notes to answer questions 6 and 7:**

6. What does the story about her visit to Mexico prove?
7. What does the example about ‘American Psycho’ tell you?

**D. Discuss the following questions:**

8. Summarise the talk in a few sentences with help of your notes. Discuss your summary with your neighbour.
9. What would you tell Chimamanda about your story/stories?
10. Statement: ‘The problem with stereotypes is not that they are untrue, but that they are incomplete.’ Do you agree? Explain.

11. Have you learnt anything about prejudice? If so, what have you learnt? Explain.