## Oxford English (Second Edition) 3B Further simplified reading and comprehension

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Unit 6

Name:	( )	Class:	Date:
	. ,		

Your cousin is going to participate in a school debate about plastic surgery. She is showing you her debate speech. Read her speech.

Text 2 Debate speech

# Is plastic surgery harmful to society?

- Good morning, fellow students and honoured teachers. We are here this afternoon to debate the motion 'Plastic surgery is harmful to society'. I am for the motion because plastic surgery promotes an
   unhealthy emphasis on physical appearance. It also has severe health risks, and carries a significant possibility of regret, especially among young people. I will present four reasons as to why I support the motion.
- 2 The chief reason I oppose plastic surgery is because 10 it encourages a focus on outward appearance. This emphasis on physical beauty makes us wrongly believe that our self-worth is reliant on our appearances. In magazines and films, we constantly see images of supposedly beautiful people. This causes us to believe 15 these images are the ideals of beauty. Inevitably, we start to judge ourselves in comparison to these ideals. We wish we had been born with slimmer bodies, like the ones we see on TV. We start to think that if only we had been born with straighter noses or higher
- 20 cheekbones or different eyelids, our lives would have been much better. Such pointless comparisons can have a damaging effect on our self-esteem.



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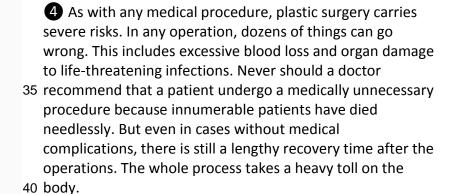
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3 Plastic surgery can seem like a quick fix to all of our problems. But in no way do I agree with proponents of plastic surgery that these procedures can improve our self-esteem in 25 addition to our looks. Our self-esteem should not depend on how we look, or on notions of beauty that are based on subjectivity. The truth is that real beauty can be found in all shapes and sizes. As a society, we should encourage these diverse forms of beauty. Society would be much better off if it was receptive towards different standards. Plastic surgery,

however, clearly contributes to the narrowing of such

30 standards.



**5** Another major drawback of plastic surgery is the regret that many patients feel after going under the knife. Rarely do the results of the operations turn out the way that patients expect or hope for. There are numerous stories of 45 people who, for one reason or another, deeply regret having had plastic surgery. Sometimes, patients are driven to despair about how fake they look. Other times, people feel some sort of emotional distress when they realize that they no longer recognize themselves in the mirror.

50 Unfortunately, most of these procedures cannot easily be reversed.

6 For all of these reasons, I oppose the continued and widespread use of plastic surgery, especially among young adults. We should educate our next generation about 55 accept diversity. We should nurture talents and not vanity. We should be accepting of different types of beauty. Our society would have been much more content if only we had learnt to value inner rather than outer beauty.

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No	ıme:	( ) C	lass:	Date:
	_	orehension 2 Your cousin wants or her questions using information fi		•
1	i)	Who is the audience of the debate?	6	Which of the following in an example of exaggeration in paragraph 4?
	ii)	What is the motion of the debate?		O A plastic surgery carries severe risks
		NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE PARTY O		O B life-threatening infections
	111)	What is the writer's position in the debate?		O C innumerable patients have died needlessly
				O D a lengthy recovery time
		d a word in paragraph 2 that means ain'.	7	Why does the writer describe some patients' deaths as 'needless'?
				O A because they were so young
3	i)	According to the writer, where do		O B because their operations were not medically necessary
		the ideals of beauty come from?		O C because the doctors were not skilled enough
	ii)	What do people think would happen if they looked better?		O D because their surgeries were expensive
			8	What does 'takes a heavy toll' (lines 39 & 40) suggest about plastic surgery?
4		nat is the writer's advice to society in ragraph 3?		
			9	What does 'going under the knife' (line 42) refer to?
5	fol	cording to paragraph 4, which of the lowing is NOT a health risk cociated with plastic surgery?	10	Based on the information in paragraph 5, use ONE word to complete each
		A excessive blood loss		blank. Make sure your answers are
	0	B cancer		grammatically correct.
	0	C organ damage		Many plastic surgery patients have (i) their procedures
	0	D life-threatening infections		because the results were not exactly what they (ii)

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me: _		( ) Class: Date:				
surg	gery?	nat are the TWO reasons that people regret having plastic				
II) <u> </u>						
	atch the main points (A–D) with one of the corresponding paragraphs on the left. Write e correct letter on the line next to the paragraph number.					
	Paragraph no.	Main point				
i)	Paragraph 2	A Plastic surgery has major health risks.				
ii)	Paragraph 3	<b>B</b> Patients may regret having plastic surgery.				
iii)	Paragraph 4	C Plastic surgery puts emphasis on people's outward appearance.				
iv)	Paragraph 5	<b>D</b> Plastic surgery narrows beauty standards.				
ii) V	Why do you think the wri	ter repeated this phrase?				
_						
Find	I words from Text 2 that	have the following meanings.				
i)	as is certain to happen (	adv., paragraph 2)				
ii)	people who support an paragraph 3)	idea or course of action (n.,				
,	paragraph 3)	ced by personal ideas, opinions or				
iii)	paragraph 3) the fact of being influenteelings, rather than fac	ced by personal ideas, opinions or ts (n., paragraph 3) em that makes something a less				