FCE U1 Practice

The FCE is more demanding than previous Cambridge exams, so I will offer you a lot of practice with the topics. This lesson is a series of exercises that offer you practice with the elements from Unit 1: phrasal verbs and comparison. There is also a reading exercise.

Phrasal verbs

3 Complete the following sentences with phrasal verbs from the box in an appropriate form.

dress up	get away with	keep up with	
pull on	put together	smarten up	stand out

a I go to at least ten big fashion shows a year, just to _____ the latest designs.

b Joan asked me to paint the flat with her, so I _____ an old sweatshirt and my tattiest pair of jeans.

c Henry could _____ wearing jeans in his last job, but now he has had to _____ himself _____.

d Nigel _____ for the party, but when he arrived, he really _____, as everyone else was wearing casual clothes.

e Alice has _____ an amazing outfit using recycled clothing and glass beads.

To help you with this exercise, here is the definition/translation of the phrasal verbs in the box.

dress up = to wear formal or fancy clothes

get away with = to do something wrong, bad, or illegal without being caught, blamed, or punished

keep up with = to move, progress, or stay informed at the same rate as someone or something else

pull on = to put on clothes quickly, to tug or pull something with force, (or, less commonly) to inhale smoke from a pipe or cigarette

put together = to put on clothes quickly, to tug or pull something with force, or to inhale smoke from a pipe or cigarette

smarten up = to make a person, place, or thing look neater and cleaner

stand out = to be very easy to see, notice; destacar

Comparison

8 Make sentences using a comparative adjective and any other words needed. An example is given.

a Cotton shirts/cheap/woollen ones.
Cotton shirts are cheaper than woollen ones.

b Flat shoes/comfortable/high-heeled ones.

c Jeans/casual/trousers.

d Supermodels/thin/other people.

e Lily Cole/young/Kate Moss.

f New York/big/San Francisco.

g Jogging/dangerous/bungee-jumping.

h Clubbing/tiring/studying.

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

g) _____

h) _____

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Reading

4 Look at the photo of a pair of jeans. How old do you think they are? Read the text quickly to find out.

$25,000 may sound excessive for a tatty pair of jeans, but the ones in this picture are not an ordinary pair of Levi's. They are said to be one of the two oldest pairs left. They are certainly the most expensive!

Discovered last year in an old coal mine in Colorado, they were initially sold for $10,000 and then sold on again at a higher price. Then Seth Weisser paid even more for them. Co-owner of a store appropriately called *What Comes Around Goes Around*, he decided to contact Levi's in San Francisco. 'I sent them pictures of the jeans and they were delighted. They would have paid $40,000, I think!'

Levi's has its own museum and Lynn Downey, the company historian, said: 'I knew this would be a treasure that everyone in the company would want us to have, so Levi's agreed to pay one of the highest sums ever for a pair of old jeans.'

Apart from a hole in the left pocket and frayed edges at the bottom, the jeans are in remarkably good condition for their age. Ms Downey was able to date them by their leather patch, which was added in 1886, and the single back pocket. A second pocket was added in 1902. She said: 'Perhaps the most important reason why Levi's bought these jeans is that the company lost everything in the 1906 San Francisco earthquake and the first 50 years of our history was destroyed.'



5 Now read these statements about the text and say whether they are true or false.



a There are no other jeans as old as these.
b Seth Weisser paid $10,000 for the jeans.
c Lynn Downey is an employee of Levi's.
d The jeans are made completely of one material.
e The jeans have fewer pockets than ones made after 1902.
f The Levi's company is more than 100 years old.

6 Underline the four superlative forms in the text.

7 Find words in the text that mean the same as a–f.

a too much .....
b common .....
c suitably .....
d pleased .....
e worn out .....
f surprisingly .....

LIVEWORKSHEETS