FOLLOWING FASHION

"Style is a way to say who you are without having to speak."
Rachel Zoe

– Do you agree with the quote above?
– Do your clothes speak for you?
– What is your favourite item of clothing?
– What is your favourite brand or designer?

VOCABULARY

1. **Do you ever wear the following pieces of clothing?**

skinny jeans / miniskirt / baggy trousers / high-waisted shorts / crop top / low-cut jeans / hoody / bomber jacket

2. **Which style of clothing do you prefer? Match the clothing adjectives to their opposites. What style of clothing do you prefer?**

1) casual   a) chic
2) stylish   b) old-fashioned
3) outdated   c) non-branded
4) messy   d) formal
5) trendy   e) fashionable
6) vintage   f) scruffy
7) neat   g) frumpy
8) designer   h) mod

3. **Complete the sentences with suitable words from Ex.2.**

1) Daniel likes spending money on _____ clothes, like Armani jeans.
2) Tom dresses _____. All the other kids want to look like him.
3) Ann doesn't spend a lot of money on clothes. She's happy to wear _____ clothes.
4) Mark hardly ever irons or washes his clothes. He always looks very _____.
5) They were surprised by her beauty and her _____ dress.
6) My brother has to wear _____ clothes at school.
7) My elder sister likes to wear old and _____ jeans.
8) Though she did not wear expensive clothes, she was dressed in a _____ and tidy dress.

4. **Complete the sentences using the following verbs. Mind the tense.**

match / suit / fit / dress / wear / look / look like / throw on / try on / go with / wear out / get into

1) Do you think that hat_____me, or does it just look strange?
2) He_____two pairs of shoes last year.
3) John told Lara to_____the shoes before she buys them to make sure they fit.
4) Michelle was in such a hurry, she just_____a few clothes on before leaving the house.
5) I think these skinny jeans will_____high heels.
6) He_____my wet boots and made me sit by the fire.
7) I can't_____these shoes – they're too small.
8) If you are going to be on TV, you'll have to_____a lot of make-up for the cameras.
9) Do you think this jacket_____these trousers, or is it the wrong shade of blue?
10) I've become taller and broader, so I hope my old jacket still_____!
11) Now that my brother has joined a rock group, he_____in the weirdest clothes!
12) David has dyed his hair and gotten designer shades, so now he_____an actor!

5. How do you feel about fashion? Read the expressions below and match them with their meanings. Use them to discuss your attitude toward fashion with your partner.

1) *fashion victim*
2) *fashion icon*
3) *must-have*
4) *have a sense of style*
5) *dressed to kill*
6) *have an eye for fashion*
7) *dress for the occasion*
8) *stand out in a crowd*
9) *cut a dash*

a) someone that you look up to or inspires your fashion style
b) to know what looks good on you and have your own style and taste
c) a person who wears popular trends and looks really ridiculous because he/she ends up looking like a store mannequin
d) highly essential clothes in your wardrobe this season
e) to have good taste and know what is "in fashion" and what is not
f) be stylish or impressive in one's dress or behaviour
g) to be very different and easy to notice
h) wearing very attractive clothes that will make people notice you
j) to wear clothes or do something that is no longer in style to wear something in the right place at the right time

READING

6. Do you pay much attention to what you wear? Do you consider clothing one of the ways to tell about personality? What is the best way to express yourself for you?

1) Clothing has played a great role in human life since the cavemen first tied a leaf around themselves. However clothing has an ancient history, in which it was used in loads of ways as symbolizing or demonstrating something, but what is the difference between clothing style and fashion? People say: "Fashion is what you buy, and style is what you do with it." Style of clothing is "about you and your relationship to yourself". Style does not change based on the mood of other people, but according to personal issues and spirit; style is *making a statement* of personal identity, with the use of fashion.

2) Fashion is one of the most recent developments of our modern society, which is used as a form of communication, a non-verbal language, a mean of self-expression. Expressing personality through fashion requires having a style. From the desire to look professional, beautiful, modest, stylish, to expressing a concept, culture, or religious beliefs, we are trying to *express ourselves*.

3) Whether we like it or not, what we wear gives off signals that help people to form an impression of us. People are as liable *to judge others by their look* as a book by its cover. However, clothing can't tell people who you are deep down, but it is part of the slim profile of information that a person has about you on first meeting.

