Inside Edition (YouTube Channel), "Twin Teens Celebrate Their Differences"

Introduction

1. Do you know any twins?
2. Would you like to have a twin? Why (not)?
3. Are you similar to your siblings? How are you similar/different?

Video

Watch the video for the first time and decide if the following are true or false:

a) The girls have the same mother but a different father.
b) The girls used to dress exactly the same.
c) The girls have similar personalities.

Now watch again, this time you can follow using the text below. Pay close attention to the words in **bold** and decide what they mean at the end of the video.

"These pretty teens are best friends and they’re also something else, something that may surprise you.
We’re twins.
Believe it or not, they’re twins.
Yeah, we’re twins. We’re twin sisters. With same mom and same dad.
You heard right. They have the same mom and dad. What are the odds that one would be black and one white?
A lot of people are just in shock.
Lucy and Maria Aylmer live in Gloucester, England. Maria has a caramel complexion, brown eyes and thick curly black hair. Lucy has pale white skin with ginger red hair, blue eyes, and freckles. Most people have the same reaction when they hear they are twins.
They say, ‘How did it happen? We don’t believe you.’
So how did it happen? Their mom, Donna, is half black and half white. The twins’ dad, Vince, is white. The couple was thrilled when a sonogram revealed they were expecting twins.
I just cried. It was shock.
Mom did a double take when she delivered one black and one white baby.
I’m so glad mom dressed us in such cute little outfits.
Mom dressed her adorable twin daughters in matching outfits, just like twins everywhere, but by age 10, Lucy says she didn’t feel like a twin, so why dress like one?
We don’t look alike. So why should we have to wear the exact same thing.
Maria says she once wished for Lucy’s straight hair.
I used to cry about it. I hate my curly hair.
And Lucy says she was sometimes taunted at school.
Now 18, the twins not only look different. They have very different personalities.
We’re completely different.
Maria loves getting dressed up in chic clothing. She is very outgoing.
I love meeting people. I’m not scared to approach people or anything so..."
Whereas I am. I’m terrified of like going up to random strangers.
Lucy prefers casual clothes, but they’ve come to embrace their uniqueness as black and white twins. If I have kids one day, they might come out looking like Lucy."

Now match the difficult words to their meaning. Use the text above to help you.

- **pretty**: the apparition of a person after death
- "**the odds that...**": excited and happy
- **curly**: complementary
- **freckles**: beautiful
- **thrilled**: bullied
- **outfits**: probability
- **matching**: lots of small brown marks on the skin
- **taunted**: the opposite of straight
- **ghost**: without conscious decision
- **outgoing**: clothes
- **random**: confident

**Speaking: Expressing Differences, whereas**
Look at what the girls say when they talk about their differences:

"I’m not scared to approach people..."

"...Whereas I am."

The word *whereas* is very useful when comparing to things that are different. In this context it can replace *but*:

"My sister loves swimming but I prefer football."
"My sister loves swimming *whereas* I prefer football."

The two sentences above have exactly the same meaning. Using *whereas* can make your English sound more advanced, more formal and more professional.

**Activity**: Spend five minutes finding out information about your partner. What differences can you discover? Note them down and present them to the class using the *whereas* model above.