

THE DANGER OF A SINGLE STORY

WRITE UP

Critically analyze the speech of Chimamanda Ngozi Adichi and discuss the dangers of a single story in perceiving people and events in the world.

Prepare a write up.

Chimamanda Ngozi Adichi is renowned African writer grew up in a university campus in a eastern Nigeria. The single story creates stereotypes and the problem with stereotypes is that they are incomplete and untrue. Stereotype vision gives us only one side of the issue. A single story robs people of their dignity. It does not show the whole picture of anything clearly. We must analyze and understand the thing very critically to get a clear understanding of anything in detail, whether it may be a book, an incident, a situation or a person.

Adichi as a Nigerian writer gives a detailed picture in her stories. In stories Africa is regarded as the poorest county where people are uncivilized and illiterate. They live in utter chaos and unhealthy living conditions .Europeans believe that Africans and Asians don't speak English well. That is why her roommate was astonished when she spoke English fluently. They have notion that Africans don't know anything about European culture and life style. When Adichi talks about the songs of Mariah Carey, her roommate could not believe it.

We don't get clear picture about anything. We believe as we get the information. It may be vague or corrupted stories. Many Such examples happen in our life. We should try to understand to analyze the things unbiased way. We should not jump into a hasty conclusion without checking its various aspects.

PROFILE

Prepare a short profile of ChinmamandaNgoziAdichie using the hints given below

Name :ChimmamandaNgoziAdichie
Birth : September 15, 1977, Nigeria
Famous as : Nigerian novelist, non fiction writer, short story writer
Education :Drexel University
Awards :Baileys’s Women Prize for Fiction
Notable works ‘Purple Hibicus’ , ‘half of a Yellow Sun’,
and’ Americanah’

ChimamandaNgoziAdichie

The famous writer ChimamandaNgoziAdichie was born on September 15, 1977 in Nigeria. She was famous as a Nigerian novelist, non fiction writer and short story writer. She was educated at the Drexel University. She was awarded the Bailey’s Women Prize for Fiction. Her notable works are ‘purple ‘hibicus’, ‘Half of yellow sun’ and ‘Americanah’.

DIARY

Adichie's visit to Fide's family gives her stunning experience. She jots down her feelings and experiences in her diary after reaching her home. Write the likely entry.

25th November 2020, Monday.

What a pleasant surprise! I was really shocked and wondered when we visited Fide's home in the village. It was astonishing to see the beautifully patterned basket of dyed raffia. It was done by his brother. I was amazed to see such a delicate basket in his home. I didn't expect such an incredible construction in their house. Because I had heard only about their poverty and I did not know anything about their family. This visit brought more interesting details about Fide's family. We value them only on the basis of our perceptions and our mind set. It may not be true. It could help me to change my concept about Fide's family. It opened up a new world before me. How skillful they are!

EDITING

There are certain errors in the passage given below. They are given in bold letters. Edit them

Adichie **talk (a)** about the danger of a single story in her speech. She tells us that it is not a single story, **and (b)** many stories that make a human being. If we **listened(c)** to a single story, we will have only a distorted perspective of a person.

According to her, the single story not only **create (d)** stereotypes, but also makes one story **became (e)** the only story.

CONVERSATION

1. Prepare a conversation between the roommate and Adichie

Roommate : I was eager to meet you

Adichie : Sure. It surprises me a lot.

Roommate : Glad to meet you here. Are you from Nigeria?

Adichie : Yes.

Roommate : You speak English fluently, don't you?

Adichie : We used to speak English in Nigeria.

Roommate : oh. That is well. It is a piece of new information.

Adichie : You will be surprised to know more about Nigeria.

Roommate : Yes, I would like to know more.

Adichie : It is my pleasure. I can

Roommate : Nice to listen to you

Adichie : It will increase your curiosity

Roommate : Definitely.

Adichie : See you again.

2. Prepare a conversation between the roommate and Adichie

Adichie : Good morning

Roommate : Good morning, where are you from?

Adichie : I am From Nigeria

Roommate : oh, but you speak English well, don't you?

Adichie : Yes it is true

Roommate : Nice to hear

Adichie : Thanks a lot

INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Suppose Chinmamanda Ngozi Adichie plans to visit your school next week and you are assigned to conduct an interview with her. Prepare five important questions that you can ask her during her visit?

Probable answers

1. How is your journey to the present position?
2. What is your philosophy of life?
3. What are your biggest strengths?
4. What was the most difficult period in your life?
5. What do you think about the present generation?
6. How do you overcome tough situations in your life?
7. What message would you like to give to students?

PREPARED BY

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