

# **Course: Advance**

## **Impact Issues Level 1**

Day №7

# What kinds of contests have you participated in?



## Why do women enter beauty contests?

**Situation: Listen to a blog by a woman, Ivy Chang. She writes about a blog by J.R. Wright.**



I just finished reading J.R. Wright's blog about beauty contest for women. The writer must be a man, as only a man could have such foolish ideas about beauty contest! He says that beauty contest are bad because they are sexist – they look only at a woman's body, and not at important things about a woman.

Mr. Wright is totally wrong! To begin with, he doesn't understand that beauty is important in today's world. Look at our movie and television stars! You have to be handsome or beautiful or sexy to be a movie star. There's nothing wrong with wanting to look good. Men want to look good ,too! But there is more to beauty contest than beauty. To win a beauty contest, a woman has to be more than beautiful. She has to be intelligent and talented.



I won the Miss Asia Pacific Beauty Contest years ago after a lot of hard work. I studied piano for 15 years, and practiced and practiced. And I studied how to speak in high school for 3 years. I practiced and practiced. It is not easy to stand in front of over 1,000 strangers and give a speech on a topic such as world peace or helping the homeless or global warming.

One of the prizes for winning the Miss Asia Pacific Beauty Contest was a scholarship to a university. My family was very poor, and I needed a scholarship to go to university. It could only happen because of the beauty contest, and the beauty contest open a lot of door for me.

Now what do you think Mr. Wright?

Why do you think the speaker believes the following statements?  
Complete the sentence that follow them.

1. Beauty contest are bad because they are sexist.

*Most probably,* \_\_\_\_\_

2. There is nothing wrong with wanting to look good.

*It is probable that* \_\_\_\_\_

3. There is more to beauty contests than beauty.

*It is probable that* \_\_\_\_\_

**Let's talk**



**Many people, men and women alike, are opposed to pageants such as the one Ms. Chang participated in.**

**What could their reasons be behind this opposition?**





**Are beauty pageants good for women  
or are they truly discriminating?**

Read the opinions of these three people.  
Do you agree? Circle your opinion.



**Mark:**

Beauty contests are sexist.

***agree or disagree***



**Iris:**

It takes more than beauty to win a contest.

***agree or disagree***



**Shingo:**

Beauty contests are helpful for young women and their careers.

***agree or disagree***

# What's your opinion on this?

**“Beauty contests  
are a waste of  
time and  
money”.**







You're J.R. Wright, the author of the blog post that Ms. Chang reacted to.

How would you reply to Ms. Chang's challenge?

***Thank you for  
today!***

***I'm looking forward to  
seeing you again!***