

Name:

Day One

Dealing with Stereotypes

Part 1: Silent read

➔ Do people judge you based on your race? Read silently.

Nicole, Kim, and Sara are talking about race.

Nicole is concerned about racial stereotypes. “At my school, if you are Black, people act surprised when you get good grades. Last week my teacher was handing back essays. A White student passed me the paper. You could tell she was shocked at my A grade. I try not to overreact. But it’s slowly wearing me down,” she says. Students also expect her to dress a certain way and like certain music. “I hate rap,” Nicole says. “But my White friends are always saying, ‘Listen, you’ll like this.’”

A racial stereotype is a race-based judgment. It means expecting people will act a certain way based on their race. “Latinos are good dancers.” “African Americans can’t swim.” These are both racial stereotypes.

Kim, an Asian student, also has a problem with stereotypes. Other students expect her to be good at math. Actually, math is her weakest subject. “People take one look at me and think I am a math whiz,” she says. “They couldn’t be more wrong.” Kim feels bad about not living up to the stereotype. “I feel like I’m not smart enough or good enough,” she says. Kim even tries not wearing her glasses. “The glasses just make me look more like a nerd!”

Sara, a Latina student, says stereotypes can keep people apart. She thinks students should get to know each other. To do this, they need to get past racial stereotypes.



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// one minute

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Part 2: First timed read

WPM _____

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Part 3: Comprehension and discussion

What is a racial stereotype?

What’s the problem with racial stereotypes?

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Part 4: Phrase-cued reading

- Read the passage **out loud** in phrases to your partner.
- Pause at each / mark for a phrase.
- Also pause at each // mark that shows the end of a sentence.

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Sara, / a Latina student, / says stereotypes can keep people apart. // She thinks students should get to know each other. // To do this, / they need to get past racial stereotypes. //

I read the passage in phrases out loud to my partner.