

## **Speaking: good and ugly**

Match the famous monsters with their pictures. One of them really existed. Which one?

The Elephant man depends on the narrative of Joseph Carey Merrick. Within the first few years of his life it became apparent that he suffered from deformities on his face and body. These deformities grew to be significantly noticeable, and tumors on his mouth affected his speech. In the wake of venturing out from home, Merrick couldn't get by and at 17 he entered Leicester Union workhouse. Following four years in the workhouse, Merrick reached an actor who consented to display him as the "Elephant Man". After being robbed and abandoned, he found his way back to London and into the care of Treves. Merrick was permitted to live in rooms at the London Hospital where he turned into a big name in London's high society. He remained there until his passing in 1890.

Erik, just like the three monsters above suffered because of his horrible appearance. What about you? How important is a person's physical appearance? Talk about this with your partner, and then present your ideas to the class. Use this questions to help you.

1 Do you want your boyfriend or girlfriend to be attractive?

If I love him I will find him attractive so it doesn't matter if he is or not.

2 How important are the clothes a person wears?

It's not important the clothes a person wears, it's about how it wears. I mean, maybe I don't like wear jeans but I like how it looks at him. At the end, I can't force someone to wear the clothes I like.

3 Do you want your friends to be attractive?

It's as the same as with boyfriend. If it's my friend I will find him attractive, it's no about physically it's about personality. And, it's obvious if I am friend with someone it's because I like the personality and how he or she is.

4 How do you react to a person who has serious physical disability?

I don't try to talk about it. If he wants to speak about it it's okay but I will not act different because he's a person and doesn't deserve to treat him inferior or like something really bad.

5 How do you think most people in your school react?

I would like to say they will not change the way they treat him but I don't think so. At first maybe they will react like they don't want to know nothing about it but later it will change and treat him as usually treat him.