4) It could be that fashion as self-expression is a myth, because what we choose to wear may not entirely come down to an act of individual free will – it can be influenced by external factors or social norms. There are norms for business and work, based on beliefs about how much skin should be covered or showing, as well as for events, including *dress codes* to follow in given situations. Even when the constraints are less strict, social pressures still define the boundaries of what we feel comfortable wearing. We put on smart casual for a restaurant, but we change into something more suitable when we hit the clubs.

5) If you feel comfortable in the look you've created for yourself, you can free your mind and focus on other things – art, work, the world. There's often one thing – a coat, sweater, pair of jeans, or ring – that can make you feel relaxed. Sometimes it's the stories and memories associated with it, other times it's the *inexplicable* way that it shapes us when we have it on. Certain old pieces can stand the test of time and remain a must-have in your wardrobe regardless of passing trends. Why do you think people still watch "The Godfather", travel to see the Mona Lisa, listen to Elvis songs? Simple – those things are *vintage*. So it's good to be aware of different vintage items. Especially *old-school* clothes.

6) One of these items is undoubtedly the Converse Chuck Taylor All-Stars. What started as a basketball shoe in 1917 has become an iconic sneaker that is worn by creatives and artists across all disciplines around the world. There's something about its design that encourages wearers from all backgrounds, from actresses like Demi Moore to musicians like Elvis Presley, to *incorporate* it *into the wardrobe* so easily.

7) Generally, it is important to express ourselves, because everybody is different and has valuable characteristics that should be respected. While it is always good to *be current in fashion*, it's really not about what's hot and new all the time, it's about finding your own personal style, which has nothing to do with fashion. Fashion is over quickly, style is forever. So, if you don't want to be that guy or girl that is walking around dressed in head to toe trends, like a *mannequin*, your personal style shouldn't be like throwing on five trends at the same time, also known as a fashion victim. True, trends come and go, but try to inject your personality into your own clothing choices and you will stand out no matter what is *on-trend for the season*.

7. **Match the passages with the sentences giving their main ideas, there is one you don't need.**

   a) The way you dress plays an important role in the way other people perceive you.
   b) Style is so much more than fashion.
   c) Dressing on occasion is not always your choice.
   d) Fashion is a tool, but it doesn't always serve right, if there is a lack of style.
   e) An iconic piece of world clothing collection.
   f) "Old" here refers to timeless.
   g) Don't go over the top with your outfit.
   h) The way you dress means much when it comes to self-identity and confidence.

8. **Look at the phrases in colour in the text. Match them to their synonyms.**

   declare / model / trendy / fashionable / include into closet / classic / traditional / uniform / evaluate by appearance / state oneself / mysterious

GRAMMAR

GRAMMAR BANK

ADVERBS mostly add information to a verb.
They relate to what they modify by indicating place (It will be *there*), time and frequency (Get out of bed *now*!), manner and attitude (She dresses *beautifully*), degree (He's *extremely* obsessed with fashion).
Also, they can modify adjectives (*very* beautiful/beautifully)
Adverbs are usually placed after the verb, but before the adjective:
   Ex.: The show is going to finish soon.
   It is really amazing.
Most adverbs are formed with the ending -ly: *smart – smartly, classic – classically.*
But there are some exceptions: *good – well, fast – fast, late – late, early-early.*
Many words are not adverbs although they end in -ly.
Here are examples of adjectives that end in -ly.
   Ex.: a friendly teacher   an elderly person   a lonely girl
Also there are adverbs that are easily confused as both their forms exist, but differ in meaning:
late – after the expected time   *lately* – recently
high – at or to a height   *highly* – (intensifier) very, greatly
near – close by   *nearly* – almost
Use the **adjective** when you say something about **the person itself**.
Use the **adverb**, when you tell about **the action**.
   Ex.: Peter can run quickly – Peter's legs are quick.
NOTE! The **difference** between **good** and **well**.
   Ex.: Linda looks good. (What type of person is she?)
   Linda looks well. (How is Linda? – She may have been ill, but recovered)
   How are you? – I'm fine/good (emotional state)
   How are you? – I'm well, thank you. (physical state)

9. Choose the correct items to complete the sentences.

1) She worked *careful/carefully* with the sick child. She was very *careful/carefully*.
2) The mechanic's tools were *well/good*. His work was *good/well* done.
3) You must send payments *regular/regularly*. We deal on a *strictly/strict* cash basis.
4) They proved to be *perfectly/perfect* *exact/exactly* measurements.
5) She performed *magnificent/magnificently*. It was a *magnificent/magnificently* beautiful performance.
6) The student was in such a hurry that she did *bad/badly* on the assignment. He answered the question *wrong/wrongly*.