

Changing ideas of beauty

1. Read an article about a well-known model, Chantelle Brown-Young, and write down five facts you learn about her.

Chantelle Brown-Young was not born with vitiligo, but it has made her famous. She is the first supermodel with the skin condition, which causes areas of skin to lose their colour.

Chantelle was born in Toronto, Canada. At the age of four she started to develop patches of white skin and was diagnosed with vitiligo. No one really knows why one per cent of people have this skin condition, and there is no real cure.

At school, Chantelle was bullied for being different. The other kids often called her a 'cow', because of the way her skin looked. She moved school several times and finally left school at 16. From now on, she decided, she would be proud of her skin.

She posted photos of herself on Facebook and was 'spotted' by a Canadian YouTube star, Shannon Boodram, who asked her to be in a music video. It was while she was doing that that her really 'big break' happened. Tyra Banks asked her to be on *America's Next Top Model*.

She didn't win, but she had become famous. Her professional name now is Winnie Harlow, and she has nearly three million followers on Instagram.

Little by little, she is changing people's ideas about what beauty is.

2. Read the article again. Decide if the following statements are true or false.

- a) Chantelle has always had vitiligo.
- b) People who have vitiligo usually get better.
- c) Chantelle tried to escape the bullies at school.
- d) Chantelle became America's Next Top Model.
- e) She uses a different name for her work.

3. Discussion: Why do people who look different often get bullied?

4. Find and underline an example of each of the following tenses in the article.

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| 1. present simple | 2. present continuous | 3. present perfect |
| 4. past simple | 5. past continuous | 6. past perfect |

5. Match the examples (1–6) above with the meanings below.

- A. Something which happened before now, which has an impact on the present
- B. Something that was in progress in the past when something else happened
- C. Something that happened before another action in the past
- D. Something in progress at the moment
- E. Something which is generally or always true
- F. Something which happened at a specific point in the past

6. Match the paragraph descriptions A–F with paragraphs 1–6 in the article.

- A. Gives us details about the person's very early life.
- B. Explains how the person became famous.
- C. Introduces the person and says why they are famous.
- D. Talks about the person's childhood.
- E. Summarises what is important about this person.
- F. Talks about what the person is doing now.

7. Use a similar plan to the paragraphs in exercise 7 to write a short biography of a different famous person. Try to use a variety of tenses.