

1 Classify the clothes

Look at the types of clothes below. Which do you put in a chest of drawers, and which do you hang in a wardrobe?

pullover	coat	trousers	shorts	jacket
shirt	socks	suits	pyjamas	tie
scarf	blouse	skirt	jeans	underpants
t-shirt	vest	bra	nightshirt	waistcoat
dress	tracksuit	knickers		

2 Match the words

Look at these types of shoes. Match them to the word that is closely associated with them:

trainers	rain
slippers	summer
boots	sport
sandals	bed time
flip-flops	walking
wellington boots	beach

3 Match the words

Match the words below to the correct definition:

belt	zip	pocket	laces
sleeve	button	heel	

- You tie them to keep your shoes on.
- You fasten it to keep your trousers up.
- You put your wallet and keys in it.
- There is a row of them down the front of your shirt.
- It's at the back of your shoe, and it is sometimes very high.
- There are two on your jacket, and you put your arms in them.
- You use it to fasten the front of your tracksuit top. It's made of metal.

4 Fill the gaps

Complete the sentences using the words below. You may need to change the form of the words. You may also need to use some of the words more than once:

hang	take off	fold	dress
iron	wear	put on	

- a. After using an electric _____ and an _____ board to _____ your clothes, you should always _____ shirts in a wardrobe, and carefully _____ t-shirts before putting them in a drawer.
- b. In the morning, I always _____ my shirt before my trousers, and when I go to bed I always _____ my trousers before my socks. I don't know why. I like _____ well. I always _____ a shirt and tie when I go to work.

5 Match the words

Look at the materials in table A below. Match them to the clothes in table B:

A

cotton	denim	leather	wool	felt
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B

jeans	hat	shirt	pullover	jacket
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6 Guess the holiday

Look at the descriptions of what people have in their bags. Where are they going on holiday?

A

In my suitcase, I've packed lots of t-shirts, two pairs of shorts, my flip-flops and my sandals, my bikini, a sun hat, a summer dress, and a light pullover. I've put a raincoat in just in case.

B

I've packed my rucksack. I've put in three pullovers and a woollen hat, lots of thick socks, and two pairs of tracksuit bottoms. There isn't enough room for my heavy boots.

Imagine you are going on holiday. Write a list of what you are going to put in your suitcase or rucksack.

7 Interview you partner

Interview your partner about what they wear. Ask the questions below:

- What sort of clothes do you usually wear?
- What colours suit you?
- What's your favourite item of clothing?
- How many pairs of shoes have you got?
- Are you a slave to fashion?
- Do you buy/ wash/ iron/ fold up your own clothes?

Tell the class about your partner.

Teacher's notes – Clothes (Pre-intermediate)

At this level it is a good idea to find visuals to help teach these words. You could bring in pictures from fashion magazines of people wearing different clothes, and elicit the words from the pictures.

1) Put the students in pairs to decide which clothes in the list they put in a chest of drawers, and which ones they hang in a wardrobe.

Chest of drawers: pullover, socks, scarf, shorts, tie, pyjamas, t-shirt, jeans, underpants, bra, nightshirt, knickers, vest, tracksuit

Wardrobe: coat, trousers, suit, jacket, blouse, shirt, dress, skirt, waistcoat

Note: in American English, vest = waistcoat, pants = trousers

2) Put the students in pairs to match the types of shoes to the word that best describes them.

Answers:

trainers = sport slippers = bedtime boots = walking
sandals = summer flip-flops = beach wellington boots = rain

3) Put the students in pairs to match the words to the correct definition.

Answers:

a. laces b. belt c. pocket d. button e. heel
f. sleeve g. zip

4) Put the students in pairs to complete the sentences using the words. The students may need to change the form of some of the words. Some words may be required more than once.

Answers:

a. After using an electric iron and an ironing board to iron your clothes, you should always hang shirts in a wardrobe, and carefully fold t-shirts before putting them in a drawer.

b. In the morning, I always put on my shirt before my trousers, and when I go to bed I always take off my trousers before my socks. I don't know why. I like dressing well. I always wear a shirt and tie when I go to work.

5) Put the students in pairs to match the materials in table A to the clothes in table B. Answers:

cotton = shirt denim = jeans leather = jacket
wool = pullover felt = hat

6) Ask the students to read the descriptions of what people have in their bags, and decide where they are going on holiday.

Answers:

A Somewhere sunny – the beach

B Somewhere cold – probably a walking holiday, perhaps in the mountains.

Ask the students to imagine they are going on holiday, and write a list of what they are going to put in their suitcase or rucksack. Ask them to read their list to the class, and see if anyone can guess where they are going.

7) Put the students in pairs to interview each other. In the feedback, ask the students to tell the class about their partner.