

FASHION and MUSIC



Before the mid-1950s, there was no such thing as **youth culture**. Most young people wore the same fashions as their parents, and they listened to the same kind of music. But that all changed with the arrival of rock 'n' roll.



It started with the 1954 song *Rock Around the Clock* by Bill Haley and the Comets. Although the older generation didn't understand rock 'n' roll, teenagers fell in love with it straight away. It was a new sound – lively and exciting – and with it came new fashions in **clothing**. Young men wore smart suits with skinny ties, like the popular singers Buddy Holly and Elvis Presley. Young women liked groups such as The Supremes, and they wore loose-fitting skirts which looked great when they danced.

In the 1960s, rock bands like The Rolling Stones became symbols of the growing youth culture. Young women wore very short 'mini skirts' – the older generation was shocked! The mid-1960s to the mid-70s was the hippie era. Young hippies were interested in peace and love, and they listened to The Beatles, Dusty Springfield and Joni Mitchell. Men and women alike had long hair and wore flowery clothing and sandals.

The punk music of the late 70s was loud and angry, and the **trends** matched the music. Punks wanted to shock people.

They dressed in second-hand clothes, which they often **tore** to look more individual, and their hairstyles were colourful and **messy**. Teenagers were into bands like The Clash and singers like Debbie Harry and Patti Smith. In the 1980s, long curly hair and bright colours were trendy, and people listened to Michael Jackson, Madonna and U2.

By the 1990s, teens were in love with the **look** and sound of singers like Britney Spears. It was also the decade of 'boy bands' and 'girl bands' – the Backstreet Boys and the Spice Girls were 'top of the pops'. Black American music called hip hop became popular internationally. Hip hop stars wore tracksuits, gold rings and necklaces, and they sang about having money and driving expensive cars.

Today, people are interested in the styles of their favourite YouTubers and tunes by superstar DJs like Calvin Harris. Hollywood actors or bestselling singers such as Taylor Swift and Ed Sheeran are also popular. There are dozens of genres of rock and dance music and, thanks to the internet, music and clothing fashions are here today and gone tomorrow.



READING

1 How many bands and singers from the last century can you name? Read the article quickly. Does it mention any of them?

2 Read the article again. Choose the correct answers.

- 1 Before the 1950s, teenagers
 - A didn't listen to music very much.
 - B listened to the same music as adults.
- 2 In the 1950s, teenage boys
 - A joined rock 'n' roll bands.
 - B wore clothes similar to the pop stars.
- 3 In the 1960s,
 - A fashions shocked some people.
 - B hippies wore mini skirts.
- 4 Punks in the late 70s
 - A wore colourful clothing.
 - B didn't wear brand new clothes.
- 5 Hip hop singers of the 1990s liked
 - A wearing jewellery.
 - B wearing smart suits.
- 6 Nowadays, people
 - A get their fashion ideas from YouTubers.
 - B wear similar clothing to Taylor Swift and Ed Sheeran.

3 Match the **highlighted** words in the article to the meanings.

- 1 fashions or styles
- 2 pulled something in order to break it
- 3 untidy or dirty
- 4 young people in general
- 5 someone's appearance
- 6 what people wear in general



TALKING POINTS

Why do young people like to dress differently from their parents and grandparents?
Why do you think people choose to dress like music stars?

READING

1 Look at the article about shoes before reading it. Tick (✓) where it comes from.

- 1 a blog ☐ 2 an email ☐ 3 a teen magazine ☐ 4 an online forum ☐

2 Read the article. Are these sentences true (T) or false (F)?

- 1 Many readers buy expensive shoes. _____
 2 At Raffi's school, everyone wears the same colour trousers/skirt. _____
 3 Raffi wears the same shoes as his friends. _____
 4 Anne Belle wrote her name on her trainers. _____
 5 At Zehra's school, her classmates wear stylish shoes. _____
 6 Zehra admires her art teacher's style. _____

3 Match the **highlighted** words in the article to their meanings.

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| 1 protect _____ | a things that you say or write that express your opinion |
| 2 comments _____ | b a group of things or people |
| 3 collection _____ | c very important and necessary |
| 4 essential _____ | d keep someone or something safe from something dangerous or bad |

4 Complete the sentences with a word from Exercise 3.

- 1 He always wears sunglasses to _____ his eyes from the sun.
 2 Jane likes to write _____ on social media about the clothes people wear in their photos.
 3 Some people think it's _____ to look trendy all the time.
 4 I love the new fashion _____ at G&C this summer.

What do you think about SHOES?

We all wear shoes every day. They **protect** our feet from the things we do every day – walking, school activities, sports and so on. But for some people they are more than that. They follow shoe styles, and a good pair of trendy shoes or trainers will not be cheap. *Mag About You* did a survey and we discovered that many of you pay a lot of money for shoes. We think it's because they are an **essential** fashion item – specially for the youth of today! A pair of shoes can make or break your style!

Here are some of the **comments** from the survey.

I think it's a bit boring the way everyone in my school wears the same black leather shoes. There are all kinds of shoes we could wear, but we have a uniform, and most people follow the rules. There is one girl in my class who wears all kinds of different things and she's creative, but she isn't fashionable in my opinion. My friends and I try to be a bit different and wear black trainers instead. We buy them from the same shop. But we like them!

 **Raffi, South Africa**

I love shoes, especially trainers. They are trendy and comfortable. You can wear them with everything – trousers, skirts and so on. At school we did a project where we had to add something to a pair of white trainers. I wrote half my name on the left and the other half on the right. It was such a cool project!

 **Anne Belle, New Zealand**

At my school we all have to wear these silly black or brown shoes. They look quite scruffy after a few months. Nobody likes them. Anyway, the kinds of shoes we can wear at school is a big story at the moment! The school agrees now that the style of the uniform is unfashionable. Our art teacher can give the school some advice! She has a great **collection** of shoes, and in the summer her sandals are always so pretty. She's really well-dressed. I want to dress like her.

 **Zehra, Turkey**

Next week: What do you think about school bags?
 Click here to answer our questions.

LIVEWORKSHEETS