Unit 1 — Identity in a Global World — Teacher copy

Track E · Klasse 10 · Niveau E

Niveau E

1. Reading

Read the text and use it for the activities below.

Reading — *Where Are You From, Really?*

The question 'where are you from?' is rarely as simple as the asker thinks. For many people, the honest answer involves three places, two languages and one airport. Identity, in a more globalised world, has stopped being a single sticker on a passport. It is now closer to a set of overlapping memberships, some of which contradict each other without being false. The interesting question is no longer 'which one are you?' but 'how do these get on together?'

Grammar — mixed conditionals

Mixed conditionals link a **past unreal** condition to a **present unreal** result, or vice versa.

- *If I had moved to Brisbane in 2015* (past unreal), *I would be living there now* (present result).
- *If I were less curious* (present unreal), *I would not have applied for the exchange* (past result).

Form: *if + past perfect, would + base verb* OR *if + past simple, would have + past participle*.

2. Practise

Niveau E — controlled

1. Choose mixed conditional: *(past unreal → present result)* If she _____ (move) earlier, she _____ (live) there now.
2. Match: globalisation → cross-border movement; transnational → across nations; cosmopolitan → city-of-the-world.

Niveau E — productive

3. Build 4 mixed conditional sentences about a real or imagined identity / decision.

3. Your turn

Identity reflection, 200 words. Write past flag-and-passport identity. Use 2 mixed conditionals + 1 third conditional + 1 *both … and …*

Sample

If I had grown up in only one country, I would probably trust the question 'where are you from?' more than I do. As it is, the honest answer involves two cities, one language at the kitchen table and another in the school corridor, and a grandmother who switches between three sentences for the same instruction. If my parents had not moved when they did, I would not be sitting here writing this in English. I am both German and not-only-German, and the not-only is not a missing piece — it is part of the actual answer. The question I prefer to ask is different: how do my different memberships get on together day by day? Some Sundays they argue. Most weekdays they cooperate. None of them is fake. None of them, on its own, would explain my breakfast.

4. Further reading / listening

- TED Ideas — short essays on identity.
- The Atlantic — *Identity* essays.

5. Teacher answer key

Controlled. 1. had moved / would be living.

2. all true.

Productive. 3. Open.