Bridge

"You can tell that this isn't our country."

"This picture shows real fashions of the time, but this is more like art."

"I think the people in this picture look really stylish."

"These pictures show different times."

"These people are all dressed alike."

"This isn't really meant for normal people."

Imagine you are working on a school magazine. Along with your partner, you are going to write an article about fashion. Share a few ideas and discuss them, then try to agree on which article you want to write.

Example Dialogue

Jules: So we have to write about fashion. Any ideas?

Alex: Do you think we should write about the clothes and brands that are fashionable now?

Jules: Maybe. I don't know a lot about that, though.

Alex: Sports brands are in – brands like Reebok and Adidas.

Jules: No, I don't want to give free advertising to famous brands. Hmm, maybe we could write about catwalk fashion instead?

Alex: You mean models wearing bin bags and things?

Jules: Well, yes. I suppose so. But it's not all stupid stuff.

Alex: But that's what the guys at school would like. Things to laugh at.

Jules: Well, do we want to be funny? In that case we should write about dated fashions.

Alex: The '60s?

Jules: Yes, maybe. Flower-power T-shirts and bell-bottoms. Or the '70s.

Alex: Yes – platform shoes and disco outfits. Like ABBA.

Jules: Oh my gosh! I just had a really cool idea.

Alex: Tell me!

Jules: We could get all our friends to borrow their parents' old clothes from when they were young...

Alex: Oh no...

Jules: ... and we could dress up for a photo-shoot.

Alex: That is literally the most embarrassing idea I've ever heard. It's genius. Let's do it!

Discuss

Do you care about fashion? Why or why not?

What clothes do you like to wear?

What do you think is your style?

When you buy clothes, what do you think about?

Do you pay attention to what celebrities wear?

When was the last time you noticed a famous person's clothes, and what were they wearing?

What has changed in fashion in the last five years / since your parents were about your age?

Do you think people's clothes-shopping habits are changing, and how?

Do you have an opinion on "ethical fashions" such as fair-trade clothing or clothing made using environmentally friendly technology?

Talk about the different clothes that people wear for different activities (office work, gardening, school, clubbing, various sports, etc.).

Some Useful Phrases

- to be in/out (of fashion)
- to follow fashion
- fashionista
- a slave to fashion
- fad
- must-have
- designer label
- vintage fashion
- formal wear
- casual wear
- haute couture
- off-the-shelf/peg