



The world in your hands





We communicate with our hands. When do you ...?

- take somebody's hand
- hold hands with somebody
- shake hands with somebody
- put up your hand
- clap
- wave
- reach out for somebody's hand
- rub your hands
- caress, stroke, touch
- lay, rest your hands somewhere



But hands can also be ...

- rough
- work-worn
- knotted
- trembling



Whose hands are...?

- delicate
- long-fingered
- beautiful
- soft
- strong
- friendly
- capable
- skilled
- expert



In pairs, answer the following questions:

- What can you tell about a person just by looking at their hands?
- Do you think hands can be deceiving, like appearance?

Look at this photo for a few seconds:





Now work on your own and get ready to answer these questions:

- Are these a man's or a woman's hands? Why?
- Close your eyes and try to imagine this person. What does he/she look like?
- Now try to guess what this person's world is like. What do his/her hands tell you about the person's lifestyle, hobbies ...
- What does this person feel when he/she looks at his/her hands?
- Finally, who do you think took this photo? Why?

Discuss your answers with a partner or in small groups. Is your interpretation of the photo similar?



Follow-up.

- Facial reconstruction: students draw a picture of this person's face. Display photos in class.
- Students bring over photos of their own hands. Display in class and guess whose hands they are. Or photos that show how we communicate with our hands (clap, shake, touch...)
- Write an essay. Start like this: *When you first meet her you can't help noticing her hands.*