



ENGLISH

Chapter 4 Session B

4th
SECONDARY

FRIENDS FOR LIFE?



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An online article

- 1 Read the dictionary extract. What is the origin of the word 'doppelgänger'?

doppelgänger

NOUN: someone who looks like someone else;
lookalikes

From the German compound noun *Doppelgänger*:
Doppel (= double) + *Gänger* (= walker)

Have you met your doppelgänger?

Where's your doppelgänger?

Everyone wants to believe they're unique, but it's actually possible that we all have a 'doppelgänger' somewhere in the world. In fact, it's said that we each have *seven* lookalikes! But in a world of seven billion people, it isn't likely that you'll just **bump into** your twin stranger ... or is it? Seventeen-year-old Santana Gutierrez, who lives in San Diego, USA, was walking around a shopping mall when she met a total stranger who looked just like her. Her doppelgänger, Isobel, was at the mall.

While Santana met her doppelgänger by chance, others have **searched far and wide** for theirs. University friends Niamh Geaney, Harry English and Terence Manzanga, who all studied in Dublin, Ireland, **challenged** each other to find their doppelgängers in less than 28 days. Niamh was confident that she could **beat** her rivals, and she did. In less than two weeks she'd found Karen, who also lived in Dublin, and the two met up. But the story didn't end there! Niamh soon found two more doppelgängers: Luisa from Genoa, Italy, and Irene from Sligo, Ireland. The YouTube videos which she made soon went viral. And Niamh, whose doppelgänger story fascinated people around the world, decided to help others with their search. She set up a website where people can try to find their double anywhere in the world. So far, more than four million people have signed up.



So why are we so fascinated by the idea of finding our doppelgänger? Research shows that we generally trust people whose features are similar to ours more than other people. Historically, this made sense because people who resembled us were probably our relatives, and therefore not enemies. These days, though, you may **have nothing more in common** with your doppelgänger than with any neighbor or acquaintance. However, many doppelgängers say they feel an instant connection and share something more than just physical appearance. Luisa even described her twin stranger as her 'soulmate'. But don't worry if you've been searching and haven't found your doppelgänger yet – it might happen when you're least expecting it!

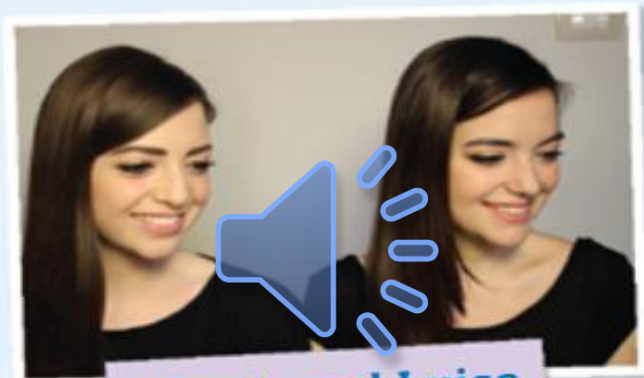
Niamh and her three doppelgängers



Irene and Niamh



Niamh and Karen



Niamh and Luisa

2 Read the first paragraph of the text and look at the photos. Answer the questions.

- 1 How many doppelgangers do we all have, according to the text? **seven**
- 2 How many people are there in the world today? **7 billion**
- 3 How many doppelgangers can you see in the pictures? **three**

Subskill: Topic sentences

A topic sentence is usually the first sentence in a paragraph. It often summarizes what the paragraph is about.

3 Identify the three topic sentences in the text. In which paragraph will you:

- 1** find out about the possible reasons why people are interested in doppelgangers? **Paragraph 3**
- 2** read about people who tried hard to find their doppelgangers? **Paragraph 2**
- 3** read about the possibility of meeting a doppelgänger by chance? **Paragraph 1**

6 Look at the information. Then complete the sentences with ideas from the text.

Indefinite pronouns

People: *someone, anyone, no one, everyone*

Things: *something, anything, nothing, everything*

Places: *somewhere, anywhere, nowhere, everywhere*

- 1 Everyone wants to believe that they are unique .
- 2 You might have a doppelgänger somewhere in the world.
- 3 On Niamh's website , you can try to find your doppelgängers anywhere in the world.
- 4 Many doppelgängers share something more than physical appearance.

7 Circle the best option.

- 1 Santana and Isobel ...
 - a are siblings.
 - b** met by accident.
 - c met through social media.
- 2 In the 28-day challenge, ...
 - a Harry won.
 - b Karen was Niamh's rival.
 - c** Niamh beat Terence and Harry.

3 Niamh ...

- a** uploaded videos after meeting her doppelgängers.
- b** found three lookalikes in Ireland.
- c** met her first doppelgänger in Italy.

4 Doppelgänger ...

- a** always have more in common than casual acquaintances.
- b** are usually distant relatives.
- c** sometimes feel a special connection.

CRITICAL THINKING

SUPER SKILLS



- 1 Understand** Read the text again. Are the doppelgänger stories generally positive or negative?
- 2 Apply** Give examples to illustrate your answer to question 1.
- 3 Analyze** Can you think of any ways in which having a lookalike could be negative?

5

Word work

Match the definitions to the words in bold in the text.

1 to defeat an opponent in a game or competition

2 invited (someone) to take part in a competition

3 to meet someone unexpectedly

4 to (not) have the same interests or opinions as another person

5 looked for someone/something in many different places

HOMEWORK

from 1 to 5

THANK YOU VERY
MUCH