

Finding arguments for listening tasks

You will hear five short extracts in which people are talking about buying clothes. For questions 1-5, choose from the list (A-H) what each speaker says is important to them when buying clothes. Use the letters only once. There is one extra letter which you do not need to use.

A I choose clothes I can wear to different occasions.	1 Speaker 1
B I buy well-made clothes that will last a long time.	2 Speaker 2
C I listen to other people's recommendations.	3 Speaker 3
D I look for clothes that are discounted in price.	4 Speaker 4
E I am interested in keeping up with fashion.	5 Speaker 5
F I prefer my clothes to be comfortable to wear.	
G I like clothes that reflect my personality.	
H I care about environmental issues regarding clothes.	

Find the sentence the script that proves (or disproves) your answer:

Speaker 1

I've never been really interested in fashion. Don't get me wrong though, I do regularly buy quite a lot of new clothes. I try to ensure my purchases are suitable for various situations, so for example, at weekends I tend to wear smart causal trousers that are equally appropriate for an average day in the office when I don't have any important meetings. Admittedly shopping for clothes isn't one of my favourite activities. That's why it's great when you come across an online store that has all the styles you like and that doesn't cost a fortune.

Speaker 2

I think of myself as quite an organised, efficient person, but you probably wouldn't guess that from my appearance. I never read clothes magazines, and I couldn't care less about what the latest styles are. I choose fabrics that are warm and feel good next to the skin. I have a lot of baggy jumpers and I always wear soft shoes wherever possible. I suppose when I finish studying and get a job, I might have to invest in some smart things for work, but for the time being, I'm more than happy with my wardrobe.

Speaker 3

If you asked me to define my favourite style of clothes, I'm not really sure what I'd say. I do have a few designer label items, and my friends sometimes comment on that, because they get most of their things in the sales. My response is that buying cheap clothes is actually a false economy – sometimes they can get worn out surprisingly quickly. My ten-year old winter coat looks as good as the day I bought it. OK, it's not this season's colour, but so what. It's not like I'm particularly interested in clothes.

Speaker 4

I've heard people suggest that your clothes can communicate what kind of person you are. For example, if you're into high fashion, you might be a changeable character. Or if you go bargain hunting in the sales, this might mean you're careful with money, or if you like bright colours, then you're an extrovert. When I'm at the mall, I go for things that are made from organic, natural materials as that's better for the planet. Not that my clothes look any different to anyone else's. And actually, I don't think my clothes would tell you anything about me as a person.

Speaker 5

My rule when it comes to buying clothes is never to get anything at the start of the season. By holding back a few months or sometimes only a matter of weeks, you can take advantage of special offers. The longer you wait, the better, in my experience. That's what I always tell my friends to do. If I look in my wardrobe, I'd say the clothes I buy represent a whole range of styles. I love the outrageous prints from nature from the 1970s, but equally I have some very smart designer jackets and shoes.