

Clothing

By Lindsay Clandfield

Level: Upper intermediate

Objective: Revising the vocabulary of clothing in American English

Warm up

The vocabulary area of clothing is one which upper-intermediate students will surely have seen but may have forgotten. Begin by asking students to sit in pairs. Student B should sit so that he/she cannot see the other people in the class (this could mean just looking down at the floor). Tell student A to describe another person in the class by talking about their clothing. B must guess who it is.

Stage 1

To continue the revision, distribute the material and ask students to do exercise 1 as quickly as they can individually. They then get into pairs to compare their answers. You could extend this activity by asking them to list other items of clothing they already know.

Stage 2

Tell students to do exercise 2 individually. They can refer to a dictionary if they like. When they finish, go through the answers orally and check/drill pronunciation of the words in bold.

Answers

1 shirt 2 shoes 3 zipper 4 pants 5 shoe

Stage 3

Tell students to work in pairs and do exercise 3. They should do this with dictionaries closed (if they were using them before). One student points to a part of clothing and the other says what it is.

Stage 4

Direct students to exercise 4 and ask them to write the sentences in their notebooks. Go over this on the board. If you have a monolingual class, ask them how these sentences are rendered in their own language. As an extension, you could ask them to make their own sentences using the verbs.

Answers

These shoes fit/suit me.

I wear/put on/take off these shoes every day.

Stage 5

Ask students to do exercise 5 in pairs. Go over answers orally, checking pronunciation.

Answers

The gray-patterned dress is nice.

I'll wear my pleated pants.

They have a red and white checked (or checkered) flag.

Stage 6

Ask students to work in pairs or small groups. They should read out the quotes and discuss whether they agree with them or not.

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GRAMMAR & VOCABULARY

1 Clothes review – What goes where?

Look at the picture and mark the body part with the correct number.

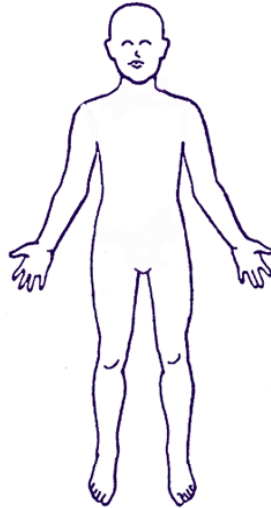
1 a tie

2 gloves

3 shorts

4 a bra

5 a skirt



6 a shirt

7 socks

8 a scarf

9 a cap

10 a sweater

2 Parts of clothing

Choose the correct words to complete the sentences.

- 1 It's hot today, I think I'll wear my blue *shirt/sweater* with the short **sleeves**.
- 2 Oh no! I've broken the **heel** of my favorite pair of shorts/shoes!
- 3 This dress/sock has a **zipper** at the back and I can't reach it. Can you help me?
- 4 The **hem** on these *shirts/pants* needs to be shortened.
- 5 Just a minute, my *glove/shoe* **laces** are undone.

3 Look at the words in **bold** from exercise 2. Show these parts of clothing to a partner.

4 Clothing verbs

Look at the sentences. Which verbs from the box can go with sentence 1 and which verbs go with sentence 2? What are these sentences in your language?

FIT WEAR SUIT PUT ON TAKE OFF

1 These shoes me.

2 I these shoes every day.



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5 Word formation

Complete the second sentence so it means the same as the first sentence.

1 This shirt has blue stripes.

It's a *blue-striped shirt*

2 The dress with a gray pattern is nice.

The is nice.

3 I'll wear my pants with the pleats.

I'll wear my

4 Their team flag has red and white checks.

They have a

6 Discussion

Work in pairs. Look at the quotes and sayings about clothes. Do you agree? Discuss with a partner.

"People seldom notice old clothes if you wear a big smile."

Lee Mildon

"Clothes make the man."

Proverb

"Every time a woman leaves off something she looks better, but every time a man leaves off something he looks worse."

Will Rogers

"It's always the badly dressed people who are the most interesting."

Jean Paul Gaultier

"Women dress alike all over the world: they dress to be annoying to other women."

Elsa Schiaparelli

"I think high heels are ridiculous. It's like putting a building on the head of a pin."

Cathy Ladman