

1. On what basis did you choose your doctor, dentist, school, gym trainer, beautician, chef/restaurant?

Read article here: [Surgeons Should Not Look Like Surgeons](#)

2. What is your reaction? Do you know of any professionals who have succeeded regardless of their appearance?

3. Name a doctor from a TV drama/movie from your country. Describe his/her appearance/manner using language from the article.

4. Do the rules of competency and appearance apply across all cultures/societies? Is the opposite true - if I wanted to apply to become a butcher, would I be less likely to be hired if I looked like a fashion model? If you are not naturally handsome, will it hinder your professional ambitions?

5. "Only men can break the link between looks and skills: looking like a 'bag lady' and being a female professional are incompatible." Do you agree?

6. Does the boss of your company look like the bosses of your competitors' companies? Or has he/she made it by being the most knowledgeable person in that area?

7. What advice would you give to someone who:

a) wanted to improve their competence

b) wanted to appear more competent?

8. What do you think of the following advice?

- speak quickly

- wear make-up (if you're female)

- act somewhat coldly

- profile pictures should be taken from a slight distance

"We need people who are overconfident - without them no one would take big chances or changes in their lives. It is what we do after we take that leap that determines if it serves us well." Do you agree?

9. The actor Ronald Reagan was famously the 40th president of the US. Are there any actors who have crossed over into politics in your country? Have their acting skills helped them?

10. Do you recognise any of the ['millionaires next door' in the photos?](#)

11. Why don't they dress/act the part of millionaires? Do you know of any others?

12. Do you agree with the following?

a) The rich have nothing to prove to others, their success in some areas of life is proof enough of their worth.

b) Wealthy people like to stay wealthy, so why waste money on proving something you (and your friends) already know?

c) Rich people stay rich by living below their means.

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Situation

You are a recruitment consultant. Your teacher's school has hired you to help with the recruitment of a new teacher. There are three candidates; all have a similar teaching experience, but one of the three is not classically handsome, and could pass for a building-site labourer in his appearance. Give your advice on candidate choice.

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Discuss quotes

"Just let the wardrobe do the acting."

- Jack Nicholson

"Acting is all about honesty. If you can fake that, you've got it made."

- George Burns

"Ugly flowers sometimes bloom in lovely places."

--- Unknown