

Clothes

Kinds of clothes

What does the rhyme “Something old, something new, something borrowed, something blue” refer to?
(Answer: Traditional advice to a bride on what to wear at her wedding.)

In small groups, think of the best clothes for these situations.

a walk in the snow, a job interview, a naming ceremony (including the baby’s clothes), a camel ride in the desert, a night at the disco, an expedition into the jungle, a cocktail party,

Tell each other about a time you had to dress up for a formal occasion or a special event.

My clothes

Find someone in the class who is wearing ...

something green, designer clothes, jeans, nylon, sandals, no socks, silk, a belt, something striped

I will tell each of you the name of someone else in class. On your own, write a description of what this person is wearing. (Collect the descriptions and read them out to see how quickly the class can identify each person.)

Point to these things, either on yourself or on another student.

zip, pocket, button, collar, laces, sleeve, hem, heel, lapel

Find out who has got:

the most zips, the deepest pockets, the brightest socks, the longest laces,
the highest heels, the biggest lapels/collar, the most interesting buttons

Describing clothes

Listen to the following words and put them in five categories: opinion, age, color, pattern or style, and material.

denim, flared, baggy, scruffy, leather, lovely, new, blue, nice, nylon, pink, plan, plastic, purple, silk, casual, second-hand, short-sleeved, polka-dot, striped, old-fashioned, smart, trendy, velvet, wool, cotton, awful, checked

In pairs, compare your lists and add more words to each category.

Describe to each other what some of the other students are wearing using several of the adjectives in your list, e.g. *She's wearing a beautiful, green, silk skirt, He's got new baggy jeans.*

Who is the best-dressed person in the class?

Tell us about a traditional costume from your country.

Suits you

What does the rhyme: "Red and green should never be seen; not even in a washing machine" refer to? (Answers: Colors which supposedly clash.)

In small groups, talk about which clothes and colors go together and which don't. Tell each other which clothes and colors suit you, and why.

Discuss the differences between these pairs of words and phrases.

inside out/ back to front hat / cap	fashion / style to go with / to suit	blouse / shirt size / fit
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In pairs, find out if there's something that one of you wants to buy. Write a short conversation between a customer and a shop assistant in a shop that sells what you want. (Invite several pairs to read out their conversation.)

Specialist outfitters

In pairs, think of an occasion which requires special clothes, e.g. *a wedding, a walk in the mountains*. Discuss what clothing advice you would give someone who was coming with you. Join a pair planning a different outing. Take turns to give each other advice on what to wear for the two trips.

Whose trip needed the most specialist or expensive clothes? In your groups, tell each other about any specialist clothing you have.

Write an appropriate activity for each of these items. Compare your ideas with a partner.

goggles, mittens, shin guards, flippers, helmet, bow tie, sweatband, apron, lifejacket, veil, wetsuit,
nappies, wellington boots, high-heeled shoes, tracksuit, sandals, dressing gown, trainers

Tell each other about a time when you wore some of these things. Make a note of what your partner has worn and at the end we'll see who in the class has worn the most items.