Real Beauty

1 Look at the photos of these women. How would you describe their physical appearance?

2 VOCABULARY Which adjectives could you use with which facial features? Check the meaning of any words you are not sure about.

| chin, jaw, cheekbones, hair, eyes, forehead, nose, lips, eyebrows, teeth |
| round | almond | oval | heart-shaped | full | thin | broad | snub | turned up | receding |
| curly | wavy | spiky | double | thick | straight | dark | shoulder-length | prominent | high |

3 Which women (or women) A-F could be described in the following way?

1 Long, thick, straight blond hair
2 Quite a round face.
3 Full lips
4 Almond eyes
5 Nice teeth
6 A heart-shaped face
7 Prominent cheekbones

Use some of the other phrases to describe the pictures in more detail.
4 Watch the video and answer the following questions.

1 What was Gil Zamorra’s previous job? What was he doing this time?
2 How did Gil get the information to make his drawings?
3 Which of the two pictures do you think looked most like the real people?
4 What is the message of the video?
5 The video is an advertisement. What do you think the advertisement is for?

5 Watch the video again and make a note of the language the women use to describe themselves, and the language others use to describe them. What differences do you notice?

6 DISCUSSION Discuss the following questions in pairs or small groups.

- Do you think it’s true that women tend to believe they are less attractive than they really are? Why/why not?
- Do you agree with Florence that what we think about our looks has an impact on everything in our life? Why/why not?
- Do you think that men are equally self-critical? Why/why not?
- Do you think that an advertisement like this could have a positive effect on women’s self-esteem? Why/why not?

7 Now write a description of yourself. Try to give as much detail as possible.
Key, Notes and further video link.

2
double/thin/round/prominent chin
strong/prominent jaw
full/broad/prominent cheekbones
curly/wavy/spiky/thick/straight/dark/shoulder-length hair
round/almond/oval/dark eyes
broad/high forehead
thin/broad/snub/turned-up/straight nose
full/thin lips
thin/thick/dark eyebrows

Note that a lot of these pairings come down to collocation, or what sounds right. For example thick eyebrows, rather than full eyebrows.

3
The answers here are partly a matter of opinion.

1 Long, thick, straight blond hair A
2 Quite a round face .F, D
3 Full lips E, F
4 Almond eyes B
5 A heart-shaped face B, C, D
6 Prominent cheekbones B, C

4
1 A forensic artist. In other words he drew pictures of missing people and crime suspects from people’s descriptions. Here he was also drawing from descriptions
2 First from the women themselves, and then from strangers describing the same women.
3 Most people would say the second pictures.
4 That you are more beautiful than you think you are.
5 It’s for Dove beauty products.

5
It kind of protrudes a little bit, especially when I smile.
My Mum told me I had a big jaw.
I kind of have a fat, rounder face.
The older I’ve gotten the more freckles I’ve gotten.
I would say I have a pretty big forehead

She was thin, so you could see her cheekbones.
And her chin? It was a nice, thin chin.
She had nice eyes, they lit up when she smiled.
Cute nose
She had blue eyes, very nice blue eyes.

6
Depending on your group, you might like to finish on a more light-hearted note with this spoof video where men carry out the same task and discover they’re much uglier than they thought. Watch it first though; there are a couple of references that might not be suitable with all classes.

http://youtu.be/T8Jiwo3u6Vo