

Clothes and fashion

1 Put the students in pairs to look at the lists of clothes, and answer the questions.

Answers

- a. A party frock is likely to cost the least.
- b. You wouldn't wear a leather jacket at a posh dinner?
- c. You would take something light – a sweater or a pullover.
- d. A pleated skirt
- a. pyjamas
- b. tracksuit bottoms
- c. a cloak

2 Ask the students to match the list of words to the correct heading.

Answers

- a. shoes
- b. accessories
- c. lingerie
- d. shirt
- e. jacket
- f. trousers

3 Ask the students to read the descriptions and match them to the correct words.

Answers

- a. trendy, fashionable
- b. elegant, stylish
- c. smart, stylish
- d. over-dressed, flamboyant
- e. casual, scruffy

Ask the students to write a short description of what they tend to wear most often. Ask them to read it out to their partner.

4 Ask the students to match the idioms in italics with the definitions.

Answers

- a. *roll up our sleeves* = work hard
- b. *button your lip* = shut up
- c. *down at heel* = in poor condition
- d. *off the cuff* = without preparation
- e. *hot under the collar* = angry
- f. *toe the line* = obey/do what you are told to do.
- g. *Every cloud has a silver lining* = Even when things are bad, something good will happen.

5 Ask the students to complete the text with the words in the correct tense.

Answers

My washing machine has broken, so my brother did my washing for me last week. It was a nightmare. He shrunk my favourite pullover. It's now two sizes too small. He dyed all my white shirts blue. The sleeve of my jacket is torn – I'll have to sew it up. There are holes in all my socks – I'll have to darn them. The collars and cuffs of my best shirt are frayed at the edges – there are threads of cotton hanging from them. And the zip on my new jeans has snapped. Now that my old jeans have worn out too, and I've had to throw them away, I've got no trousers to wear. I'm going to kill my brother when I see him!

6 Give the students a few minutes to prepare to discuss these questions. Then ask them to interview their partner.

Using the Macmillan English Advanced Learner's Dictionary and CD ROM

If your students have access to the Macmillan English Advanced Learner's Dictionary and CD ROM, set them the following quiz. They can find all the answers by finding the key words *clothes* and *fashion*, and following the various links. The quiz can also be done without the dictionary.

Clothes and fashion Dictionary Quiz

- 1 What's the difference between a *clothes line* and a *clothes horse*?
- 2 What do you use a *clothes peg* for?
- 3 What does a *plain clothes* policeman not wear?
- 4 What do you put in a *clothes basket*?
- 5 How is *clothing* different from *clothes*?
- 6 If you are a *fashion victim*, is it a good thing or a bad thing?
- 7 If you repeat something *parrot-fashion*, what does it mean?
- 8 What does a *fashion house* do?
- 9 What's the opposite of *come into fashion*?
- 10 What does *after a fashion* mean?
- 11 What does the verb *to fashion* mean?