# 4.4 READING

Shopping for clothes • phrasal verbs • clothes • adjectives • personality

**1 Read the text quickly. Who do you think is in the photo?**

A Megan and her boyfriend ☐
B Henry and his girlfriend ☐
C Steven and his girlfriend ☐

# 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 21, Bristol

In my opinion, it's totally true. I hate shopping for clothes with my boyfriend. He is always bored and totally unhelpful. 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. They spend more on cosmetics than girls and they care just as much about their appearance. 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 19, 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 I do. She can see immediately what goes with what and which colours look wrong together. She also finds things that match my personality. In return, I help her. 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

**video tapes** *(n, pl)* – special plastic boxes containing a length of tape that you can record sound and pictures on

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

**immediately** *(adv)* – at once

**match** *(v)* – look attractive together because they are a similar colour, pattern, etc.

**2 Read the text again and answer the questions.**

1 How does Megan feel about shopping with her boyfriend?

2 What does Megan like about her boyfriend?

3 In Steven's opinion, which idea from the eighties is not true about modern boys?

4 What do many boys of the 21st century want?

5 Why do Henry and his girlfriend go together to clothes shops for men and women?

6 How does Henry's girlfriend help him?



LIVEWORKSHEETS

**3 Look at the words in bold in the text and match them with the definitions.**

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 or damaged to use _____
6 return something to its correct place _____

**4 Complete the dialogues with the correct form of the verbs from Exercise 3.**

**Conversation 1**
Janice: You should try on those jeans before you buy them. 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.

**Conversation 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.

**Conversation 3**
Sam: These jeans aren't very good quality.
Paul: It doesn't matter. You're growing so quickly, you'll [1]_____ them before they [2]_____ .

**Conversation 4**
Simon: Can I borrow these CDs and DVDs?
Lisa: Yes, if you promise to _____ everything in the right place.

**Conversation 5**
Nick: Hi, Mum. I'm home.
Mum: _____ your coat. Don't leave it on the floor.

**REMEMBER THIS**

Most of the *phrasal verbs* in exercises 3 and 4 require an object. An object in phrasal verbs can appear after the whole phrasal verb, e.g. ***try on*** *a shirt* or between the verb and the preposition, e.g. ***try*** *a shirt* ***on***. Sometimes phrasal verbs are inseparable.

When you check a phrasal verb in a dictionary, look at the position of *sth/sb*. If *sth/sb* is between the verb and preposition, it means this phrasal verb is separable, e.g. *take* ***sth*** *off*. If *sth/sb* is after the whole phrasal verb, it means this phrasal verb is not separable, e.g. *look after* ***sb/sth***. Some phrasal verbs do not need an object, e.g. *get up*.

**5 Read REMEMBER THIS. Look at these sentences. Are the verbs separable *(S)*, inseparable *(I)* or is there no object *(NO)*? Use a dictionary if necessary.**

Try these trousers on. They look great. S
1 Take these shoes back to the shop. ☐
2 Tommy grows out of his clothes very quickly. ☐
3 Hang your coat up when you come home. ☐
4 Can you put my clothes back in my wardrobe? ☐
5 I always shop around before I buy anything. ☐
6 Cheap clothes wear out quickly, so they aren't really a bargain. ☐

## WORD STORE 4E | Clothes

**6 Look at the photos and choose the correct option.**

**STYLISH or NOT?** What do you think?



She's very trendy. She's wearing a [1]*hat / scarf / top* on her head, sunglasses and she's got a big [2]*hat / scarf / sweater* round her neck. It's difficult to see what kind of [3]*top / jacket / suit* she's wearing under her leather [4]*jumper / coat / jacket* – is it a thin [5]*skirt / jacket / jumper*? I don't think it's a [6]*T-shirt / suit / tracksuit*. She's wearing very close-fitting [7]*trousers / tracksuits / dresses* – I think they are black jeans. On her feet … are they [8]*jeans / shoes / socks* or [9]*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 [10]*skirt / suit / sweater*. It isn't too tight or too loose. The jacket and trousers fit him well. He's wearing a white [11]*shirt / coat / skirt* and a dark [12]*scarf / top / tie*. His shoes are black. We can't see his [13]*boots / trainers / socks* – I'm sure they are dark. **He is stylish and smart. 9/10**

## VOCABULARY PRACTICE | Adjectives

**7 Look at the vocabulary in lesson 4.4 in the Students' Book. Complete the dialogue with one word in each gap. The first letters are given.**

Amy: I prefer to wear **c**omfortable clothes, you know, like [1]**b**_____ sweaters and jeans. They're not [2]**t**_____ – in fact, they look [3]**o**_____-_____ , but I love them. I don't understand how people can wear [4]**t**_____ clothes. I think they're very [5]**u**_____ .
Ben: Yes, you're right. [6]**C**_____ clothes are my favourite too. I love wearing jeans, and T-shirts – they're the best. But sometimes, you need to wear [7]**s**_____ clothes. When someone gets married, for example, I wear a suit and tie – I can't wear [8]**s**_____ clothes like a tracksuit then!
Amy: You? Wearing a suit and tie? I don't believe it!
Ben: OK, here's a photo from my cousin's wedding. See? I'm wearing a [9]**s**_____ suit.
Amy: Yes, it's very fashionable. You look great!

## VOCABULARY PRACTICE | Personality

**8 Look at the vocabulary in lesson 4.4 in the Students' Book. Choose the correct option.**

1 I can't sing, I can't dance and I can't play a musical instrument. I'm not very *generous / talented*.
2 Pablo is the most *creative / energetic* person I know – he has great ideas!
3 Many *relaxed / generous* people give money to this charity.
4 I like being with Alice because she's always *creative / cheerful* and happy.
5 My grandparents are always *relaxed / talented* and they never worry.
6 Young children are *cheerful / energetic* – they're always active.



LIVEWORKSHEETS