

4 Language Skills worksheet

Reading

- 1 Read about the London College of Fashion. Which famous ex-student now makes designer shoes?

Fashion centre

The London College of Fashion is the home of creative fashion design in the UK. It is over 100 years old, and in that time it has produced some of the top young fashion designers in the world. It has an incredible history of responding to changes in the world of fashion, and its influence extends around the world.

The college started in 1906, when it trained young girls how to sew, how to make dresses and hats, and how to cut hair. It has always been very aware of the needs of the fashion market, though. Back then, March was an important time of year in the fashion world, as there were lots of parties and social events. The London College of Fashion planned its terms so that their students were fully trained and ready to go out to work in March, and put their new skills to good use.

The college is based in the centre of London's most fashionable district, with Savile Row and Bond Street very close by. This has played a central part in the success of the college, as it is in the middle of the key trends and fashions. A new building was made for the college in the 1950s, when London was recovering from the damage of the war years.

It was a modern, inspiring place for young people to study what was fashionable, beautiful, and creative.

Today, you can do courses in a huge range of subjects, from beauty therapy and photography to fashion journalism and footwear design. Every year, students who graduate from the college go on to get exciting jobs in the fashion industry. Famous ex-students include Jimmy Choo, the incredibly successful shoe designer, and Harold Tillman, who set up the iconic British brand Jaeger. He said that his time at the London College of Fashion gave him an inspiring education.

Many of the courses have an end-of-year show, where students display their work. They can win important awards at these shows, and people in the fashion world know that this is the place to come to look out for future talent.



- 2 Are the sentences (T) true or (F) false?

- 1 The London College of Fashion is a new college.
- 2 It influences fashion around the world.
- 3 At first, it trained young girls how to cook and make clothes.
- 4 The college term started in March.
- 5 The location of the college is very important.
- 6 The new building was very traditional.
- 7 There are lots of different courses available.
- 8 The end-of-year shows can be very important.

T / F
T / F

T / F
T / F
T / F
T / F
T / F

- 3 Check your answers. Now correct the false sentences.

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Writing

- 4 Write about Stella McCartney, a British fashion designer. Use the notes below to help you write a paragraph of 80 to 100 words. Use the internet to research the missing facts.



Full name	Stella ??? McCartney
Born	??? in 1971
Family	Dad ???
Education	Studied Fashion Design at Central St Martins College. Graduated in ???
Early career	Creative director for Chloé in Paris
Later career	Launched her own fashion label in ???
Style	Natural, feminine, chic
Famous clients	Madonna, Kate Moss, ???
Awards	British Designer of the Year in 2007. ???

Remember!

Relative clauses:

She's the woman who designed these dresses.

The shoes which I bought last month are too tight.

Listening

- 5  04 Listen to a radio interview about unusual kinds of clothes and circle the correct answers.

- 1 What materials did the designers use for their clothes at Recycle Week?
 - a) Lots of different kinds of rubbish.
 - b) Crisps.
 - c) Old dresses.
 - d) Recycled newspaper.
- 2 What did Marina think about the dresses?
 - a) They were unusual.
 - b) They were amazing.
 - c) They were impractical.
 - d) They weren't good for the environment.
- 3 What does she think about designers who use recycled materials?
 - a) They save money.
 - b) They seem ethical.
 - c) They don't really care about the environment.
 - d) They think about more than just fashion.
- 4 How many cans did Nikos Floros use in his exhibition?
 - a) 20,000.
 - b) 2,000.
 - c) 200.
 - d) 200,000.
- 5 What did the French designer use to make his collection of dresses?
 - a) Fruit and vegetables.
 - b) Fruit and chocolate.
 - c) Chocolate.
 - d) Vegetables and chocolate.

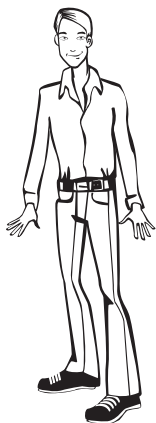


4 Language Skills worksheet

Speaking pairwork Student A

- 1 Choose three of the models and describe their clothes using words from the box. Make notes if necessary.

casual	comfortable	conventional	fashionable	formal	glamorous
impractical	loose	old-fashioned	sporty	tight	trendy



Andy



Sue



Colm



Daniella



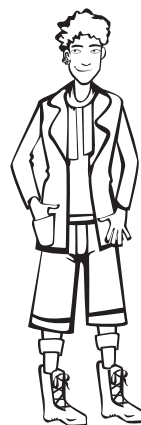
Mary



Pete



Krystina



Sam

- 2 Take turns to describe what your chosen models are wearing. Ask your partner to guess which model you are talking about. Use only the words in the box to describe the clothes.

She's wearing quite formal clothes. Her skirt is tight and her shirt is quite casual. Her clothes aren't trendy but they aren't old-fashioned either. Who is she?

4 Language Skills worksheet

Speaking pairwork Student B

- 1 Choose three of the models and describe their clothes using words from the box. Make notes if necessary.

casual	comfortable	conventional	fashionable	formal	glamorous
impractical	loose	old-fashioned	sporty	tight	trendy



Sue



Daniella



Andy



Colm



Sam



Krystina



Pete



Mary

- 2 Take turns to describe what your chosen models are wearing. Ask your partner to guess which model you are talking about. Use only the words in the box to describe the clothes.

He's wearing very informal clothes. His clothes are loose and casual and he's wearing sandals. Who is he?

4 Language Skills worksheet

Speaking: Teacher's notes

Language

Present continuous

Fashion adjectives

Instructions

- 1 Divide the class into pairs and decide who is Student A and B in each pair. Hand out one Student A worksheet and one Student B worksheet to each pair.
- 2 Ask them to choose three models each and to look at the words in the word box. They should then decide which words apply to the different models' clothes.
- 3 In pairs, students take turns to describe the figures for their partner to guess. It's important they use the words in the box.
- 4 Students discuss any differences in opinion that might occur.

Answers

Students' own answers.

Optional activity

- Ask students to discuss the following:
 - what clothes they like and don't like to wear
 - who is the best dressed actor / actress
 - what is the best high street shop for clothes.