

What's in fashion?



Read the following article from the student newspaper 'Present Times' and answer the questions.

Louisa Au is a young designer who is one of the new faces in fashion. She was one of the few who have won awards for their work. She won 'The Most Creative Designer Award' in last year's fashion competition. Last week, I went to meet her in her **studio**. First of all, I asked her what she thought would be the biggest changes in fashion this year. 'Colour,' Louisa replied immediately.

She went on to explain, 'Black and white has been here for ages, but they can be boring. This year, everybody seems to want something more colourful. So, bright and bold colours are in. Neon colours, such as bright blue, orange and green will appear not only in clothes, but also in handbags and shoes. It is going to be out with the grey and in with the

glitz and **glamour**.' She noticed I was wearing a black jacket and trousers and said, 'You look really well-dressed, but I think you could match the black jacket with something other than a plain white **blouse**.' Louisa was wearing a beautiful mint green top, which was indeed livelier than what was on me. My clothes looked very ordinary. I understood what she meant.



Louisa then went on to talk about another important development in fashion. She said that people are now more aware of the need to protect the environment and, as a result, many designers are thinking more about the way that clothes are made.

Vocabulary highlights

studio (n)
glitz (n)
glamour (n)
blouse (n)

She said, 'There is now a trend towards wearing "green" clothes. Very few people wear coats that are made with real animal skin now, and more people go for clothes that are made in an environmentally friendly way, such as those made with organic materials, or clothes that support fair trade.'

30 'Do you think clothes will become more expensive because of this?' I asked her. 'No,' she replied firmly. 'Being green does not mean being greedy. Prices will not go up because of this.'

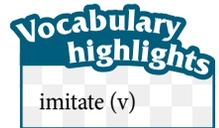
I noticed she had a couple of drawings on the table next to her. I asked her

35 if they were for her new collection. Louisa said she did not really want to talk about what she was planning, but I discovered that she was designing a dress for someone very famous. 'You will see it at this year's film awards. You will have to wait until then!'

She then got up and walked over to the window. I realized it was time to

40 end the interview but I wanted to ask her one last question. 'Have you got any good tips for students who want to become fashion designers?'

She responded solemnly, 'Try to be original. Don't just **imitate** other designers' ideas. Use your imagination and you will succeed.'



A. Answer the questions using information from the article.

For multiple-choice questions, blacken the circle under the corresponding letter.

- Louisa thinks wearing black and white is _____.

A. boring	B. ordinary	A	B	C	D
C. fashionable	D. well-dressed	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
- Look at the word 'match' in line 16. Now look at the dictionary entry for 'match' below. Which meaning corresponds to the meaning in line 16?

match

- (n) an organized game of football, chess or other sports, e.g., *Are you going to watch the basketball match?*
- (v) to have the same or similar qualities, e.g., *Sometimes, their thoughts and actions do not match.*
- (n) a combination of colours or designs that are the same as one another, e.g., *This colour is not a perfect match to her dress.*
- (v) to put something together with something else appropriate or harmonious, e.g., *The shirt and trousers do not match.*

- | | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| A | B | C | D |
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

Grammar Corner

Comparative and superlative adjectives

1. We use comparative adjectives to compare two persons, things, actions, events or groups, or compare the same persons, things, actions, events or groups at different times.



I think the neon green top is prettier than the white top.

The clothes shown in this shop are more colourful this year than last year.

2. We use superlative adjectives to compare somebody or something with the whole group that he / she / it belongs to.

Long-length blazers with shorts were the most popular style for men last year.

This year's fashion show is the most enjoyable event I have ever watched.

3. In most cases, for adjectives that have one or two syllables, the comparative and superlative forms end with *-er* and *-est* respectively. *More* and *most* are used with adjectives that have three or more syllables.

Adjective	Comparative	Superlative
clear	clearer	the clearest
close	closer	the closest
fat	fatter	the fattest
happy	happier	the happiest
enjoyable	more enjoyable	the most enjoyable

Watch out!

There are exceptions, e.g. *fun* (*more fun, most fun*), *helpful* (*more helpful, most helpful*), *unhappy* (*unhappier, most unhappiest*).

