

Fashion items

In this unit you are going to

- recommend clothes for different body shapes (*Speaking A2*)
- talk about fashion items (*Speaking A2*)
- offer fashion advice in a sales dialogue (*Speaking A2*)
- make up a dialogue dealing with refunds, replacements or returns (*Speaking A2*)
- read about fashion tips for job interviews (*Speaking A2*)
- read a text about women's body shapes (*Reading A2*)
- listen to a sales dialogue with a customer who wants to return or exchange items (*Listening A2*)
- listen to a sales dialogue involving an additional sale (*Listening A2*)

Warm-up



Who is it?

Get in pairs. Have a look at the questions (1–6) in the grid. Interview your partner and take notes. Change partners after each question.

After you have finished your interviews, get in groups of three or four. Read the answers of your questionnaire out loud. Your classmates should guess which person gave which answer.



<p>1 What do clothes tell people about your personality?</p> <p>name:</p>	<p>2 Have you ever bought second-hand clothes? Why / Why not? What kind of clothes did you buy?</p> <p>name:</p>	<p>3 Which clothes would you buy if you had a lot of money?</p> <p>name:</p>
<p>4 What is your favourite item of clothing?</p> <p>name:</p>	<p>5 What is your favourite colour for clothes? Why?</p> <p>name:</p>	<p>6 What is your favourite clothing store? Explain why you like it best.</p> <p>name:</p>

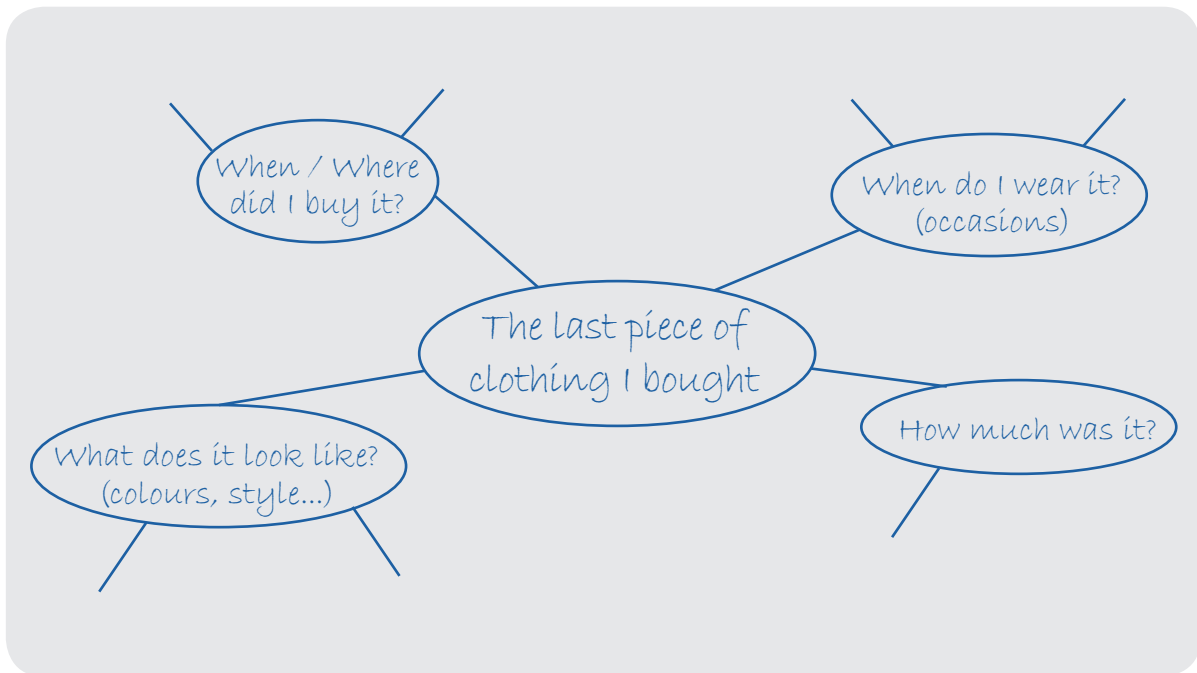


2 Get in groups of three and discuss the following questions.

- 1 What kind of clothes do you prefer to wear?
- 2 What is your favourite outfit?
- 3 Which clothes do you wear on different occasions? Give examples.
- 4 Do you wear a uniform at work? Should shop assistants wear uniforms? Why? / Why not?



3 Get in pairs. Talk to your partner about the last piece of clothing you bought. Take notes in the mind map.



Speaking

Things you can wear ...

1 Write down ...

- ... three things you can wear on your head:
- ... four things you can wear on your feet:
- ... four things you can wear on your legs:
- ... something you can wear for a job interview:
- ... five things that keep you warm in winter:
- ... five things that are made of wool:
- ... three things that are usually made of silk:

Compare your results with a partner. Change partners and compare again.

