

FIONA LONGDEN



Simple Steps to Good Writing

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STEP 4

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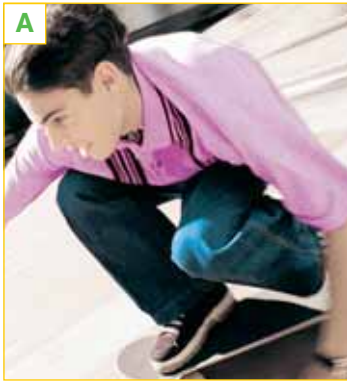
UNIT 1

Fashion

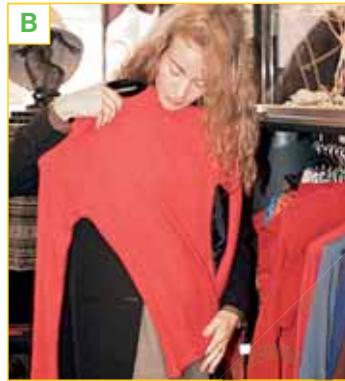
Young People and Clothes

1 WARM UP

Look at the pictures and answer the questions.



- 1 What is the boy in the photo wearing?
- 2 Do you think he is wearing fashionable clothes?
- 3 Do you wear clothes like these? Why?



- 1 What is the girl in the photo doing?
- 2 What kind of clothes do you think she likes wearing?
- 3 Imagine she is going to a party tonight. What clothes do you think she should wear?

Useful words / phrases:

- casual clothes • jeans • trainers • dressed in • in fashion • shopping for clothes
- formal clothes • trendy clothes • dress up • put on something special

2 READING FOR IDEAS

1 Read the article and choose the best title:

- a WHAT TEENAGERS ARE WEARING TODAY b HOW IMPORTANT FASHION IS TO ME c A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A FASHION VICTIM



Many people believe that our clothes show what kind of person we are. For this reason, fashion is very important to most of us.

Personally, I love keeping up with the latest fashions, as many girls of my age do. But even though I enjoy reading about the latest trends in magazines, and going shopping with friends, I would not describe myself as a fashion victim.

I always try to pick clothes and accessories that look good on me, rather than buy something simply because it is in fashion. For example, I would prefer to wear my jeans to a party rather than a short skirt, as I would not feel comfortable dressed in that way. However, I would definitely avoid wearing clothes that are out of fashion.

To sum up, like most teenagers I go for fashionable clothes that suit me. If I wear them with the right accessories, I know that I will look good.

2 Find words / phrases in the article that mean the same as the words / phrases below.

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| 1 the majority of us <u>most of us</u> (paragraph 1) | 5 fashionable _____ (paragraph 3) |
| 2 fashions _____ (paragraph 2) | 6 but _____ (paragraph 3) |
| 3 choose _____ (paragraph 3) | 7 unfashionable _____ (paragraph 3) |
| 4 suit me _____ (paragraph 3) | 8 choose _____ (paragraph 4) |

3 VOCABULARY DEVELOPMENT

1a Fill in **up**, **back** or **out**.

- 1 go _____ of
- 2 keep _____ with the latest } fashion
- 3 come _____ into

b Now use the expressions above to complete the following sentences.

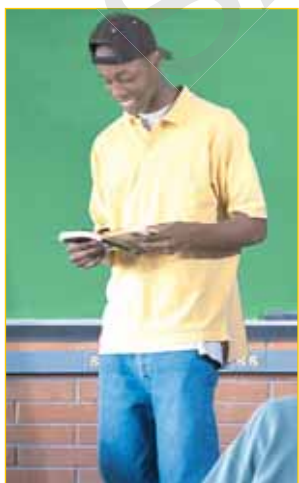


1 I like to _____

2 That suit is awful. It will never



3 Jeans and T-shirts never
_____.
They are always popular.



2 Fill in the **antonyms** of the adjectives in bold.

tight • **bright** • **smart** • **patterned** • **trendy**

- 1 I usually wear **casual** clothes but today I'm wearing something **smart** for John's party.
- 2 She always dresses in **dull** colours. She should wear _____ clothes.
- 3 Teenagers prefer _____ clothes to **old-fashioned** ones.
- 4 Some of my friends wear **baggy** jeans and others prefer _____ jeans.
- 5 **Plain** skirts are not very fashionable at the moment. Most people prefer _____ ones.

