

Clothes and appearance recommendations with clothes and accessories collocations and typical confusions

Imagine that you are in one of the situations on the next page. Explain the situation to your partner, ask for their advice, and respond to their recommendations.

Useful advice/ suggestions/ recommendations phrases Asking for advice/ suggestions/ recommendations phrases

- "What do you recommend/ suggest?"
- "Do you have any ideas/ advice/ recommendations/ suggestions?"
- "What do you think I should wear/ use/...?"
- "Do you think I should wear/ use/...?"

Giving advice/ suggestions/ recommendations phrases (most positive top to most negative bottom)

- "You really must..."
- "You'd better... (or you'll regret it/ or...)"
- "I strongly/ highly/ thoroughly recommend..."/ "You really should..."
- "You should..."/ "You ought to..."
- "My advice/ recommendation is..."/ "I (would) (personally) recommend/ suggest..."/ "If I were you, I'd..."
- "You should probably..."
- "You could..."
- "I wouldn't (necessarily/ really) recommend..."
- "I don't think (that) you should..."
- "You really shouldn't..."
- "You mustn't..."
- "You really mustn't..."

Responding to advice phrases (most positive top)

- "That's a great idea. I'll definitely do that."/ "That's an excellent suggestion. I'll do exactly what you said."
- "That seems like a good idea. I'll do that."
- "You are probably right. I'll try that."
- "That's not a bad idea. I'll try my best to do that."
- "That might work. I'll think about it."
- "I'm not so sure that's a good idea (because...) (Can you suggest anything else?)"
- "I don't think that's a good idea (because...) (Do you have any other ideas?)"

Ask about any situations you don't understand, discussing what is and isn't suitable each time.



Situations to ask for advice on

- audition (for a boy band/ for a girl band/ for...)
- (working in a/ night out in a) bar/ pub
- barbecue/ picnic
- bodyguard
- (night/ long distance) bus
- camping/ glamping
- casual Friday/ dress-down Friday
- clubbing
- cold/ cold weather/ cold office/ cold... heat/ hot office/ hot weather/ hot...
- (classical/ pop) concert/ gig/ opera
- (blind/ first/ second/ joint) date/ "Netflix and chill"
- demo/ demonstration/ protest
- (all-night/ premier/ festival) film showing
- first day (at university/ at work/...)
- (long/ overnight) flight (in business class/ in economy class)
- flight attendant
- (casual/ friendly) football match between colleagues
- funeral/ wake
- going out for a drink (with colleagues)
- golf (with a business contact/ with friends)
- graduation (ceremony/ party)
- hiking/ walk (along the beach)
- hospital (receiving visitors)
- humid
- (telephone/ Skype/ face-to-face) job interview
- meeting your boyfriend's parents/ your girlfriend's parents (for the first time)
- meeting an ex(-boyfriend/-girlfriend/-husband/-wife)/ someone famous/ a client/...
- moving furniture (at work)
- (dinner/ costume/ fancy-dress/ house/ housewarming/ Halloween) party
- (passport/ dating profile/ street fashion/ security card) photo
- (TED.com) presentation/ speech
- shop assistant
- showing your age (wrinkles/ laughter lines, grey hair, etc)
- spying/ undercover policeman
- standing for election (e.g. election candidates' debate)
- teaching (in a pre-school/ PE)
- television appearance (on a talk show/ as a talking head)
- to show off your (newly) great body
- to stand out in a crowd
- university society meeting
- video conference
- visit to a Muslim country
- visit to a church (as a tourist)
- (making a) vlog/ YouTube video
- (your own/ someone else's) wedding (ceremony/ reception)
- weekend away with colleagues



Brainstorming stage First of all without any help, brainstorm suitable phrases into the categories below. Asking for advice/ suggestions/ recommendations phrases

Giving advice/ suggestions/ recommendations phrases (most positive top to most negative bottom)

Responding to advice phrases (most positive top)



Mixed answers

Use the phrases below to add at least two more phrases to in each category above.

- Do you have any ideas/ advice/ recommendations/ suggestions?
- Do you think I should wear/ use/...?
- I don't think (that) you should...
- I don't think that's a good idea (because...) (Do you have any other ideas?)
- I strongly/ highly/ thoroughly recommend.../ You really should...
- I wouldn't (necessarily/ really) recommend...
- I'm not so sure that's a good idea (because...) (Can you suggest anything else?)
- My advice/ recommendation is.../ I (would) (personally) recommend/ suggest.../ If I were you, I'd...
- That might work. I'll think about it.
- That seems like a good idea. I'll do that.
- That's a great idea. I'll definitely do that./ That's an excellent suggestion. I'll do exactly what you said.
- That's not a bad idea. I'll try my best to do that.
- What do you recommend/ suggest?
- What do you think I should wear/ use/...?
- You are probably right. I'll try that.
- You could...
- You mustn't...
- You really mustn't...
- You really must...
- You really shouldn't...
- You should probably...
- You should.../ You ought to...
- You'd better... (or you'll regret it/ or...)