2

Fashion items

2 Have a look at the VocabBooster. Match the words from the VocabBooster with the appropriate pictures (1–16). Then get in groups of three and compare your results.

VocabBooster

■ sweatpants ■ anorak ■ blouse ■ suit ■ ladies' suit ■ skirt ■ down jacket ■ cardigan ■ coat ■ man's shirt ■ jumper ■ turtleneck ■ vest ■ jumpsuit ■ trousers ■ dress



1



2



3



4



5



6



7



8



9



10



11



12



13



14



15



16

3 Get in pairs. Circle the word in each line that does not belong to the group and explain why. Take turns. Compare your results in class.

sweater	pullover	blouse	socks
coat	blazer	sports jacket	panties
stockings	socks	pullover	tights/pantyhose
t-shirt	suit	ladies' suit	shift dress
skirt	jumper	shirt	sweater
cardigan	turtleneck	stockings	pullover
jeans	slip	trousers	shorts
skirt	dress	ladies' suit	sports jacket
coat	pyjama	nightshirt	babydoll
coat	vest	anorak	down jacket
sweatpants	jeans	shirt	trousers

4 Have a look at the VocabBooster and the picture of the shirt. Then read the definitions of (1–8) in the grid below and match them with the appropriate words.

VocabBooster

- fabric ■ seam ■ front print/embroidering ■ shirtfront ■ rear side of the shirt ■ short sleeves
- folding collar ■ front placket



1	This is the structure and material which the shirt is made of (e. g. woven cotton, polyester etc.).	
2	This is the front of the shirt.	
3	It's the part of the collar which can be closed with buttons.	
4	You put your arms through them.	
5	This is the opening to put your head through. It has a special trim which is turned down.	
6	This part of the shirt covers your back.	
7	This is an ornament or decoration on the forefront – it can be a logo or a label.	
8	It is the stitching at the bottom of the shirt where the textile is reversed to avoid fringing.	



5

Get in pairs. Have a look at the VocabBooster and describe what your partner is wearing. Change partners three times. Write down the descriptions.

VocabBooster

- long ■ short ■ loose ■ large ■ tight ■ oversized ■ casual ■ fancy ■ comfortable ■ elegant ■ timeless
- trendy ■ fashionable ■ beautiful ■ uncomfortable ■ stylish ■ dressy ■ classic ■ conservative ■ sporty
- modern ■ sleeveless ■ tailored ■ tight-fitting ■ V-necked

Example:

*Anna is wearing tight blue jeans, an oversized T-shirt and a comfortable jacket.
Tom is wearing timeless trousers, a v-necked sweater and a trendy hat.*

.....

.....

.....

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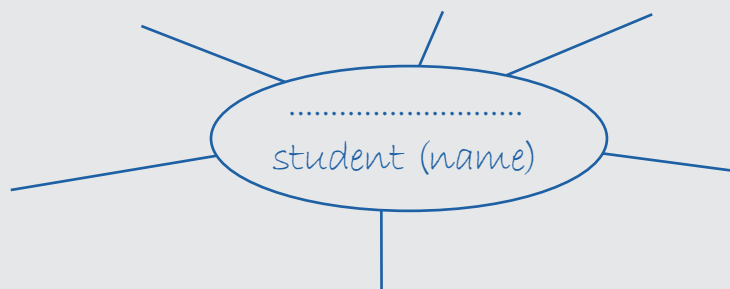


6

Choose one of your classmates and describe his / her outfit. Take notes in the mind map. Then present your description to the class. The other students have to guess who you are talking about.

Example:

*The student I am talking about is wearing stylish jeans made of denim.
He / She is wearing sporty pants made of a woollen fabric. The pants are grey.*



Language in use

This outfit is trendier

Trouble-free grammar: Comparison of adjectives

We use the comparative to make comparisons. The comparative of adjectives with one or two syllables is formed by adding **-er** and **-est**.

■ one-syllable adjective

Peter is **taller** than Mary, but Stephen is the **tallest**.

Peter's shop unit is **bigger** than Mary's, but Ann's shop unit is the **biggest**.

■ two-syllable adjective

Mary's outfit is **trendier** than Ann's, but Kate's outfit is the **trendiest**.

Please note: The spelling sometimes changes when we add **-er**, for example

big	→	bigger
thin	→	thinner
silly	→	sillier

■ Adjectives with three or more syllables are formed by using the words **more** and **most**.

Linen is **more expensive** than cotton, but silk is **most expensive**.

This model is **more beautiful** than the model of yesterday's fashion show, but Kate Moss is **most beautiful**.

