Unit 1 Who do you think you are?

Video script

Personal Identity

Woman 1: My identity is based on where I'm from, and I'm from Brazil.

Woman 2: My identity is quite mixed. I grew up in Greece – I'm half Greek and half French – and I'm currently living in London.

Man 1: It's hard to say what my identity is, you know, it's because I'm still … I think I'm still building it, because it's based on all my experiences that I've had in my entire life.

Woman 3: I think being Colombian, it's part of my identity, even if I live abroad for a long time.

Man 2: I think speaking Japanese language is one of my most important parts of identity, because only Japanese people speak Japanese language in the world.

Woman 4: My identity is very linked to books, I've always read a lot since I was little. My parents used to buy us lots of books for me and my brother and my sister, so I would definitely say that I'm a reader.

Man 3: I'm definitely Korean, because it, kind of, is my first time to study abroad and I … Sometimes I feel I want to eat our traditional food, like *kimchi*, so, like, kind of desperately! So, at that time I feel I am Korean.

Nationality

Woman 3: It makes you different from each other country. It gives you something special. You're not the same as a European, as an American or as an Asian people, so it gives you something that you own, even your accent when you speak in other language. Or your food, your music, your dance …

Woman 1: I feel more Brazilian when I'm speaking English, because I need to go back to my roots, as I'm not speaking already my own language.

Man 4: But, being Libyan, I should be proud of where I come from, but not necessarily that now I have to be more Libyan than before, because this is part of my identity. It's my nationality. Now I'm Libyan, after ten years I'm still Libyan, even if I'm away from home.

Woman 4: I think when I'm in the UK, I feel more Spanish than when I'm in Spain.

Accent

Woman 3: It would be nice to have, like, a neutral accent, but sometimes it's difficult because my native language is Spanish. So, sometimes I can't pronounce the words perfectly, because Spanish is always there, so it's a little difficult. But, for me, it's not important to speak in an English or British accent, or an American accent. It's important to me to be understood.

Man 4: I think it's a beautiful thing to have an accent from your … I mean, which tells where you're from. For me, I like to be asked 'Where you come from?', and people ask me that because of my accent.

Woman 4: For me, it's not very important to sound like a native speaker, because I think that accents are kind of cute and they define who you are. So, I'm Spanish and I'm never going to stop being Spanish, and therefore my accent shows where I'm from. And for me, it's important to speak with good grammar rather than with a perfect accent.

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Personality

Woman 1: I think I'm the same, in both my language and English, because of my fluency. I started when I was eight and that makes it really easy to communicate in both languages and just be myself.

Man 2: I'm the same person when I speak in Japanese or English, but I … there is many difference of greeting. I've never done kiss or hugging with my friends, but it was first time to do it in England. In Japan, I just say hello or just bow, and there is a certain distance with my friends.

Woman 4: I think when I speak in English I'm a bit different to when I speak in Spanish, because obviously, since I live in the UK, I'm also adopting and imitating certain behaviours and things that English people do, so definitely that changes the way I am. For example, in Spain we are less apologetic than we are in England.

Woman 3: Personality doesn't have anything to do with language, because you can show how you feel with your movements, the tone of your voice, the movements of your hands. But jokes are difficult.

Man 3: I think I'm the same, yeah, I'm the same, because I try to use the same kind of joke. Sometimes it works, but sometimes it doesn't. And I think, yeah, I'm the same person when I'm using Korean or when I'm using … speaking English.

Man 1: I'm very sarcastic, and when I try to be sarcastic in English, sometimes people don't understand me. So, I think sometimes, maybe because I'm learning, or maybe it's because I don't have … maybe it's something about intonation, I don't know.

Woman 2: In Greek, I'm much more talkative and expressive than I am in English, but I'm still the same person, so, I guess people, they see me as me, but probably not in all the aspects of my personality.

Man 4: Speaking English doesn't make me feel different. It shouldn't make me feel different, actually.

Woman 3: You are who you are.

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