

## Reading

1 Read the text and choose the best answer, A, B, C or D.

### Before and after

**Sarah** and **Alex** are two teenagers who are not particularly happy with the way they look. But there is help at hand in the form of a makeover!

**Sarah** is seventeen but she looks younger than her age and she also wears clothes with cartoon characters on them that make her look even younger. When people were asked to judge from her appearance how old she was, the general opinion was around thirteen! She admits herself that she hides behind scruffy, baggy outfits that are not really suitable for her age. She hardly ever goes out with her friends and stays at home most evenings. Her essential problem then, is that she feels worried about the fact that she is growing up and by the responsibilities that come with being an adult. Now, however, she realises that it's time to look and behave her age.

Sarah's makeover concentrates not only on her appearance but also on how she feels about herself and her life. She has to make some hard decisions about what changes she wants to make and what goals she's aiming at. This process isn't easy but with some advice and guidance, she's able to do it.

Hannah, a stylist, then helps Sarah to choose some sets of clothes that suit her age. Together, they throw out most of the childish clothes she had! Now she likes her new image and she doesn't hide behind her clothes any more. Her friends think she's quite a different person, both inside and out!

**Alex**, also seventeen, is trying to find a job in the music industry but to do this, he has to give the impression that he is serious-minded and can hold



down a responsible job. Unfortunately, the clothes he wears and the way he speaks give a different picture. Alex is a rapper and every other word he says is 'cheers', 'mate' or 'cool' – not the type of language you would normally use to an employer!

Alex's makeover consists mainly of choosing the right outfits for job interviews. Hannah replaces his previous look with a more classic, formal style. Alex also needs practice in how to communicate with people in formal situations so, as part of the makeover, he spends some time on the perfume counter of a large store. Here he learns more about what employers look for when they interview young people for jobs.

Finally, in a class on interview techniques, Alex is taught how to prepare properly for an interview by doing research beforehand. He is then interviewed for a place on a music production course at college and he gets in! He still dresses as he likes though – in his spare time – and still 'raps' with his mates!

1 What type of clothes did Sarah prefer to wear?

- A clothes that other girls of her age wear
- B clothes for younger girls
- C clothes for adults

4 Alex may have to change the way he speaks because

- A it's not suitable for a job situation.
- B he wants to impress his friends.
- C it's how all his friends speak.

2 What was people's reaction to Sarah's appearance?

- A They thought that she looked older than she really was.
- B They thought that she liked cartoon characters.
- C They judged her age wrongly.
- D They disliked her baggy clothes.

3 What was Sarah's main problem?

- A She didn't have much idea about fashion.
- B She was always hiding from other people.
- C She didn't want to go out with her friends.
- D She wanted to remain a child.

5 What does Alex learn about interviews?

- A That they're easy when you know how to prepare for them.
- B That you behave in them as if you were a customer in a store.
- C That previous work experience is essential.
- D That the way you look and talk is important.

6 What impression do you get of the makeover that Sarah and Alex had?

- A It was really easy and fun.
- B It had its difficult moments.
- C They could have done it without any help.
- D Their friends didn't approve.

**1** Replace the words in italics with the correct form of these phrasal verbs.

~~do up~~ ~~dress up~~ go with put (something) on  
take (something) off wear out wrap up

**Ace:** You know I hate 1) *putting on smart clothes* to go out! ..... *dressing up* .....

**Mum:** Well, you can 2) *remove* those trainers and swap them for shoes, for a start!

.....

**Ace:** But my shoes don't 3) *match* these jeans.

.....

**Mum:** Well, 4) *wear* them anyway.

..... Your trainers are

5) *getting very old*. ..... And

6) *fasten* some more buttons on your shirt!

.....

**Ace:** OK. I'm ready. Bye!

**Mum:** You can't go out like that! It's freezing outside! For goodness sake, 7) *wear something warm*! .....