

Name: _____

Date: _____

Mark: _____ / 80 marks

Reading

1 Read the text about clothing.

Are you dressed to impress?

A

When I was walking along a crowded street in Berlin recently, a friend pointed out two people on the other side of the street. 'They're clearly British!' he said. I asked him how he could be so sure and he replied that it was obvious from their dress and style. Even in an apparently global world, our clothing habits are still deeply linked to culture. What we choose to wear communicates important information about ourselves – for example, our status – as well as about the values of our society. Whether we like it or not, our style of dress is influenced by our cultural background. Even people who choose to dress 'alternatively' have been influenced by culture. Their need to be different to the crowd may mean rejecting conventional styles, but they will often adopt a different set of conventions from a particular **subculture** that they are attracted to.

B

People's clothing may be determined by cultural traditions and have origins dating back hundreds of years, without us even realising! For ceremonies such as a wedding or a coming-of-age celebration, people may be required to dress in a certain way. Clothes like a Scout uniform or sports teamwear may identify people as belonging to a specific subculture. Alternatively, a uniform or special item of clothing may tell people what job you do. The colours you wear may also be influenced by your culture. A colour that is seen as elegant or lucky in some parts of the world can mean the opposite in others. In China, red is a lucky colour that is often worn by brides on their wedding day, but in many countries a bride wearing anything but white would be unusual.

C

Views of what represents appropriate clothing have changed significantly over time, often reflecting changing values in society. For example, in many western societies, it used to be unacceptable for women to wear trousers in public and, if you look back at photos of any European city up to the 1950s, it is clear that few men felt comfortable going outdoors without a hat. Of course, trouser-wearing women and hatless men are now a common sight in this region. In the end, clothing habits have always been linked to what any particular culture decides is acceptable at the time. This may apply to how long shorts or skirts should be, what parts of the body can be exposed and indeed whether ripped jeans are acceptable at all.

D

It is not just the clothes themselves but ideas about how or when they should be worn that vary according to different cultural values. In business meetings in many countries men are still expected to wear a tie and jacket, but is it acceptable for them to remove their jacket when working in temperatures of 30°C (86°F)? An overseas relative attending a funeral in Britain might wear colourful clothes rather than black to the ceremony, but this might be considered by UK family members as not appropriate. The problem is that dress codes are specific to a culture and are nearly always unwritten, but understanding them can really help us feel comfortable when interacting with people in that culture.

subculture (n): a particular group of people whose behaviour and / or beliefs make them different from the rest of society

2 Complete the Exam Task.

Exam TASK

For questions 1–10, choose from the sections of the text (A–D). The sections may be chosen more than once.

Which section

- | | | |
|----|--|--------------------------|
| 1 | explains how traditions about the clothes that different genders wear can change? | ☐ |
| 2 | talks about the value of understanding the fashion rules of different cultures? | ☐ |
| 3 | says that fashion styles can be several centuries old? | ☐ |
| 4 | suggests that someone's nationality may be clear from their fashion styles? | ☐ |
| 5 | claims that not all cultures think the same colour is appropriate at very sad occasions? | ☐ |
| 6 | claims that people who enjoy dressing differently are still affected by local customs? | ☐ |
| 7 | says that how we wear certain items of clothes can change according to the surrounding culture? | ☐ |
| 8 | mentions the way clothes reflect the work that someone does? | ☐ |
| 9 | says that what is 'normal' is linked to what is culturally appropriate? | ☐ |
| 10 | mentions a type of clothing that certain people felt that they had to wear when they went outside? | ☐ |

(____ / 10 marks)

Vocabulary and Use your English

1 Complete the sentences with these words.

ancestors ceremony costumes legend origins role speech tradition

- 1 The winners of the competition will receive their awards at a special _____ in front of hundreds of people.
- 2 My _____ came from some small islands in the north of Scotland – they all worked as farmers or at sea.
- 3 If you go to the castle in the summer, you can see actors dressed in _____ from about 500 years ago.
- 4 Food plays a very important _____ in most countries' cultures.
- 5 Have you heard the old _____ about the dragons that live in these mountains? It's not true, of course, but it's a nice story.
- 6 In some countries, it's a _____ for women to wear white clothes when they get married.
- 7 After winning the award for the best film, the director gave a long _____.
- 8 The _____ of many food-related words in English, like *cuisine*, *restaurant* or *pizza*, are French or Italian.