4. Some adjectives are irregular in the comparative and superlative forms.

Adjective	Comparative	Superlative
good	better	best
bad	worse	worst
little	less	least
much / many	more	most

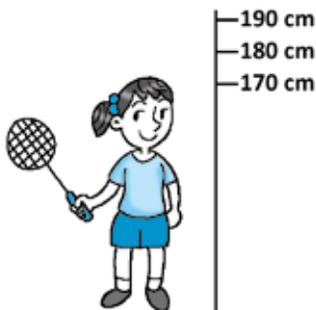
A. Complete the following sentences by underlining the correct choice within the pair of brackets.

e.g. Matt is (the most helpful / more helpful) person I have ever met.

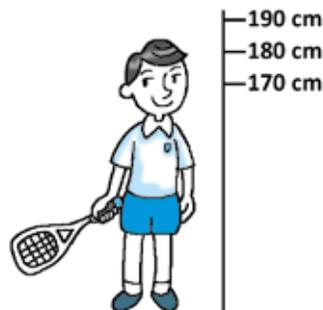
1. I think Thomson is getting a lot (thinner / more thin). He definitely looks (more little / less) chubby than last year.
2. I think Eva is (more honest / the most honest) person in the class.
3. James didn't get (much / the most) sleep last night. He looks very tired.
4. The saying goes, 'Hope for (better / the best) and prepare for (worse / the worst).'
5. We all think that the picnic day this year was a lot (funner / more fun) than last year's.

B. Use the adjectives given to write sentences about the pictures.

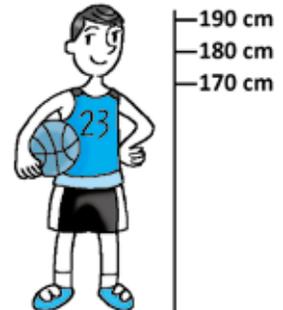
1.



Athena is tall.



Billy is (a) _____.



Calvin (b) _____.

2.



Daniel is heavy.



Ethan (a) _____.



Felix (b) _____.

3.



My results in 2019 were good.

My results in 2020 (a) _____.

My results in 2021 (b) _____.

C. Complete the blanks in the following passage by using the correct form of the adjectives given in brackets.

Dear Amy,

Thanks for your letter and the lovely photos! I am glad that everybody at home is alright. In fact, Dad seems (1) _____ (fit) and (2) _____ (happy) than he was last year. That must be because of the tennis he plays every Saturday morning.

The weather here is a lot (3) _____ (good) than when I first arrived. Well, I think December is (4) _____ (bad) time of the year, when it is cold and rainy. I find June and July are (5) _____ (good), when the air is (6) _____ (dry) and the sky is (7) _____ (clear) of the year.

Guess what? I went to a fashion show last weekend. I think it was (8) _____ (enjoyable) fashion show I have ever watched. I think the clothes this year are going to be (9) _____ (colourful) and (10) _____ (comfortable) than last year's. I think I am going to buy some new clothes next week to catch up with the latest fashion trend!

That is so much from me for now. Send my regards to Mum and Dad.

Regards,
Kate

Listening Platform

Train your Integrated Skills

A. A radio programme host is interviewing a famous fashion designer, Carol Cruise, and a supermodel, Julia Li. Listen to the first part of the radio programme and complete the task.



Audio

1. According to Carol, Asians can actually wear a lot of clothes very nicely if _____.
- A. they are as tall as European or American people
 - B. they are slim
 - C. they get the proportion right
 - D. they can elongate their build with more exercise
- A B C D

2. Which of the following can elongate a body?



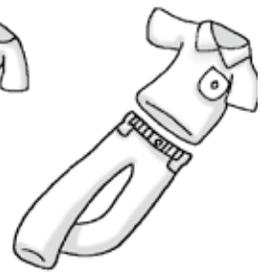
A



B



C



D

3. According to Carol, which of the following is a good match?

- A. a leather hat with a leather jacket
- B. a knitted hat with a leather jacket
- C. a polka-dot hat with a polka-dot jacket
- D. a floral hat with a striped jacket

