

Fashion Trends



Pre-Reading

A. Warm-Up Questions

1. How much money do you spend on new clothing and accessories?
2. Do you buy new jeans when you need them or when yours are outdated?
3. Which types of clothing will never go out of style?
4. Do you and your friends dress in a similar way?

B. Vocabulary Preview

Match up as many words and meanings as you can.

Check this exercise again after seeing the words in context on page 2.

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| ___ 1. constantly | a) a place where sale items are hung |
| ___ 2. keep up with | b) fashionable for a certain time |
| ___ 3. season | c) all of the time |
| ___ 4. trendy | d) loose-fitting |
| ___ 5. baggy | e) without a known or obvious explanation |
| ___ 6. no rhyme or reason | f) a period of time when one type of weather is typical |
| ___ 7. catch on | g) to become popular |
| ___ 8. celebrity | h) to be trapped or tricked into accepting or trying |
| ___ 9. fall for | i) to know the latest information |
| ___ 10. fit in | j) any style is acceptable |
| ___ 11. clearance rack | k) to be similar to others |
| ___ 12. anything goes | l) a famous person, such as a well-known star |

Reading

FASHION TRENDS

What's "in" this season?

1. Fashion is **constantly** changing. It is difficult to **keep up with** the trends. Clothing stores and designers introduce new styles each **season**. This causes people to buy clothes they don't need.
2. Most fashions go in and out. Denim will probably always be in style. Tight jeans are **trendy** some years, while **baggy** ones are in the next. It seems there is **no rhyme or reason** for most trends. No one knows which trends will **catch on**. It often takes a **celebrity** like Oprah Winfrey to say that something is cool.
3. Teens **fall for** fashion trends because they want to **fit in**. Even students who wear uniforms worry about fashion trends. Their clothing may be identical, but the bags and jewelry they choose affect their status.
4. Thanks to certain clothing store chains, fashion even applies to baby wear. Whether they are for adults or children, trendy clothes usually cost more than clothes that are out of style. Every year, **clearance racks** fill up with last season's fashions. And some years it seems **anything goes**.

"Fashion is about dressing according to what's fashionable. Style is more about being yourself."

—Oscar de la Renta,
fashion designer

Comprehension

Discuss these questions in pairs, and write the answers in your notebook.

1. What do clothing stores do to get people to make unnecessary purchases?
2. According to the reading, which type of clothing is always in style in some shape or form?
3. Why does the reading mention Oprah Winfrey?
4. What does the reading say about teens who wear uniforms to school?
5. Where do last year's fashion trends usually end up?

Vocabulary Review

A. Complete the Sentences

Complete the sentences using vocabulary from page 1.
You may need to change the word forms.

1. Molly prefers _____ clothes to tight fitting ones.
2. Hats that are considered _____ this _____ will be out of style next summer.
3. Celebrities can afford to _____ all of the latest fashions.
4. Teenage girls are _____ buying new jeans in order to fit in at school.
5. There is _____ why some uncomfortable fashion trends _____.

B. Choose the Correct Word

Choose the word or phrase with the closest meaning to the underlined word or phrase in the following sentences.

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <p>1. When I asked what to wear to the party, the hostess said <u>anything goes</u>.</p> <p>a) any style is fine
b) anything that matches
c) anything fashionable
d) something trendy</p> | <p>3. If you want to <u>fit in</u> with the crowd, wear something formal.</p> <p>a) differ
b) resize
c) belong
d) impress</p> | <p>5. Fashion magazines feature <u>celebrities</u> wearing the latest trends.</p> <p>a) female models
b) teenagers
c) clothing buyers
d) famous people</p> |
| <p>2. The children always <u>fall for</u> the magician's tricks.</p> <p>a) talk about
b) get tricked by
c) fall down
d) laugh at</p> | <p>4. Before you buy a new coat, check the <u>clearance</u> rack.</p> <p>a) sale
b) clear
c) hanging
d) fashion</p> | |

Discussion


1. Who sets the fashion trends in your native country?
2. Does fashion affect who you hang out with or date/marry?
3. What type of clothing is considered fashionable right now?
4. Do you try to keep up with the fashion trends? Why or why not?

Class Opinion

Walk around the class and ask your classmates questions.
Write their answers in the chart below.

Classmate's name:	Do you spend more money on clothing than necessary?	Do you think children are worrying about fashion at too young of an age?	Will you care less about clothing fashion trends as you get older?

Listening

 <http://blog.esllibrary.com/2010/05/19/podcast-fashion-trends/>

Fill in the blanks as you listen to the recording.

FASHION TRENDS

What's "in" this season?

1. Fashion is _____ changing. It is difficult to keep up with the trends. Clothing stores and designers introduce new styles each _____. This causes people to buy clothes they don't need.
2. Most fashions go in and out. Denim will probably always be in style. Tight jeans are _____ some years, while baggy ones are in the next. It seems there is _____ for most trends. No one knows which trends will catch on. It often takes a _____ like Oprah Winfrey to say that something is cool.
3. Teens _____ fashion trends because they want to _____. Even students who wear uniforms worry about fashion trends. Their clothing may be identical, but the bags and jewelry they choose affect their status.
4. Thanks to certain clothing store chains, fashion even applies to baby wear. Whether they are for adults or children, trendy clothes usually cost more than clothes that are out of style. Every year, _____ fill up with last season's fashions. And some years it seems _____.

Answer Key

LESSON DESCRIPTION:

Students read about fashion trends and discuss how fashion influences people of different ages.

TEACHING TIPS:

See *Discussion Starters Teaching Guide* (<https://esllibrary.com/courses/72/lessons/>) for a variety of ways to use the reading.

LEVEL: Int

TIME: 1.5–2 hours

TAGS: discussion, fashion, clothing, clothes, style, trends, trendy

Pre-Reading

A. WARM-UP QUESTIONS

Have students work in small groups or as a class.

B. VOCABULARY PREVIEW

- | | | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|-------|-------|
| 1. c | 3. f | 5. d | 7. g | 9. h | 11. a |
| 2. i | 4. b | 6. e | 8. l | 10. k | 12. j |

Reading (and/or Listening)

Read individually, in small groups, or as a class. Discuss the quote. You can also play the listening as your students read along. A gap-fill version of the reading is available on page 5. Help your students with vocabulary and expressions that they are unfamiliar with.

Comprehension

- Clothing stores introduce new fashion trends each season.
- Denim is always in style, though the type of jeans that are in style change from year to year.
- Oprah Winfrey is given as an example of a celebrity who can declare a fashion trend.
- Teens who wear uniforms worry about other fashion trends such as jewelry and bags.
- Last year's trends often end up on the clearance rack.

Vocabulary Review

A. COMPLETE THE SENTENCES

- | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| 1. baggy | 3. keep up with | 5. no rhyme or |
| 2. trendy, season | 4. constantly | reason, catch on |

B. CHOOSE THE CORRECT WORD

1. a 2. b 3. c 4. a 5. d

Discussion

Individual answers.

Can be done individually or in small groups or pairs.

Class Opinion

Have students walk around the class and ask their classmates questions. They should record their answers in the chart.

Listening

- constantly, season
- trendy, no rhyme or reason, celebrity
- fall for, fit in
- clearance racks, anything goes

SPELLING NOTE:

This lesson shows the American spelling of the word *Jewelry*. Most other English-speaking countries spell it this way: *Jewellery*. Make it a challenge for your students to find this word in the lesson and see if they know the alternate spelling.