

Name _____ **Stereotype**



Stereotype

Stereotyping means looking at a certain group of people – like librarians or cheerleaders – and assuming that they are all alike in particular, predictable ways. For example, the stereotype of a librarian is a woman with her hair in a tight bun, wearing glasses and comfortable shoes, who is generally meek, but who is militant about telling people to be quiet.

Stereotyping is typically negative. It sometimes inverts positive traits in a way that overly exaggerates them and makes them seem ridiculous. In real life, stereotyping is the result of lack of information, lack of experience, or even prejudice. In literature, stereotypes can appear for the same reasons; however, writers also sometimes employ stereotypes for comedic effect.

DIRECTIONS: Can you think of an example of a stereotype? Write down the “type” (age, profession, beliefs, etc.). Then describe it.

Stereotype: _____