A B C D

4. Which of the following can make us look slimmer?



A



B



C



D

Writing Platform

Email giving advice

Writing an email is similar to writing a letter. We write emails to:

- give information
- ask for information
- express an opinion
- share an experience
- make a request
- make a complaint

When we have a problem and want to ask for someone's advice, we can use the following phrases:

Introducing a problem

- *I need your advice.*
- *I'm worried about my clothes.*
- *The problem is, I haven't got many clothes.*
- *I don't know what to wear.*

Asking for advice

- *What should I do?*
- *What do you think I should do?*
- *Do you think I ought to get some new clothes?*
- *Could you give me some advice?*

When we want to offer our suggestions to help solve our friend's problem, we can use the following phrases:

Giving advice

- *If I were you, I'd (I would) wear jeans and a T shirt.*
- *If I were you, I wouldn't worry.*
- *Try not to worry.*
- *You should wear your favourite clothes.*
- *You shouldn't worry about it.*
- *You could try talking to other people who work there.*
- *Perhaps you ought to talk to someone from the company.*
- *Make sure you wear something comfortable.*



A. Read the sentences and decide if they are used for:

- (a) introducing a problem
- (b) asking for advice
- (c) giving advice

Write the correct letter next to each sentence. The first one has been done for you as an example.

- | | |
|---|---------------|
| 1. The problem is, I haven't got many clothes. | _____ a _____ |
| 2. You shouldn't worry about it. | _____ |
| 3. What do you think I should do? | _____ |
| 4. If I were you, I wouldn't worry. | _____ |
| 5. Do you think I ought to get some new clothes? | _____ |
| 6. Perhaps you ought to talk to someone from the company. | _____ |
| 7. You should wear your favourite clothes. | _____ |
| 8. I'm worried about my clothes. | _____ |
| 9. I need your advice. | _____ |
| 10. If I were you, I'd wear jeans and a T shirt. | _____ |
| 11. You could try wearing a dress. | _____ |
| 12. Could you give me some advice? | _____ |
| 13. What should I do? | _____ |
| 14. I don't know what to wear. | _____ |
| 15. Try not to worry. | _____ |
| 16. Make sure you wear something comfortable. | _____ |

B. You are Chris. Your friend, Alice, has written to you asking for advice. Read her email and reply to her. Write about 180 words.

● ● ●
☰

Hi Chris,

How are you? It was lovely to see you on my birthday. I'm ok, but I need your advice. The problem is, I'm doing work experience at an advertising company in the school holidays next month and I'm worried about what to wear. Do you think I should get some new clothes or should I just wear jeans and a T shirt? I'd like a different look, but I haven't got much money. What do you think I should do about this?

Could you let me know what you think?

Thanks very much!

Alice

Step 1 Understanding the writing question

1. **Who** are you? _____
2. **Why** are you writing the email?
To give advice to _____ on whether she should buy some new _____
and what she should wear to _____.

Step 2 Brainstorming the main points**Paragraph 1: Introduction**

3. **What** are you going to do in the email?
To give your advice to _____.

Paragraphs 2–3: Body

4. **Why** do you think she does not need to worry about her work clothes?
 - People are more interested in her than her clothes.
 - She always looks nice.
 - _____
5. **What** do you think she should do before going to work?
 - Find out the dress code of her company.
 - Choose clothes that make her comfortable.
 - _____

Paragraph 4: Closing

6. **What** do you want Alice to do?
 - Let you know if she has further questions.
 - _____



Complete your email using information from 1–6 on p.17.

Thanks for your _____

I think _____

Perhaps you _____

I hope _____

Salutation

Start with *Hi / Hello / Dear*

**Introduction
(Paragraph 1)**

**Body
(Paragraphs 2-3)**

Your advice on what to wear to work

**Closing
(Paragraph 4)**

Complimentary close and your name

Express Yourself Platform

Giving compliments

Compliments are nice things we say to someone to show our admiration and respect. When we give compliments, we should always mean what we say.

