



## Task 2: Who does Cosmetic Surgery Appeal to?

The title of the speech that you are going to give is “Cosmetic surgery: Does it boost self-confidence?”. To get you thinking about how cosmetic surgery relates to self-confidence and what kinds of people tend to undergo the operation, the instructor at the training session is going to ask you to listen to a short radio drama from a Teen Time programme on self-esteem and cosmetic surgery.

Before you listen, however, she would like you to do some vocabulary work so that you will be adequately prepared for the listening task.

### Pre-listening Activity: Vocabulary

The words and phrases on the left occur in the radio drama. Use a dictionary to find out the meanings of any difficult words. Then match the words and phrases with the meanings on the right.

___ rectify	a. careless mistakes made by nature – as if nature has produced something carelessly and imperfectly
___ physical oddities	b. make everything balance nicely so that it is in good proportion
___ blunders of nature	c. change something to make it satisfactory
___ jests of fortune	d. things connected with a person’s body which are very strange
___ repropotion	e. jokes of life – as if life was laughing at someone

Now that you know what the words and phrases on the left mean, practise saying them to each other so that you can recognise them when you hear them in the recording.

### Part A: Listening for the Main Idea

The training instructor will now play a radio drama in which a woman is seeking the advice of a cosmetic surgeon. As you listen, decide what the cosmetic surgeon’s *purpose* is. Is he advising the woman to get cosmetic surgery? Or is he discouraging her from the idea? Put a tick (✓) in the right box.

- Yes, the surgeon recommends cosmetic surgery.
- No, the surgeon does not recommend cosmetic surgery.





### Part B: Listening for Details

To help you get the most out of the radio drama, the training instructor will play the recording again. This time, imagine that you are the surgeon in the recording. After you have listened to the recording for the second time, write a consultation record on the woman by completing the following.

#### Consultation Record

Miss Dirage came to see me today. She \_\_\_\_\_ (had / did not have) an attractive physical appearance.

To help her handle this, I suggested that she should do the following:

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

### Part C: Understanding Attitudes

You now have the chance to listen to the radio drama for the final time. This time, you are asked to find out whether the cosmetic surgeon and the woman are confident of themselves or not.

- Do they say most of their sentences with a rising tone or a falling tone?
- What does this tell you about the attitudes of the two speakers?

You are asked to complete the following.

#### Listen to the recording and circle the correct answers.

On the whole, the woman is certain / uncertain about herself or what she has heard.  
Most of her sentences are said on a rising / falling tone.

The cosmetic surgeon is certain / uncertain about his opinions and suggestions.  
Most of his sentences are said on a rising / falling tone.





**Part D: Making Inferences**

The training instructor now wants you to consider what kinds of people are likely to have cosmetic surgery. She wants you to work with your teammates to infer the answers to the following questions, based on what you have listened to.

1. Would the woman accept the cosmetic surgeon's suggestions? Why/why not?  
(Hint: Think about the woman's confidence in herself.)

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2. What kinds of people are more likely to get cosmetic surgery than the average people?

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