

UOW College Hong Kong / Community College of City University
Student English Enhancement Unit (SEE U)
Daily English Practice

Week 9

#45 Language and identity

Skills/ Objectives: Listening

PART 1: Before you watch...

Preparatory questions

1. What is your identity? What languages do you speak?
2. Were you misidentified? How did you feel?

Vocabulary

1. notorious (adjective): being famous for something bad
2. custom (noun): a way of behaving that has been established for a long time
3. awkward (adjective): very strange
4. dull (adjective): boring
5. impress (verb): to make someone respect or admire you

PART 2: Video

In the video, Lizett Gutierrez shares her experience of using different languages and how the languages represent her self-identity

Language and identity (*click the link to watch the video*)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=onbb_MHV2Q8 (4:17 minutes)

(Source: TEDxYouth)

PART 3: Let's discuss!

1. What did you learn from Lizett's sharing? How does it make you reflect on the relationship between the languages you speak and use and your self-identity?
2. Lizett mentions that sometimes a translated version of a literature piece (e.g., a poem) may not be exactly the same as the original version. Do you agree? To what extent are they similar or different?

PART 4: Learn further

1. Identifying Yourself Through Language

Drawing on her research study of the Nabit speaking community, Robyn Giffen's talk focuses on the connections between language, culture, and identity.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mr68goQ1d0s&t=309s> (15:52 minutes)