Knitting is **less difficult** than sewing, but stitching is **least difficult**.

Please note:

good	better	best	little	less	least
much / many	more	most	bad	worse	worst
			far	farther	farthest

I think dressy clothes always look **better than** casual clothes. What do you think?

1 Form the comparative of the given adjectives. The first one has been done for you.

bright	brighter	good	
large		beautiful	
thin		comfortable	
casual		long	
bad		short	

2 Form meaningful sentences with comparatives using the given words. The first one has been done for you.

1 linen / expensive / polyester Linen is more expensive than polyester.

2 jeans / comfortable / a suit

- 3 T-shirts / cheap / cardigans
- 4 cashmere / soft / cotton
- 5 this pattern / fancy / the other one
- 6 Peter's suit / trendy / John's
- 7 sweatpants / casual / trousers
- 8 this skirt / short / the one in the shop window
- 9 recommend / suit / stylish / than this one?

Reading



The guide to women's body shapes

Read the text about women's body shapes and underline the most important information. Then tick the correct answer (A–C) to the questions (1–5) on page 21.



1 The clothes that will flatter your customer best will depend on his or her body shape. When it comes to looking good, it's not the size or shape that matters, it's the fit of the clothes. Recommending or wearing the right clothes should not be about following the latest fashion trends; it should be about choosing what actually suits your customers and what makes them feel comfortable and confident.

10

Style is nothing without fit!

Knowing the basic body shapes and understanding the types of clothes that will accentuate your good features means you'll be able to dress in a way that really suits you. A good salesperson will always be able to find something that will complement your body shape. The famous fashion designer Hubert de Givenchy once said: "The dress must follow the body of a woman, not the body the shape of the dress." Before you know which styles look best on your customers, you will need to know which body shape they have. When recommending clothes, your aim is to create the illusion of a balanced body. The neat hourglass is considered to be the perfect

body shape. The problem with understanding body shapes is that most women focus on problems zones such as the tummy or arms, which can cloud their judgement when it comes to seeing the whole picture. It is important to view yourself as a whole so that the body shape can be designed.

1. Rectangle: You have a straight shoulder line and a ribcage with little waist definition. 35

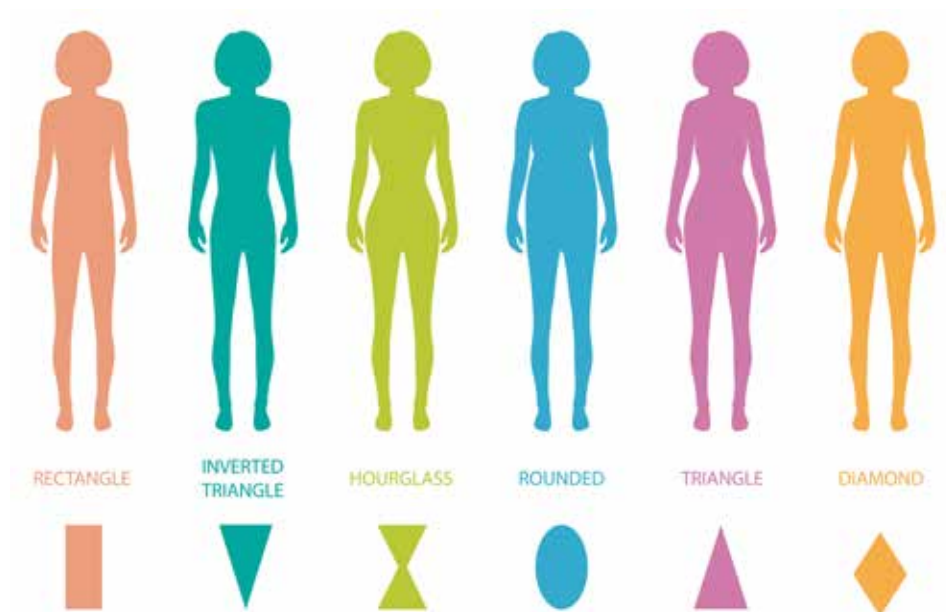
Styling Tips: Rectangle body shapes require a style that creates the illusion of curves. Choose a fit that curves in at the waist, at the top and at the bottom.

2. Inverted triangle: Your bottom half is smaller than your top half. 40

Styling Tips: A fuller skirt will take attention away from broader shoulders by creating a balanced silhouette.

3. Hourglass: You have a defined bust, a defined waist, a shaped bottom and slim hips. 45

Styling Tips: Women with a neat hourglass silhouette can wear any style. This is a shape most designers consider to be perfect. Soft flowing fabrics are nice. For full hourglass body shapes, 50



you should look for a cut that highlights the curves in the right places.

4. Rounded or Apple: You have a rounder shoulder line, an average to bigger bust, fullness around the middle and usually slim legs.

