Clothes for special occasions

We all sometimes dress up for special occasions. When do British people dress up, and what do they wear? We talk to three teenagers.



Saskia Taylor, 16
from Oxford

Last June we had our school prom – a big party to celebrate the end of exams. Everybody dressed up in special clothes. The girls wore evening dresses, earrings and high-heeled shoes, and the boys wore smart suits and ties. When we arrived, everyone was smiling and taking photos. We had a meal and then everyone danced. It was a great party!



Ewan Campbell, 17
from Edinburgh

Last week, I went to a Burns Night dinner. Burns Night is a Scottish celebration that happens every year on 25 January. We celebrate the life and poetry of Scotland's national poet, Robert Burns. I wore a kilt with a white shirt and a tie. All the men were wearing kilts – a traditional Scottish skirt for men. There was a special meal of haggis and vegetables, and I played the bagpipes!



Meera Chandra, 16
from Birmingham

My sister got married in the summer. My grandparents are from India, and a lot of my family still lives there, but everyone came over for the wedding – there were about 300 guests! I wore a bright pink sari – a traditional Indian dress – with a gold bracelet and a necklace. All of my cousins wore different coloured saris, so it was a very colourful wedding!

1 1.31 **Read and listen to the text. What occasions do the teenagers talk about? What clothes did they wear?**

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

1 What does the school prom celebrate?
2 What did Saskia and her friends do at the school prom?
3 What does Burns Night celebrate?
4 What did Ewan do at the Burns Night dinner?
5 How many people went to Meera's sister's wedding?
6 Why was it a 'colourful' wedding?

3 1.32 **Listen to Joe. Where is he from? Tick (✓) the occasion he talks about.**

- ☐ Halloween
- ☐ Mother's Day
- ☐ New Year's Eve
- ☐ Saint Patrick's Day

4 1.32 **Listen again and answer the questions.**

1 When is Saint Patrick's Day?
2 Who can you watch in a big parade?
3 What does Joe wear?
4 What does Joe's family do in the evening?

5 **Which of the occasions would you like to go to? Why?**

I'd like to go to ... because ...

PROJECT

- Work in groups. Make a video or a poster presenting the clothes people wear in your country on a special occasion.
- Choose an occasion. Use these ideas to help you.

weddings parties family events
school events festivals other celebrations

- Prepare clothes for a boy and a girl. Take a photo or make a video of one of you wearing these clothes and prepare a description of the occasion and the clothes. Use these questions to help you.

What is the occasion? When and where is it?
What do people wear? What do people do?



- Share your videos or posters with the class. Which is your favourite presentation? Why?