

## Collecting Europe - Identity

### Task 1: What do you identify with?

#### A. How do you identify yourself?

Think about how would you define yourself in terms of these categories.

Which are the three most important for you? Explain to your partner.

- *My age* - e.g. young, middle aged, old
- *My gender*
- *My nationality*
- *My sexuality*
- *My hometown*
- *What I do* - e.g. my job, studies
- *My region*
- *My continent*
- *My hobbies* - what I do in my free time
- *The football club that I support*
- *The music I listen to*
- *The people I spend time with*
- *My family* - e.g. my family name and history
- *My role in my family* - e.g. sister, brother, cousin, father, daughter
- *The clothes I wear*
- *My beliefs* - e.g. political, moral or religious

#### B. Now discuss these questions with a partner.

Which of these things have changed over time?

Which of these things do you think will change in the future?

Do you think any of these are always fixed? Which ones?

## Task 2: Them and Us

### A. Discuss these questions:

What do you understand by the terms 'them' and 'us'? - Who do these pronouns usually refer to?

What does it mean to 'put people in boxes'? Does this have a literal meaning, or something else?

Can you match the groups of people in A with their opposites in B? For example, 'Us' – 'Them'

A	B
Us	Those that have never seen a cow
High earners	Those that have always been here
Those we trust	Those we don't share anything with
Immigrants	The self-confident
The people from the countryside	Those just getting by
The religious	Those we try to avoid
Those we share something with	Them

Now watch a short video clip (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jD8tjhVO1Tc>) up to 0:42 seconds and check your answers.

### B. Watch the rest of the video.

Which other groups are formed? Make a list of the ones you can remember:

What is interesting about each of these groups?

Which are the largest groups? And the smallest?

### Task 3: The future and you

1. Look at the phrases below that can be used to talk about probability in the box. Put them in order from 1 - 6 (1- very probable, 6 - not probable)

*Maybe...*

*In reality, it probably won't happen*

*It could happen, but I'm not sure*

*I doubt very much that...*

*This would never happen*

*This is bound to happen*

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

2. Discuss three ways your identity might change in the future - e.g. your job, your role in the family, your nationality etc. - e.g. *I would never change my gender, but maybe I would like to move to another country and possibly change nationality eventually.*

### Task 4: The future and society

Now you are going to think about how society will change in the future.

Read the questions your teacher will give you and discuss them with your partner. Then be ready to share your ideas with your classmates.

## The future and society

(Teacher to cut up discussion questions below and distribute to groups).

### Group A: National borders

- Will national borders still exist in the future or will people be free to move wherever they want in the world without passports or ID cards?
- Will borders become stricter with walls or other boundaries stopping people's movements? Where might this happen? How will people react?
- What effect will national borders have on traditions and cultures?
- What languages will people speak? Or will there be just one universal language?

### Group B: Climate change

- Will a solution be found for the problem of climate change and who will be responsible for finding it?
- Or, will climate change increase and get worse?
- What effect will climate change have on where we live, our food, and our lifestyles?
- How will different groups be affected by climate change - think about people in cities, people living in less developed countries, people who live on islands? Who will feel the most impact from climate change?

### Group C: Internet use

- Will people spend more time online in the future or will people decide it's time to disconnect?
- Is it possible that people will create alternative societies online and conduct most of their daily activities on the internet?
- What effect will there be on human relationships? And on privacy?
- Will it be possible to store our thoughts and memories in cyberspace? What will this mean for future generations?

### Group D: Interaction between humans and technology

- Will humans rely on technology for everyday tasks such as cleaning and work? Will this free humans up for other activities? What could they be?
- Will technology provide humans with companionship? Will artificial intelligence mean that humans will have robot 'friends'? What positive and negative effects might that have on society?

## Task 5: Collecting Europe

The British Council, Goethe-Institut and the V&A Museum in London has asked 12 international artists to imagine what Europe might look like 2,000 years from now. The project wanted to imagine how Europe today might be seen from the future. As part of the project, they have designed an interactive online quiz with some questions for you to answer.

Below are the questions from the project. Can you put them into categories? Which relate to:

- a. Personal identity?
- b. Geography?
- c. Culture?
- d. Society

*A. Can you imagine a world without countries?*

*B. Is the idea of a continent like Europe ridiculous or inspiring?*

*C. Should the world be more K-Pop or Call of Duty?*

*D. Will your generation solve the problem of climate change?*

*E. Does the world need more anarchy or control?*

*F. Would you have a romantic relationship with a robot?*

*G. Do you live in your internet or your country?*

*H. Are you Bauhaus or surrealism?*

*I. Is your personality because of your origins or your choices?*

*J. Do Art and design have the power to remove fear?*

*K. Are you open to being enhanced by drugs or technology to be stronger and smarter?*

*L. In 2000 years, will the concepts of gender and sexuality no longer be relevant?*

- **Do you think these are good questions to find out how people think about the future? Why (not)?**
- **Can you think of three more questions you would ask?**

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**Now go to the website and take part in the project.**