(____ / 8 marks)

2 Match the beginnings of the sentences (1–7) with the endings (a–g).

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| 1 The festival will go | ☐ | a out over several days. |
| 2 My friend talked me | ☐ | b into buying some new clothes. |
| 3 The festival dates | ☐ | c ahead, despite the bad weather. |
| 4 I don't like looking back | ☐ | d with the opinions of some people in my family. |
| 5 The party was called | ☐ | e off because not enough people could come. |
| 6 I don't identify | ☐ | f at the clothes I used to wear. |
| 7 Some wedding ceremonies are spread | ☐ | g back to the 1970s. |

(____ / 7 marks)

3 Choose the correct option (a–c) to complete the sentences.

- 1 My town always _____ a great festival in the summer.
a takes b puts c holds
- 2 My sister has _____ herself a reputation as a reliable and honest worker.
a grown b built c developed
- 3 Many modern holidays and celebrations _____ their roots in ancient festivals.
a have b get c take
- 4 I'm afraid you can't _____ this land without the council's permission.
a call b spread c use
- 5 Paris is widely _____ as the City of Light.
a called b known c noticed

(____ / 5 marks)

Grammar

1 Complete the sentences with the past simple, past continuous or present perfect form of the verbs.

- The train _____ (wait) when I _____ (arrive).
- Someone suddenly _____ (call) my name while I _____ (run).
- I _____ (know) my best friend since we _____ (be) at university.
- Noah _____ (not do) any sport recently because he _____ (have) a bad knee. Hopefully, he'll get better soon.

(____ / 8 marks)

2 Complete the sentences with these words.

get use (x2) used (x2) would

- Paula didn't _____ to like travelling abroad.
- Did you _____ to have long hair?
- When we both lived in the same town, Ana and I _____ often meet and go somewhere.
- Before I came to London, I wasn't _____ to living in a big city.
- I hate getting up early – I can't _____ used to it at all.
- There _____ to be a supermarket here, but it's gone now.

(____ / 6 marks)

3 Complete the Exam Task.

Exam TASK

For questions 1–6, complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. **Do not change the word given.** You must use between **two** and **five** words, including the word given.

- When I was younger, it wasn't usual for me to play football.

TO

I _____ football when I was younger.

- I cleaned the kitchen today, but I broke a cup at the same time.

WHILE

Unfortunately, _____ the kitchen today, I broke a cup.

- At bedtime, my mother used to read to me when I was very young.

WOULD

When I was little, _____ always read to me at bedtime.

- It's normal for me to live alone, so I wouldn't like to live with lots of people.

USED

I don't want to live with lots of people because I _____ on my own.

- I think it will take me a couple of days for me to feel comfortable with my new glasses.

WEARING

I've bought a new pair of glasses, and it will probably take me a few days to _____ them.

- I came to Spain a month ago, and I'm really enjoying it here so far.

HERE

I really like it in Spain – _____ a month so far.

(____ / 6 marks)

Listening

1 2.1 ▶ Listen and complete the Exam Task.

Exam TASK

You will hear part of a podcast about a film festival. For questions 1–10, complete the sentences with a **word or short phrase**.

An alternative to the famous film festivals like Venice and Cannes, ÉCU is an (1) _____ which celebrates independent filmmakers from around the world.

It is quite a young festival, having started in (2) _____.

The festival allows the makers of films, as well as (3) _____, to meet and share ideas with other people involved in cinema.

Filmmakers also have the chance to receive comments on their work from an (4) _____ of film lovers.

The main aim of the festival is for (5) _____ who may not be famous yet to take risks with new ways of filmmaking.

Their status or (6) _____ is not thought of by judges as being important.

Half of the categories are open to people from Africa, the Americas, (7) _____ and Australia.

Judges tend to choose films which cover (8) _____ or make use of original cinematic techniques when deciding who to give awards to.

The festival takes place in Paris, although there is also a (9) _____ called ÉCU-On-The-Road.

This shows films in film schools, (10) _____, and as part of mini-festivals and partner festivals.

(____ / 10 marks)