# Lesson: Grammar and Reading Comprehension

## Passage:

Dear Emma,  
  
I'm a 14-year-old student, and lately, I've been feeling very self-conscious about my appearance. Every time I walk into a room, I feel like everyone is staring at me and judging me. This makes me very anxious, and I find it hard to focus on my studies. Last week, I had a presentation in class, and I was so nervous that I forgot my lines and stumbled through the entire presentation. My classmates laughed, and now I feel embarrassed whenever I think about it. What's wrong with me?  
  
- Anonymous  
  
Dear Anonymous,  
  
What you're experiencing is quite common among teenagers. It's called "adolescent egocentrism," a normal part of adolescent development. Many teenagers go through this phase, where they believe that others are constantly watching and judging them. This feeling of being under scrutiny is often referred to as the "imaginary audience" phenomenon. Rest assured, it is a temporary phase that most people outgrow as they mature and gain more confidence. You are not alone, and it will get better with time.  
  
- Emma

## Questions

1. According to the passage, what is "adolescent egocentrism"?  
 a. A feeling of superiority over others.  
 b. A phase where teenagers believe they are constantly being watched and judged.  
 c. A phase of extreme shyness.  
 d. A feeling of indifference towards others.

2. The term "imaginary audience" refers to:  
 a. Real people constantly watching someone.  
 b. Teenagers feeling like they are always being observed and judged.  
 c. A group of friends supporting each other.  
 d. Teachers evaluating students.

3. What advice does Emma give to Anonymous?  
 a. To ignore everyone and focus on studies.  
 b. To understand that the feeling of being watched is temporary.  
 c. To change their appearance to feel more confident.  
 d. To confront those who judge them.

4. True or False: According to Emma, adolescent egocentrism is an abnormal phase.  
 a. True  
 b. False

5. Which word can best replace "scrutiny" in the context of the passage?  
 a. Support  
 b. Observation  
 c. Ignorance  
 d. Ridicule

6. Fill in the blank: "Many teenagers go through this phase, where they believe that others are constantly \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ them."

7. What happened during Anonymous’s presentation?

8. What does Emma mean by saying, "You are not alone, and it will get better with time"?

9. Provide a synonym for "anxious" as used in the passage.

10. Why does Anonymous feel embarrassed?

## Answer Key

1. b. A phase where teenagers believe they are constantly being watched and judged.

2. b. Teenagers feeling like they are always being observed and judged.

3. b. To understand that the feeling of being watched is temporary.

4. b. False

5. b. Observation

6. judging

7. Anonymous forgot the lines and stumbled through the presentation, causing classmates to laugh.

8. Emma means that many other teenagers experience the same feelings, and as they grow older, these feelings will diminish.

9. Nervous

10. Anonymous feels embarrassed because the classmates laughed during the presentation.