

# Shoes

## Intermediate

### 1 Match the shoes

Look at the types of shoes below. Which ones would you wear in the situations that follow?

flip-flops                      high heels                      hiking boots                      wellington boots  
slippers                          sandals                          trainers

- 1 Walking in the mountains.
- 2 Walking in town on a hot, sunny day.
- 3 Going to a cocktail party (if you are a woman).
- 4 Going to the gym.
- 5 Staying at home on a Sunday morning.
- 6 Walking in the rain.
- 7 Walking on the beach.

### 2 Match the phrasal verbs

Match the words with the phrasal verbs:

socks                      tiptoe                      toes                      laces                      heel

- a. You can put them on, pull them on, and take them off.
- b. You have to tie them up or you'll trip over them.
- c. If you stand on your \_\_\_\_\_, you can see over the fence.
- d. She was so angry she turned on her \_\_\_\_\_, and left.
- e. He was so clumsy he kept stepping on her \_\_\_\_\_.

### 3 Match the words

Match the words in column A with the items in column B:

A	B
Shining shoes	a shoe shop
Making shoes	a shoe horn
Putting new shoes on	a cobbler
Selling shoes	polish

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#### 4 Odd word out

The words below all describe parts of a shoe and parts of the body. Which word cannot be used to describe a part of your foot?

sole          heel          toe          instep          tongue

#### 5 Find the adjectives

Read the text. What does the speaker like about new shoes?

I adore brand new shoes. I love shoes that are shiny, squeaky, and so tight they rub the back of your heel. I hate shoes that are scuffed or worn out. This may seem odd because most people like shoes to be comfortable and worn in. But I don't. I spend hours polishing my shoes. I want my shoes to feel springy, and I want the tread on the bottom of my shoes to look as if nobody has ever walked on anything but thick carpets in them. And I really like it when people notice my shoes, and compliment me on them. That really makes my day.

Find words in the text that describe:

1. How new shoes look.
2. How new shoes sound.
3. How new shoes feel.
4. How old shoes look.
5. How old shoes feel.

#### 6 Fill the gaps

Complete the idiomatic expressions with shoe(s) or boot(s):

- 1 He has very little money. I don't know how he runs a business on a \_\_\_\_\_ string.
- 2 You were laughing at me this morning, but now I've won and you've lost. Now the \_\_\_\_\_ is on the other foot.
- 3 Claire was a wonderful sales manager. Now she has left, I don't think anyone can fill her \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4 The boss is really angry with Gary and wants to talk to him. I'm glad I'm not in his \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5 When he first came here, he was very nice. But now he thinks he is better than everyone else. He's got too big for his \_\_\_\_\_.
- 6 Harry lost his job on Friday. His work was so poor that he got the \_\_\_\_\_.

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### 7 Interview your teacher

Interview your teacher about his/her shoes:

- 1 *Where did you buy them?*
- 2 *How would you describe them?*
- 3 *How long have you had them?*
- 4 *How much were they?*

### 8 Describe your shoes

Now prepare to describe your shoes to your partner. Think about including the following information:

- 1 *Where did you buy them?*
- 2 *How would you describe them?*
- 3 *How long have you had them?*
- 4 *How much were they?*

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### Teacher's notes – Shoes

**1** It is a good idea to find visuals to help teach these words. You could bring in pictures from fashion magazines of different types of shoes. Put the students in pairs to match the shoes to the situations.

**Answers:**

1 hiking boots      2 sandals      3 high heels      4 trainers  
5 slippers      6 wellington boots      7 flip-flops

**2** Ask students in pairs to match the words with the phrasal verbs.

**Answers:**

a. socks      b. laces      c. tiptoe      d. heel      e. toes

**3** Ask students in pairs to match the word with what it is for.

**Answers:**

Shining shoes      polish      Making shoes      a cobbler  
Putting new shoes on      a shoe horn      Selling shoes      a shoe shop

**4** Ask students which is the odd word out.

**Answer:**

tongue

**5** Ask students to read the text. What does the speaker like about new shoes?

**Answer:**

He loves the look, sound and feel.

**Ask students in pairs to find words in the text.**

**Answers:**

1 How new shoes look: shiny  
2 How new shoes sound: squeaky  
3 How new shoes feel: tight springy  
4 How old shoes look: scuffed or worn out.  
5 How old shoes feel: comfortable and worn in

**6** Ask students in pairs to complete the idiomatic expressions with shoe(s) or boot(s).

**Answers:**

1 He has very little money. I don't know how he runs a business on a shoestring.  
2 You were laughing at me this morning, but now I've won and you've lost. Now the boot is on the other foot.  
3 Claire was a wonderful sales manager. Now she has left, I don't think anyone can fill her shoes.  
4 The boss is really angry with Gary and wants to talk to him. I'm glad I'm not in his shoes.  
5 When he first came here, he was very nice. But now he thinks he is better than everyone else. He's got too big for his boots.  
6 Harry lost his job on Friday. His work was so poor that he got the boot.