A. When do we give compliments? Tick (✓) the suitable situations.

- 1. When we notice our friend has a talent for something.
- 2. When we need someone's help.
- 3. When we see someone has performed very well in a competition.
- 4. When we think our friend is unhappy.
- 5. When we see something good in someone's appearance.
- 6. When we visit our friend's house for the first time.
- 7. When someone has prepared some delicious food for us.

B. The following are suitable expressions we can use to give compliments. Match them with the appropriate situations from Exercise A.

- _____ (a) I just love the way you do your hair. Did you do it by yourself?
- _____ (b) Wow! This is a very lovely flat. And the view is just gorgeous.
- _____ (c) Your voice is terrific. Do you take singing lessons?
- _____ (d) That was a wonderful dance performance. I think you have a good chance of winning.
- _____ (e) I just love the turkey. It's really juicy.

Responding to compliments

The proper way to respond to a compliment is simply saying 'thank you'. Be straightforward and don't be timid. If you like, you can even give one in return.

C. Which of the following are suitable expressions to use when responding to compliments? Tick (✓) the correct response.

- 1. No, not really.
- 2. Thank you. It's really nice of you to say so.
- 3. No, thanks.
- 4. Thanks. Yours is nice too.
- 5. Thank you. I'm glad you like it.

Across the Curriculum

Life and Society

A. In the last few decades, there has been a remarkable growth in the global circulation of products, such as fashions and television programmes. How will this affect fashion and our lifestyle? Read the following article to find out.

What will the future bring?

The global village is getting smaller with the **advances** in technology. Fashions in Asia are immediately copied in South America. Technologies that are developed in one country are soon used all over the world. What effects does this have on fashions and other areas of life?

Cynthia: Fashion designer

In my view, the latest advances in technology will not have a huge **impact** on the ways that fashions in clothes change. In the past, old style media such as magazines, films and TV showed the latest collections from New York, London and Paris, and these influenced fashion designers all over the world. The new media may spread the information more quickly, but the content is still the same. Fashion in clothes always looks to the future but at the same time borrows from the past. There will always be a market for **retro** and **vintage** clothes, as well as amazing new styles from modern designers.

Danny: Technology engineer

I think **globalization** has helped the spread of different cultural activities. Look at the smartphones and tablet computers around us. If it were not for globalization, it would be difficult to imagine why something developed in the US would have spread so quickly around the world. To help bridge the digital divide in the country, where the poor people do not have **access** to the Internet, India **launched** its own tablet computer in 2011, which is believed to be the world's cheapest tablet computer. I think in the future, globalization is going to affect more and more countries and the spread of information and news is going to be even faster than now.

Vocabulary highlights

advance (n)
 impact (n)
 retro (adj)
 vintage (adj)
 globalization (n)
 access (n)
 launch (v)

B. Choose the best answer. Blacken the circle under the corresponding letter.

1. The phrase 'global village' (line 1) suggests that _____.
 - A. technology is bringing people in the world closer together
 - B. people want to move from one country to another
 - C. people prefer to live in villages and not in cities
 - D. people in different places wear different fashions

A B C D

2. According to Cynthia, _____.
 - A. people are no longer interested in fashions from the past
 - B. people can easily buy clothes designed in New York
 - C. fashion magazines are not as popular as they once were
 - D. technology does not really affect the way fashions change

A B C D

3. Danny thinks that in the future, people will _____.
 - A. bridge the digital divide
 - B. have a lot of tablet computers
 - C. know about what happens around the world more quickly
 - D. earn more money because of globalization

A B C D



Record your performance in the table below.

Skill	Your score	Total
1. Reading Platform: Reading a newspaper article		26
2. Grammar Corner: Using comparative and superlative adjectives, and making comparisons		41
3. Listening Platform: Listening to fashion tips		14
4. Writing Platform: Writing an email giving advice		15
5. Express Yourself Platform: Giving and responding to compliments and shopping		30
6. Across the Curriculum: Learning about Life and Society		3
Total		129

Overall performance

104–129: Excellent	91–103: Very good	78–90: Good
65–77: Average	0–64: Need to work harder	