



Shopping and you



There is a popular idea that girls love shopping for clothes. They **shop around** for bargains all day. They **try on** clothes that they don't really want. Finally, they buy a lot of clothes but they don't keep them all. The next week, they **take back** the things they don't like and start all over again! Boys, on the other hand, buy the first thing they see which fits them. Then they don't enter a clothes shop again until their clothes **wear out** or they **grow out of** them, whichever happens first.

Is this true or not? We asked you for your own true-life experiences and here are a few of your replies.

■ **Megan, aged 17, Bristol**

In my opinion, it's totally true. I hate shopping for clothes with my boyfriend. ¹_____ He has two ways of reacting when I try on things. At first, he is too honest. He reacts with horror or makes jokes about the clothes I choose. Then, when he gets more bored, he says that everything is great or wonderful. Also, he has no idea about what is fashionable. I buy

him things which are a little more elegant but he doesn't wear them. He's slim and looks good in close-fitting jeans but he prefers very loose clothes. Oh well, at least he's got a great personality!

■ **Steven, aged 16, Leicester**

The idea that boys don't like shopping for clothes is really old-fashioned. Boys now are not like boys from the 1980s. ²_____ They don't all wear shabby clothes. A lot of them want to look nice. What's your next article going to be about? Why don't young people buy video tapes anymore? Most of us live in the 21st century. Come and join us. It's

great here!



■ **Henry, aged 18, Bath**

I love shopping with my girlfriend. We shop in places with a good choice of clothes for men and women. That way, we can both try things on at the same time. My girlfriend helps me a lot. She understands colours better than me. She can see immediately what goes with what and which colours look wrong together. She also finds things that match my

personality. ³_____ I **hang up** the clothes she doesn't want and **put back** dresses, skirts and T-shirts in the right place. It's true! She's much more untidy than I am.

Glossary

bargain (n) = something you can buy cheaply or for less than its usual price

immediately (adv) = at once

join (us) (v) = to begin to take part in an activity that other people are involved in

match (v) = look attractive together because of a similar colour, pattern, etc.

video tapes (n, pl) = special plastic boxes containing tape where you can record sound and pictures

1) **Who can you see in the photo? Choose the correct answer.**

- A. Megan and her boyfriend
- B. Steven and his girlfriend
- C. Henry and his girlfriend

2) **Complete gaps 1–3 in the texts with sentences A–C.**

- A. They spend more on cosmetics than girls and they care just as much about their appearance.
- B. In return, I help her.
- C. He is always bored and totally unhelpful.

3) **Look at the words in bold in the texts and match them to the definitions.**

take back wear out put back grow out of shop around hang up try on

put on clothes to see how they look or fit **try on**

- 1 return something to a shop because you don't want to keep it
- 2 become too big for clothes because you are taller or fatter than before
- 3 put clothes into a wardrobe or on hooks
- 4 compare the price and quality of similar items in different shops before buying something
- 5 become too old, dirty or damaged to use
- 6 return something to its correct place

4) **Complete the conversations with the correct forms of the verbs in the box.**

grow out of - hang up - put back - shop around -
take back - **try on** - wear out

- 1 **Janice:** You should those trousers before you buy them because you can't clothes to this shop.
Kelly: Really? What if there's something wrong with them?
Janice: You have to check them carefully here.
- 2 **Imelda:** Don't buy the first thing you find. We should and see if we can get them cheaper somewhere else.
Adrian: I haven't got the strength. I just want to go home.
- 3 **Sam:** These jeans aren't very good quality.
Paul: It doesn't matter. You're growing so quickly, you'll them before they .
- 4 **Simon:** Can I borrow these CDs and DVDs?
Lisa: Yes, if you promise to everything in the right place.
- 5 **Nick:** Hi, Mum. I'm home.
Mum: your coat. Don't leave it on the floor.

5) **Look at the photos and choose the correct words.**

Stylish or not? What do you think?



She's very trendy. She's wearing a hat / scarf / top on her head, sunglasses and she's got a big hat / scarf / sweater round her neck. It's difficult to see what kind of top / jacket / suit she's wearing under her leather jumper / coat / jacket – is it a thin skirt / jacket / jumper? I don't think it's a T-shirt / suit / tracksuit. She's wearing very close-fitting trousers / tracksuits / dresses – I think they are black jeans. On her feet ... are they jeans / shoes / socks or trousers / tracksuits / trainers? It's difficult to say for sure. They aren't boots. They're too small.
She looks cool – and she knows it! 8 / 10



He looks good. He's wearing a dark skirt / suit / sweater. It isn't too tight or too loose. The jacket and trousers fit him well. He's wearing a white shirt / coat / skirt and a dark scarf / top / tie. His shoes are black. We can't see his boots / trainers / socks – I'm sure they are dark.
He is stylish and smart. 9 / 10