



# American Spaces

## PODCAST DISCUSSION GUIDE 2233 CALL ME TEACHER

Season 1 Episode 8 - <https://eca.state.gov/2233>



This discussion guide is designed to be used by American Space staff or volunteers to lead a discussion on stereotyping across cultures. The goal is to create a greater awareness of how different cultures perceive stereotypes and improve English language skills.



### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

*Before starting the podcasts*

(<http://bit.ly/2233Ep8>), divide the students in groups of 3-4 to answer the following questions:

1. What stereotypes do you have of Americans?
2. What stereotypes do others have about people from your country?

*Start the podcast. At 6:30 pause and ask:*

3. Why were the Kenyan students surprised at Will's photos of prom?

*Resume the podcast and at 10:00 stop and ask:*

4. Have you ever heard any of those stereotypes of Americans?
5. What are some of the dangers of stereotypes?

*Optional: Depending on time and student engagement continue until 19:40 and ask:*

6. How do you think Will's understanding of himself and race changed while in Kenya?

*Finish the podcast and discuss the following:*

7. Why did Will prefer to be called teacher?

### INTRO TO PODCAST (10 MIN)

- If this is the first time students are listening to a podcast, spend a couple of minutes introducing what a podcast is. More info at <http://bit.ly/PdcstXplnd>
- Read the below text to the students:

Will Langford knew that Kenya would be very different than Detroit, but as an African American he never expected to be called a "white man" simply because of his American accent. His memorable enlightenment about race, wealth, and language led others not only to rethink their idea of America, but to help Will find himself as well. Will visited the Kenya as part of the Fulbright English Teaching Assistant program.

- Write the definition of the word stereotype - a mistaken idea or belief many people have about a thing or group that is based upon how they look on the outside, which may be untrue or only partly true.\*

### Resources

<https://eca.state.gov/2233>

<https://share.america.gov/>

<https://elibraryusa.state.gov>

