

1 Match the words in bold to the definitions (1–5). Write the numbers in the spaces.

- a **Aesthetically**, the building looks great, but it is not built very well. _____
- b Identical twins may have the same **appearance**, but they do not always have the same personality. _____
- c Don't worry. This **operation** is not dangerous and you'll be out of hospital the same day. _____
- d This school has professors of many different **races**, not just Asian. _____
- e The tests used in all public schools in this area are **standardized**, so it is possible to compare students from different schools fairly. _____

- 1 the way that someone or something looks
- 2 having the same features or level of quality
- 3 groups of people who are similar because they have the same skin color or other physical features
- 4 the process of cutting into someone's body for medical reasons
- 5 relating to beauty

The Future of Plastic Surgery

“By the year 2020, no one will ask you whether you’ve had aesthetic surgery, they will ask you why you didn't have aesthetic surgery,” predicts Sander Gilman, a professor who studies the history of plastic surgery. Though today some people try to hide the fact that they have had plastic surgery, in the near future, Gilman says, it will be far more embarrassing to not have plastic surgery.

2 Read the predictions (a–g) about the future of plastic surgery. How likely do you think it is that the predictions will happen in your society? Write the letters in the spaces.

- Very likely: _____
- Somewhat likely: _____
- Somewhat unlikely: _____
- Highly unlikely: _____

- a** Plastic surgery which makes people look like well-known comic book, fantasy, and sci-fi movie characters (such as elves, aliens, etc.) will become popular.
- b** There will be about ten standardized appearances available through plastic surgery. These appearances will be designed based on famous models and celebrities. As much as 90% of people in developed countries will have plastic surgery to get one of these standard appearances.
- c** Plastic surgery will allow a person to look like someone from a different race. The appearances of various races (Asian, Caucasian, African, etc.) will come and go in fashion, and some people will change their racial appearance several times during their lives.
- d** Plastic surgery will be so efficient and convenient that people will often have operations done just for special events (parties, weddings, etc.), and then reverse the operation the day after.
- e** Criminals will use plastic surgery to dramatically alter their appearance in order to avoid being identified.
- f** Plastic surgery will improve to the point where it is possible to copy another person's appearance exactly.
- g** Plastic surgery will allow people in their 50s and 60s to maintain the appearance of a 30-year-old. It will become nearly impossible to guess an adult's age.

3 Which of the above predictions would you be tempted to do yourself if possible? Which would you definitely not do? Talk to a partner.