

Vocabulary

out of place

Meaning: Feeling like you don't belong in a certain situation or environment.

Examples:

1. I felt **out of place** at the party because I didn't know anyone.
2. Moving to a new country can make you **feel out of place** at first.

cultural practices

Meaning: The traditions, customs, and behaviors of a specific group of people.

Examples:

1. Learning about different **cultural practices** helps promote understanding.
2. Some **cultural practices** are passed down through generations.

It's all a matter of

Meaning: Used to explain that something depends on a particular situation or perspective.

Examples:

1. **It's all a matter of** how you approach the problem.
2. **It's all a matter of** perspective—what seems rude in one culture may be normal in another.

level of discomfort

Meaning: Different degrees of feeling uneasy or uneasy situations.

Examples:

1. I experienced different **levels of discomfort** when adjusting to my new workplace.
2. Some people feel slight awkwardness in new situations, while others experience higher **levels of discomfort**.

a person of color

Meaning: A term used to describe someone who is not white, often in discussions about race and identity.

Examples:

1. As a **person of color**, he has faced unique challenges in his career.
2. Representation of **people of color** in media is improving but still has a long way to go.

racism

Meaning: Discrimination or unfair treatment based on a person's race.

Examples:

1. **Racism** should never be tolerated in any society.
2. Many people continue to fight against **racism** to create a more equal world.

sexism

Meaning: Discrimination or unfair treatment based on a person's gender or sex.

Examples:

1. The company had a history of **sexism** regarding promotions.
2. There is still **sexism** in regards to leadership positions in society.

escape slavery

Meaning: To flee or find freedom from being enslaved.

Examples:

1. Many enslaved people risked their lives to **escape slavery**.
2. The Underground Railroad helped thousands of people **escape slavery** to freedom.

accepting

Meaning: Open-minded and welcoming toward differences.

Examples:

1. Canada is known for being a very **accepting** country.
2. It's important to be **accepting** of people from different backgrounds.

Underground Railroad

Meaning: A secret network in the 1800s that helped enslaved people escape to freedom, especially in Canada and the northern U.S.

Examples:

1. **The Underground Railroad** was a lifeline for many escaping slavery.
2. Harriet Tubman played a key role in **the Underground Railroad**.

hateful speech

Meaning: Words or expressions that insult, harm, or discriminate against someone.

Examples:

1. Social media platforms are working to remove **hateful speech** from their sites.
2. **Hateful speech** can have serious emotional and psychological effects.

privilege

Meaning: A special opportunity or advantage that not everyone has.

Examples:

1. He had **the privilege of** traveling to many countries for work.
2. Education is a **privilege** that not everyone in the world has access to.

Vocabulary Quiz

Complete the sentences with the vocabulary above.

cultural • out of place • accepting
hateful • privilege • discomfort

1. Most people in my town are ___ of foreigners.
2. He was fired for his ___ comments.

3. At the party, I felt ____.
4. It had the ____ of working overseas.
5. We all have varying levels of ____.
6. I love to travel and see different ____ practices.

Alejandro / Canada 

Have you ever dealt with racism or sexism?

Hi, my name's Alejandro. I am from Toronto, Canada, and my question is, have you ever **dealt with** racism or sexism?

And I've dealt with both. Even being a man in the city, it's not uncommon. This is more so an easy question. Living in Canada as **a person of color**, **racism** isn't uncommon. While Canada's more accepting, given that we have a history of helping people **escape slavery** through the **Underground Railroad** in St. Catherine's, that doesn't mean everybody is so **accepting**, of course. Now, Toronto is a more multicultural city, but racism, again, it's not uncommon and **hateful speech** happens. I have worked as a tree planter, which has allowed me **the privilege of** traveling throughout so many wonderful different parts of Canada. And in these other parts of Canada, diversity is not as common, and people aren't always as familiar with other cultures, other **cultural practices**, and they're not as accepting. I've lived in places like Manitoba and Saskatchewan, and I definitely felt a little bit **out of place**, and that's okay. **It's all a matter of** how people kind of accept you into their communities, and they were still accepting, although there was different **levels of discomfort** that I felt and somewhat a little bit of familiar unfamiliarity on their part as to how other people interacted with me. So, there are different levels to this, but it happens in many different forms and it's not uncommon, but we strive. We strive, anyhow.

Answer the following questions about the interview.

1) What job did Alejandro do?

- a) Landscaper
- b) Tree planter**
- c) Tour guide

2) What does Alejandro say about Toronto?

- a) It's not diverse
- b) It's multicultural**
- c) People are not racist

3) Where did Alejandro feel out of place?

- a) Quebec
- b) Manitoba**
- c) Vancouver

What is the correct word? Listen to the audio to hear the answer!

Hi, my name's Alejandro. I am from Toronto, Canada, and my question is, have you ever **dealtdeal** with racism or **sexessexism**?

And I've dealt with both. **EverEven** being a man in the city, it's not uncommon. This is more so an **easyeasily** question. Living in Canada as a person of color, **racingracism** isn't uncommon. While Canada's more **acceptingacceptance**, given that we have a history of helping people **escapedescape** slavery through the Underground Railroad in St. Catherine's, that doesn't **meaningmean** everybody is so accepting, of **coursecourse**. Now, Toronto is a more multicultural city, but racism, again, it's not uncommon and **hatefulhater** speech happens. I have worked as a **tree planterplants**, which has allowed me the privilege of traveling **thoroughthroughout** so many wonderful different **partparts** of Canada. And in these other parts of Canada, **diversediversity** is not as common, and people aren't always as **familyfamiliar** with other cultures, other cultural **practicespractical**, and they're not as **acceptedaccepting**. I've lived in places like Manitoba and Saskatchewan, and I **definitelydefinite** felt a little bit out of place, and that's okay. It's all a **mattersmatter** of how people kind of accept you into **theirthey're** communities, and they were still accepting, although there was different **levelslevellers** of **discomfortdiscomforting** that I felt and somewhat a little bit of unfamiliarity on **they'retheir** part as to how other people **interactioninteracted** with me. So, there are different **levelslevellers** to this, but it happens in **muchmany** different forms and it's not uncommon, but we strive. We strive, **anyhowanyone**.