READING

1 Read the blog posting and tick (✓) A, B, or C.

Sara's blog

Welcome to my blog where I talk about 'slow' fashion — the art of buying less and wearing more thoughtfully!

This week, we're focusing on the 10 x 10 challenge, which was originally created by ethical fashion blogger 'Style Bee' in 2015, and is now a global trend online. The rules are simple: choose ten items of clothing and wear them for ten days. You are allowed to add accessories, of course, but shoes are included in your choice of ten.

Planning the challenge was a lot of fun. I'd seen other bloggers' outfits from last year, and after that I was sure I'd be able to make it through the ten days. After all, I do have a lot of hats and scarves! Finally, I decided on a pair of skinny black jeans (obviously), two pairs of shoes (one flat and one with heels), one smart shirt, two more casual tops, a warm grey jumper, my favourite denim skirt, and my friend Beth lent me a pair of baggy brown trousers.

So, how did I get on? Well, you can see the outfits I wore each day (arranged on my sofa) on my Instagram feed. You can't see me, but the clothes tell their own story. Beth's trousers were easily my favourite item. I wouldn't normally wear something this shape, but they were very easy to style with different 'looks'.

Overall, I think I was successful but I made some mistakes, which you can avoid! I planned too much. It would have been better to leave one item free, as a 'wild card' to decide during the week itself. The weather in London was freezing. I would happily have swapped one pair of shoes for a proper coat. In the end, I cheated and wore exercise clothes after work to stay warm. (I'm not sure if they're included in the challenge. But Style Bee does say that having fun is more important than following the rules!)

I think people who complete the challenge will think differently about clothes. If you read my blog regularly you will know that I love exploring the charity shops in London. I love wearing old clothes and creating my colourful outfits (it's a buzz knowing that no-one else has the same thing). But the 10 x 10 challenge reminds us not to shop at all. Or at least, to think about the purpose of our clothes rather than just their individuality. Over the next year, I intend to only shop for accessories and to swap more clothes with my friends.

Example: Sara's blog is about _____ fashion.
A cheap ☐ B current ☐ C slow ☑

1 Sara encourages her readers to _____.
A shop less ☐ B talk more ☐ C wear more clothes ☐

2 _____ aren't included in the choice of ten items.
A shoes ☐ B scarves ☐ C tops ☐

3 Looking at _____ made Sara confident that she would succeed.
A the rules of the challenge ☐ B her clothes ☐ C challenge photos online ☐

4 The brown trousers were _____.
A from a charity shop ☐ B not Sara's usual style ☐ C made by a friend ☐

5 Sara says other people should _____ before the challenge.
A plan more ☐ B choose three colours ☐ C only choose nine items ☐

6 Sara had to wear _____ because of the cold weather.
A the grey jumper ☐ B exercise clothes ☐ C a coat ☐

7 Style Bee says that _____ isn't that important during the 10 x 10.
A being fashionable ☐ B following the rules ☐ C having a good time ☐

8 Sara often tells her readers about _____ in her city.
A shopping in charity shops ☐ B what other people wear ☐ C exploring ☐

9 Sara wants to think more about _____ of her clothes.
A the colours ☐ B the creativity ☐ C the purpose ☐

LIVEWORKSHEETS

2 Read the article again. Mark the sentences T (true) or F (false).

Example: The 10 x 10 challenge was created by a fashion blogger. *T*

1 The challenge asks people to throw away ten items from their wardrobes. ____
2 Sara owns a lot of accessories. ____
3 Sara has posted photos of herself during the challenge. ____
4 Sara felt she had too many shoes in her selection. ____
5 Sara enjoys wearing things that aren't the same as other people's. ____
6 Sara thinks the challenge will encourage people to shop more in charity shops. ____

LISTENING

1 Listen to a conversation. Tick (✓) A, B, or C.

1 In his previous job, Aidan was responsible for _____.
A choosing clothes ☐ B selling clothes ☐ C designing clothes ☐
2 Aidan said he didn't get _____ when he worked at Kelly's.
A a good salary ☐ B to be creative ☐ C the promotion he wanted ☐
3 Aidan resigned before he _____.
A was fired ☐ B told his wife ☐ C found an investor ☐
4 _____ makes Aidan feel proud.
A Designing new products ☐ B Developing his business ☐ C Selling online ☐
5 The person who inspires Aidan _____.
A also changed careers ☐ B is older than he is ☐ C is a fashion journalist ☐

2 Listen to five conversations. Match the conversations (1–5) with what the speakers were talking about (A–E).

Conversation 1 ☐
Conversation 2 ☐
Conversation 3 ☐
Conversation 4 ☐
Conversation 5 ☐

A Complaining that his / her job is too busy.
B Telling someone that he / she won't invest.
C Describing an experience of solving problems at work.
D Finding a temporary job.
E Asking for overtime work.

LIVEWORKSHEETS