

Skills being assessed in this unit:

- Knowledge
- Justification

Literary skill focus:

- Justification
- Explanation (PEE)

Key words:

Prejudice
Racism
Stereotype
Preconceived-opinion
Assumption
Scapegoating
Genocide
Xenophobia
Justice
Community



Year 9 Summer 2- Religion and Prejudice

Protesting against religious discrimination
Thousands of people took the streets in cities across Europe to protest against racial and religious discrimination and support refugee and migrant rights. From London to Athens, marches took place to coincide with the United Nations European Action Week Against Racism, an annual event that aims to celebrate the diversity of the continent's societies. Originally established to mark the brutal murder of 69 protestors in South Africa during a protest against the apartheid laws of the government in 1960, thousands came together this year to highlight modern discrimination.

The reasons for **prejudice** vary. Some are related to historical events. Often, prejudice is based on **ignorance**. The solution is education, but many people choose to remain ignorant, as their prejudices often make them feel superior. Victims of a particular kind of bullying may go on to become bullies themselves. In the same way, if a person has been a victim of prejudice, there is a chance that they will come to hold similar opinions about others. A person's upbringing may cause them to become prejudiced. If parents had prejudices of their own, there is a chance that these opinions will be passed on to the next generation. One bad experience with a person from a particular group can cause a person to think of all people from that group in the same way. This is called **stereotyping** and can lead to prejudice. The media has a powerful influence on people in the 21st century and can often be responsible for promoting a stereotype of a particular group. **Scapegoating** is an example of a specific type of prejudice. A person or group can be blamed for the sins or wrongs of another person or group. For example, in 1930s Nazi Germany, Jews were made scapegoats for the country's economic difficulties.

There are forms of **prejudice** that combine **religion** and race and it can be difficult to distinguish between the two elements. **Prejudice** towards Jews is called anti-Semitism. **Prejudice** towards Muslims is called Islamophobia. **Prejudice** towards homosexual people is called homophobia. A **prejudiced** person may not act on their attitude. Therefore, someone can be **prejudiced** towards a certain group but not **discriminate** against them. Also, **prejudice** includes all three components of an attitude (affective, behavioural and cognitive), whereas **discrimination** just involves behaviour.

Further reading/watching
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/thousands-europe-march-protest-racial-religious-discrimination-a8261331.html>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3cVuPo3n5Tw>



At work	In school
A man who was Muslim needed to pray five times a day so he asked his supervisor to schedule his breaks so that he could pray. His supervisor said "We pay you to work, not to pray. Leave the religious observances for your own time."	There have been many cases where people say that their school dress code doesn't allow them to wear things which they consider to be important for their faith. A recent example is a girl who was excluded for wearing a bangle which is one of the "five K's". She claimed that they indirectly discriminated her.