3 Fill in the correct **adjective**.

straight, **high-heeled**, **long-sleeved**



1 _____ top

2 _____ jeans



3 _____ sandals

4 Choose the correct **preposition**.

Most young people [1] **of** / **in** my age want to be fashionable. We like wearing tops with designs on them, and jeans, of course. Girls seem to be more interested [2] **for** / **in** fashion than boys. They like to choose the right bag or belt to go with their outfit. Girls also seem to enjoy trying [3] **on** / **out** clothes more than boys. Some teenagers like unusual clothes; they want to stand [4] **up** / **out** in a crowd. They do not want to dress [5] **with** / **in** the same way [6] **as** / **with** other people.

4 WRITING PRACTICE

1 Rewrite the sentences, using the words / phrases given.

1 I like high-heeled shoes, but I don't wear them very often. **ALTHOUGH**
I like high-heeled shoes, although I don't wear them very often.

2 My friends wear casual clothes like sweatshirts, jeans and baggy trousers. **SUCH AS**

4 They find out about the latest fashions by reading magazines. **IN ORDER TO**

5 I think young people care too much about fashion. **OPINION**

3 Teenagers like accessories, especially jewellery. **IN PARTICULAR**

6 The sandals were very uncomfortable and I could not walk in them. **SO**

2 Read the four sentences below. Use **two** for the **introduction** and **two** for the **conclusion** to an article with the title: ARE YOUNG PEOPLE TOO INTERESTED IN FASHION?

But is this really the case?

To sum up, I would say that teenagers have a lot of interests.

If fashion is one of them, does it really matter?

Many people complain that teenagers think of nothing but fashion.

Introduction

Conclusion

5 COMMON MISTAKES

Tick (✓) the correct sentence.

1 Bright colours don't **suit me.** ☐
fit me. ☐

2 She likes to dress **with black.** ☐
in black. ☐

3 Even on formal occasions, teenage boys do not often wear **costumes.** ☐
suits. ☐

4 Some styles never **go out of fashion.** ☐
go out from fashion. ☐

5 No one is more interested in fashion than **the young people.** ☐
young people. ☐



6 WRITING TASK

Write* **an article** for a magazine that is read by young people all around the world. The title of the article is: **THE CLOTHES YOUNG PEOPLE IN MY COUNTRY LIKE TO WEAR.** Before you start:

STEP 1: Oral Preparation

Answer the questions.

- 1 Look around the classroom. What kind of clothes seem to be most popular with the boys? What about the girls?
- 2 What kind of casual clothes do teenagers in your country like wearing in the summer? What about in the winter?
- 3 Do you prefer casual or formal clothes? What kind of occasions would you dress up for? What would you wear?
- 4 What kind of accessories are popular with young people in your country?
- 5 Do you know anyone who wears unusual clothes to stand out from the crowd? What does he / she wear?
- 6 Are young people in your country too interested in fashion? If so, why? Do you know any 'fashion victims'?

STEP 2: Plan

Paragraph one:

Say something general about young people and fashion. Say whether young people in your country are interested in fashion or not.

Paragraph two:

Describe the kind of clothes teenagers like to wear in your country. Mention summer / winter clothes or casual / formal clothes. Write about accessories, too.

Paragraph three:

Describe the kind of clothes young people wear when they want to be different. Say why you think they do this.

Paragraph four:

Sum up. Say whether young people in your country are too interested in fashion.



STEP 3: Useful Language

Clothes / Accessories

- sandals / boots / trainers
- trousers / jeans
- cardigan / jumper
- short / long skirt
- tight / loose top
- wide / narrow belt
- gold / silver jewellery
- earrings

Words / Phrases

- slave to fashion
- fashion victim
- follow fashion
- the latest fashions
- outfit
- most of the time
- the majority of

Structures

- try to avoid wearing ...
- prefer ... to ...
- would rather wear ... than ...
- clothes that suit them
- dress up for special occasions
- keep up with fashion

[* For each **writing task**, write between 120 and 160 words.]

Simple Steps to Good Writing

is a four-book series which focuses on writing skills and takes learners from Beginner to Intermediate level. The series is both stimulating and practical, and covers a wide range of topics as well as introducing students to a variety of writing tasks.

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- model compositions and plans
- topic-related vocabulary development
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takes learners step by step through this difficult area of language learning, giving them a firm grounding in the writing techniques required for success in the writing paper of various examinations.

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