

ACTIVE READING AND VOCABULARY:

<https://app.wizer.me/editor/BfqpzpmCCsDB>

1. Look at the photos, the captions and the title of the article.
What do you think it is about? Have you heard of these people?

Choose the best title for the article:

- A. Fashion and Engineering: An Unexpected Combination
- B. The Impact of Appearance and Clothing on Perception
- C. Sean Garnier: A Footballer's Disguise

Freestyle footballer



Sean Garnier "Appearances can be deceiving!"

Can a white coat make you more intelligent?



Katherine Quigg



Engineers can be elegant too!

2. Read the article to check your predictions.

Match the highlighted words in the text with their definitions.

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| 1. to join in | A. to admire |
| 2. to get smth wrong | B. to think smb. is better than someone else |
| 3. to set up | C. to start |
| 4. to look up to | D. to make a mistake |
| 5. to look down on | E. to take part |

The power of appearance

Some teenagers are playing five-a-side football. A man wearing a baggy tracksuit and dirty trainers picks up the ball. He's skinny grey-haired and he walks like an old man. The boys don't want him to play because they assume he's no good. However, he insists on **joining in**. At first, he's useless: he can hardly kick the ball. But then he starts playing brilliantly. He runs circles around the boys and scores an amazing goal. The thing is, he isn't really an old man. He's a 35-year-old freestyle footballer Sean Garnier who's disguised to look old for an advert encouraging active lifestyles.

This story shows how you can **get it wrong** if you judge people by their parents. Unfortunately, it's something we often do. We assume overweight people can't run, young people are irresponsible and pretty young women are not interested in science. But stereotypical assumptions are frequently wrong. For example, Katherine Quigg is a glamorous young woman. She's also an engineer. After graduating, she realized many people working in STEM were shocked that a stylish woman with a passion for fashion could be an engineer. So she **set up** a fashion blog called Engineering In Style to prove these people wrong by encouraging stylish young women to work in STEM.

Studies show that the way people look affects what we think of them and how we behave towards them. We **look up to** the well-dressed and **look down on** those who dress badly. It's a sad fact that if a woman dresses in a masculine style, she has a better chance of getting a job. People consider teaching assistants wearing formal clothes to be more intelligent than those who dress casually. We show more respect to people in uniforms and are more likely to listen carefully to a doctor when he or she is wearing a white coat.

The clothes we wear affect not only what we think of others, but also what we think of ourselves. If we wear lovely clothes, we feel more attractive and if we wear a suit and a tie, we feel more important. What's more, clothes can also change the way we behave. In one fascinating experiment a scientist showed that if you wear a white coat that you believe belongs to a doctor, your ability to pay attention increases sharply. However, if you wear the same white coat believing it belongs to

a painter, there's no improvement in your ability to concentrate. As the scientists behind the experiment stated, 'The clothes we wear have power not only over others, but also over ourselves'.

So our physical appearance and clothes influence the opinions people have of us and their behavior towards us. This can sometimes make them use unfair stereotypes. But it seems that the clothes we wear also have a powerful effect both on how we feel and how we act. Perhaps that's worth remembering the next time you're trying to decide what to wear.

3. Read the article again and choose the correct answers:

1. Why did Sean Garnier pretend to be an old man?
 - a) to have the chance to play football with teenagers.
 - b) to show that old people can play football too.
 - c) to take part in a sports match.
 - d) to persuade people to take up sport.

2. Katherine Quigg started her blog
 - a) because she wanted to work in fashion.
 - b) is part of your engineering degree.
 - c) in order to shock her fellow engineers.
 - d) to show that fashionable women can be scientists.

3. In the third paragraph, what does the writer suggest?
 - a) the way you dress affects what you think of other people.
 - b) in some fields, women who dress like men are more successful.
 - c) Teachers know more if they dress well.
 - d) People who wear uniforms are better listeners.

4. How can putting on a white coat influence you?
 - a) it can make you believe you are a doctor.
 - b) it can help you concentrate better.
 - c) it can help you control other people.
 - d) it can make you feel stronger.

5. What would be the most suitable sub-heading for this article?
 - a) Some stereotypes are false, but the way people look does tell us a lot about them.
 - b) Stereotypes are always wrong: we need to challenge them at all times.

- c) The way we look affects what people think of us and how we feel and behave.
- d) Studies show it's better to dress well if you want to be successful in life.

4. Rewrite the statements using the highlighted phrasal verbs from the article then say if the statements are true for you.

1. I _____ to people who have their own sense of style.
2. I like to _____ in conversations about fashion.
3. My sister is stylish but she doesn't _____ to people (like me) who don't care about fashion.
4. I'd like to _____ my own fashion design company one day.
5. My parents often _____ when they buy me clothes.

5. Rewrite sentences using compound adjectives. Then use compound adjectives to talk about the people you know.

1. I've got broad shoulders and curly hair.
2. I can't decide whether to wear a shirt with short sleeves or long sleeves.
3. I've got pale skin but my best friend has dark skin.
4. My hair is short, but my friend has long hair.
5. My eyes are blue, but my sister's are brown.

E.g.: My dad is middle-aged but he isn't grey-haired, he's brown-haired.

6. Speaking: How do these things make you feel? Discuss in groups.

a uniform, your pajamas, a football strip, a formal dress, a white coat, a suit and tie, cool sunglasses, a pair of glasses, a superhero costume

E.g.: When you wear a uniform it makes you feel strong and important, it makes you feel like a soldier.

7. Appearance is not important. It's what inside that counts. Do you agree? Discuss in groups.