2014: The first episode of "Jane the Virgin" was released on The CW (US)

Breaking the stereotypes of Latinos in US fiction

Latinos represent approximately 17% of the American population. However, according to *The New York Times*, they are often represented as stereotypes in movies and shows (working as maids, being criminals or even illegal immigrants). In *That 70s Show*, for example, one of the most famous sitcoms from the end of the 1990s, one of the characters called Fez is always made fun of because of his thick accent and more generally because he is a foreigner. However, things have evolved, and some recent works show a will from directors to erase these clichés about Latinos and consider their own vision of their lives and culture. A groundbreaking show was *Ugly Betty*, which featured a cast of Latinos, with Latino producers and inspired by a Colombian soap opera called *Yo Soy Betty, La Fea*. In 2016, three Latinas starred in comedy shows depicting different aspects of the life of Hispanic Americans and expanding beyond the stereotypes: America Ferrera, Gina Rodriguez and Eva Longoria, respectively, appeared in *Superstore*, *Jane the Virgin* and *Telenovela*. In *Superstore*, America Ferrara's character's heritage is not the main focus, and she asserted in an interview that her character is a wife and an employee who just happens to be Latina.

Teaching ideas

⭐⭐⭐ **LYCÉE – Identités et échanges/Diversité et inclusion –** In groups, have pupils do some research on TV shows featuring Latinos in the US. Ask them to share what they found out and then have them create a TV spot debunking Latino stereotypes in US fiction for Hispanic Heritage Month. Have pupils vote for the best spot.