

## TEACHING NOTES

This resource is useful for Level 2 Beauty Therapy or Care students or any Level 1/2 Literacy students with an interest in this topic.

Introduce the topic of Plastic Surgery: definition, and the two main branches (below).

Explain that plastic surgery has a long history. Evidence of reconstructive surgery exists in Egyptian medical papyruses dating back to 1600 BC. These describe reconstructive techniques used by the priest-doctors of the time to restore appearance. Skin grafts were used in India as early as 800 B.C. Extensive knowledge was gained from the 1900s as 20<sup>th</sup> century warfare provided both the need and opportunity for considerable advancements.

### DEFINITIONS

**plastic surgery** - noun

a medical operation to bring a damaged area of skin, and sometimes bone, back to a usual appearance, or to improve a person's appearance:

*Several of the crash victims had to have extensive plastic surgery.*

*She had plastic surgery **on** her nose to straighten it.*

(from Cambridge Advanced Learner's Dictionary)

**plastic surgery** - noun

the branch of surgery dealing with the repair or replacement of malformed, injured, or lost organs or tissues of the body, chiefly by the transplant of living tissues

(from Dictionary.com)

### TWO MAIN BRANCHES

- 1 procedures undertaken by choice with the intention of improving one's looks (commonly called cosmetic surgery)
- 2 those performed following accidents, burns, injuries and to correct or improve congenital irregularities (reconstructive surgery)

### EXTENSION / RESEARCH

The text (page 2) can be used as an introductory handout, initial research or simply as a prompt for further class discussion.

The quiz (page 4 -5) can be used as a quick standalone quiz, or as Internet research task (makes a good build up to the in-depth research required for the writing task on page 3).

The BBC has some excellent, short videos which may be of use (go to [bbc.co.uk/news](http://bbc.co.uk/news), click on audio and video, then type 'plastic surgery' in the search box). A useful video in that location concerns plastic surgery during war time, which should engage any males in the group, and add the gory bits that so many teenagers enjoy!

This is the link but you will also find it from the above method.

[http://news.bbc.co.uk/player/nol/newsid\\_7070000/newsid\\_7072000/7072089.stm?bw=bb&mp=wm&news=1&nol\\_storyid=7072089&bbcws=1](http://news.bbc.co.uk/player/nol/newsid_7070000/newsid_7072000/7072089.stm?bw=bb&mp=wm&news=1&nol_storyid=7072089&bbcws=1)

I sometimes access the video then use the email facility to send the link to my students. This helps to prevent time wasting!

### RECOMMENDED WEBSITE for basic research

Department of Health <http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publichealth/CosmeticSurgery/index.htm>

# PLASTIC SURGERY

**Many people are delighted with the results of their cosmetic surgery.**



SHARON Osbourne has been named the ultimate plastic surgery success. The X Factor star, 55, looks far younger after £120,000 of stomach stapling, bum and facelifts, liposuction and a boob job.

She was voted the Queen of Nip/Tuck in a poll of 3,000 women for telly's FX Channel.

Prime Suspect actress Helen Mirren, 62, rumoured to have had a subtle facelift, was second.

A spokesman for FX, makers of TV show Nip/Tuck, said, "Both look fantastic."

(taken from an article in 'The Sun' newspaper)

**Others may feel less confident of the outcome.**

If proof were needed that money can't buy everything, take a look at Jocelyn Wildenstein.

She is rumoured to have spent around £2 million on cosmetic surgery, with scary results.



*A younger Jocelyn and how she looks today*

**Reconstructive surgery can make a huge difference to someone's life.**



*Before and after surgery to correct a cleft palate*

In the U.K., 1 in 700 babies are born with a cleft palate and/or a cleft lip. This means that they have a gap in the roof of their mouth (palate) or lip. The cleft causes them difficulties with eating, speaking and the development of their teeth.

Reconstructive surgery is very successful in treating this condition.

*All pictures courtesy of Google Images*

# PLASTIC SURGERY

1. Look up the meaning of 'plastic surgery' and write a definition. Briefly describe the two main branches of plastic surgery.
2. Choose an aspect of plastic surgery that interests you. Read and research information to enable you to write an article about your subject. Sources include magazines, newspapers, books, television/radio articles, videos/DVDs, leaflets and the internet.
3. Plan your writing; you might choose to use a mind map or headings. You will need to include
  - an introductory paragraph
  - the body of writing in a logical order
  - a concluding paragraph (for example you could sum up your points, or give a final viewpoint, or look to the future of plastic surgery).
4. Use images to illustrate your subject, remembering to credit the source.
5. Keep copies or make a note of your sources of information; this forms your bibliography.

INSPIRATION You may like to consider the following list, or choose a topic of your own.

Face lifts  
Nose jobs  
Liposuction  
Hair transplants  
Breast enlargement  
The most popular procedures  
Breast reconstruction following surgery  
Famous people who have undergone plastic surgery  
Whether cosmetic plastic surgery is a good or bad idea  
Reconstructive surgery for accidents, injuries, abnormalities ...  
Possible dangers or drawbacks: the risks, when surgery goes wrong ...  
Alternatives to plastic surgery: care for the body you have, makeovers ...



## QUIZ: PLASTIC SURGERY

1. Plastic surgery was first performed

- yesterday     in ancient times     around 50 years ago     around 20 years ago

2. Most cosmetic surgery, worldwide, is performed upon women.

- true     false

3. What is the most common cosmetic procedure worldwide?

- breast augmentation     nose reshaping     liposuction     bum enlargement

4. There are about the same number of reconstructive (medical) as cosmetic procedures performed per year.

- true     false

5. Reconstructive surgery is available under the National Health Service

- true     false

6. Collagen is used as a filler for lips and to reduce wrinkles. It is made from

- the patient's own fat     a synthetic gel     plant extracts     tissue from cows and pigs

## **ANSWERS TO QUIZ**

- 1 Plastic surgery was first performed **In ancient times**  
Evidence of reconstructive surgery exists in Egyptian medical papyruses that date back to 1600 BC, describing reconstructive techniques employed by the priest-doctors of the time to restore appearance. Skin grafts were used in India as early as 800 B.C. Extensive knowledge was gained from the 1900s as 20<sup>th</sup> century as warfare provided both the need and opportunity for considerable advancements
  
- 2 Most cosmetic surgery, worldwide, is performed upon women. **True**  
Only around 10% of cosmetic surgery is performed upon men.
  
- 3 What is the most common cosmetic procedure worldwide? **Liposuction**  
Breast augmentation was No 2 according to figures in 2000
  
- 4 The same no. reconstructive and cosmetic procedures are performed per year. **False**  
There are around twice as many cosmetic as reconstructive procedures.
  
- 5 Reconstructive surgery is available under the National Health Service. **True**  
Treatment is available following injuries, disease or to correct birth abnormalities.
  
- 6 Collagen is used as a filler for lips and to reduce wrinkles.  
It is made from **tissue from cows and pigs**