Styling Tips: Detailing should be kept to the top half, and the dress should create the illusion of a straight up and down silhouette. Do not wear tight belts.

5. Triangle or Pear: Your hips and thighs may be full; you have a defined waist, and shoulders that are narrower than your hips.

Styling Tips: Styling is very much about clothes that balance your frame. Look for a style that balances your bottom half through the use of sleeves, a higher neckline and a cinched-in waist.

6. Diamond: Your arms and legs are generally slim, but you hold weight in the bust and mid-section.

Styling Tips: You might want to elongate your body. Accentuate the shoulders to draw the eye while keeping the midsection neutral.

1 Which famous designer said that women should wear clothing that fits their body shape?

- A** Christian Dior **B** Karl Lagerfeld **C** Hubert de Givenchy

2 To have a great style, one should focus

- A** on the problem zones. **B** on clothes that fit the silhouette. **C** on the latest fashion trends.

3 Which body shape has a defined bust and a defined waist?

- A** the hourglass shape **B** the pear shape **C** the diamond shape

4 Which styling tip refers to the rounded/apple shape?

- A** avoid tight belts **A** choose soft flowing fabrics **A** accentuate the shoulders

5 Which body shape requires accentuating the shoulders?

- A** the hourglass shape **B** the pear shape **C** the diamond shape

- 2 Have a look at the statements (1–7) and tick whether they are true (T) or false (F). Provide the correct answer for the wrong statements and write them down.

		T	F	Correct statement
1	Every woman should highlight her problem zones.			
2	Rectangle body shapes benefit from the illusion of curves.			
3	The rectangle body type has a defined waist and round hips.			
4	The inverted triangle type has narrow shoulders.			
5	The hourglass shape is considered the perfect shape by designers.			
6	Apple-shaped women should wear tight belts.			
7	The pear body type has full hips.			

- 3 Have a look at the pictures and analyse the women's body shapes. Then give them some advice on what clothes would suit them best. Use phrases from the LanguageBox.

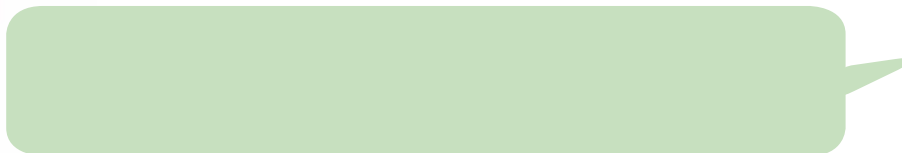
LanguageBox

You are close to a/an ... type. / Your body shape resembles a/an ...
 You should wear ...
 ... (*type of clothes*) will suit you / will fit you best.
 It is better to wear clothes that ...
 I would recommend ... for your body shape.
 ... is perfect for your body shape / ... would look lovely on you.

I am getting married and I am looking for the perfect wedding gown! What would you recommend?



I have a job interview tomorrow, so I am looking for a nice outfit for the office.



Listening

Exchanging items



1

Listen to the dialogue and tick the appropriate answers (A–C) to the questions (1–3).

Track 4



1 What did the shop assistant need?

- A the customer number B the receipt C the credit card

2 What did the customer want to do?

- A He wanted to exchange some money. B He wanted to buy a tie. C He wanted to exchange a tie.

3 What kind of style did the customer prefer?

- A a fancy style B an elegant style C a trendy style

2

Match the parts to create meaningful sentences according to the dialogue. Two sentence halves will not fit.

	<input type="checkbox"/>	wants to exchange a tie.
	<input type="checkbox"/>	asks the man for the receipt.
	<input type="checkbox"/>	is blue.
The customer	<input type="checkbox"/> A	comes from Copenhagen.
The shop assistant	<input type="checkbox"/> B	enters the shop in the afternoon.
The new tie	<input type="checkbox"/> C	goes very well with the customer's suit.
The customer's suit	<input type="checkbox"/> D	asks if it is more expensive than the old one.
	<input type="checkbox"/>	recommends a tie made of silk.
	<input type="checkbox"/>	does not like fancy patterns.
	<input type="checkbox"/>	is cheaper than the old one.

3

Think about the new tie the customer bought and circle the appropriate statements.

It is elegant.	It is Copenhagen blue.	It is broader than the old one.	It is more expensive than the old one.
It is fancier than the old one.	It is made of pure silk.	It is cheaper than the old one.	It has a wild pattern.
It has a subtle pattern.	It costs as much as the old one.	It does not go well with the suit.	It costs € 28.50.



4

Listen to the dialogue again. Tick the adjectives and comparisons that you heard.

Track 4

- better darker nicer quieter cooler more expensive
 tighter narrower broader cheaper fancier more elegant