

That's me

This cartoon by Arcadio Esquivel was published by Cagle Cartoons. It's a cartoon about how people wear face masks now because of the coronavirus pandemic.

The cartoon shows a portrait of a man from the waist up. He is standing in front of a simple background and is wearing a black face mask and a yellow T-shirt. On the T-shirt is the word "me" with an arrow pointing to a picture of his own face – without a mask. The man looks a bit uncertain, standing very still with his arms close to his side, as if he's not sure what to make of this new piece of clothing.

This cartoon illustrates how people have to get used to wearing face masks, a habit that was not that common in many countries before the corona pandemic. It is commenting on how people are not used to seeing only the upper half of others' faces, and how many people feel uncomfortable when they are wearing a face mask. The man in the cartoon also feels that he has to show others what he looks like without a face mask. But maybe the cartoon also makes fun, at least a little, of how people need to adapt to face masks. Because it's not as if one can't see that the printed face on the T-shirt is the same as the real one wearing a face mask. Perhaps the cartoonist is also making a comment about communication: we look at someone else's face to see how they are feeling. Face masks cover facial expressions. It is hard to read the man's feelings with the mask on.

The cartoonist has picked a topic that has just recently affected all of us in our daily lives and gives it an interesting twist. He exaggerates how we are afraid that even our friends might not recognise us anymore when we are wearing face masks. But he also shows that it is something we have to get used to, and that we need to make sure we can still communicate well. At first, I thought this is a straightforward and simple cartoon, but thinking about it opens up several layers, which makes it quite interesting despite its simplicity.

Hinweis: Sie können Ihre Vorlage aus dem **Übungsmaterial** für Ihren eigenen Unterricht gerne vervielfältigen. Ihre Zugangsdaten dürfen Sie jedoch nicht an Dritte weitergeben. Jede Art der Mehrfachnutzung Ihres persönlichen Abos verstößt gegen das Urheberrecht.