Check with the first page. Other phrases are possible, but check if you have ranked them differently.

Choose words on the following page and discuss situations that those things are suitable for and/ or aren't suitable for, e.g. that a gorgeous dress is too much for work.





Brainstorm suitable clothes and appearance vocabulary into the columns below.

adjectives/	clothes	other appearance vocab
descriptions		



Clothes and accessories collocations

Without looking above for now, brainstorm at least one collocation for each of the words below (= words that go together with those words)

+boots

+ coat

++ dress

+ glasses

+ gown

+ jacket

+ jumper

+ kit

+ pants

+ ring

+ satchel

+ scarf

+ shirt

+ shoes

+ socks

+ stockings/ tights

+ suit

+T-shirt

+ tie

+ top

short/ under+



Use the expressions below to help with the collocations activity above. Many can be used more than once.

- ankle
- ankle-length
- ball-
- bifocal
- black
- bomber
- bow
- business
- button-down
- cargo
- cashmere
- clip-on
- cotton
- crop
- denim
- diamond
- dinner
- down
- dress
- dressing
- duffel
- engagement
- fishnet
- fluffy
- fluffy
- football
- formal
- gold
- Hawaiian
- head
- high heel
- hooded
- John Lennon
- knee-high
- lace-up
- leather
- long
- long-sleeved
- nylon
- -pants
- pinkie
- pin-striped
- platinum
- polo-
- prescription



- rain
- reading
- rubber
- Saville Row
- school
- shell
- shirt
- short
- short-sleeved
- silk
- ski
- skirt
- sleeveless
- slip-on
- sports
- suede
- summer
- sun-
- sweat-
- swim-
- tailor-made
- tank
- three-piece
- toe
- trench
- tube
- under-
- Velcro
- vest
- waist-
- walking
- waterproof
- -wear
- wedding
- Wellington
- winter
- woollen
- woolly
- zip-up



Suggested answers

ankle-length/ rain/ rubber/ ski/ walking/ Wellington/ zip-up + boots

duffel/ long/ rain/ trench/ waist-/ winter + coat

sleeveless/ summer + dress

bifocal/ John Lennon/ prescription/ reading/ sun- + glasses

ball-/ dressing + gown

bomber/ denim/ dinner/ down/ leather/ zip-up + jacket

fluffy/ woolly + jumper

football/ sports + kit

cargo/ under- + pants

diamond/ engagement/ gold/ pinkie/ platinum/ toe/ wedding + ring

leather/ school + satchel

cashmere/ football/ head/ silk/ winter/ woolly + scarf

business/ button-down/ cotton/ denim/ dress/ formal/ Hawaiian/ long-sleeved/ polo-/ shortsleeved/ silk/ sweat- + shirt

high heel/ lace-up/ leather/ slip-on/ sports/ suede/ Velcro/ waterproof + shoes

ankle/ fluffy/ knee-high/ long/ short/ woollen/ woolly + socks

fishnet/ nylon/ silk/ woollen + stockings/ tights

business/ pin-striped/ Saville Row/ shell/ skirt/ swim-/ tailor-made/ three-piece + suit

long-sleeved/ short-sleeved + T-shirt

black/ bow/ clip-on/ leather/ silk + tie

crop/ hooded/ sleeveless/ tank/ tube/ vest + top

short/ under + -pants/ shirt/ -wear



Clothes and appearance synonyms

Without any help for now, try to think of other expressions which mean the same as:

- braces
- custom-made
- DJ
- dress shirt
- specs
- hair flecked with grey
- jumper
- tights
- thongs
- trainers
- trousers
- tux
- undershirt
- wellies
- waistcoat
- woolly scarf
- zip

Use the words under the fold to help with the task above.

-----fold, cover or cut-

- -actle
- -edo
- -ing
- -ington boots
- -per
- boots
- business
- dinner
- flip
- flops
- glass
- hose
- jacket
- pants
- panty
- pullov-
- rain
- shoes
- sneak
- sports
- suspender
- sweat
- tailor
- vest
- vest
- winter



Suggested answers

- braces suspenders
- custom-made tailor-made
- DJ dinner jacket
- dress shirt business shirt
- specs spectacles/ glasses
- hair flecked with grey greying hair
- jumper sweater/ pullover
- tights panty hose
- thongs flipflops
- trainers sports shoes/ sneakers
- trousers pants
- tux − tuxedo
- undershirt vest
- wellies wellington boots/ rainboots
- waistcoat vest
- woolly scarf winter scarf
- zip − zipper



Clothes and appearance vocabulary with different meanings

All the words below have more than one meaning, e.g. in British English and American English. Discuss the different meanings together.

jacket pants
purse scarf
thong(s) vest
Use the words under the fold to help with the task above.

Mixed and split meanings

- coat
- flip flops
- G-string
- handbag
- head
- silk
- suit
- trousers
- underpants
- undershirt
- waistcoat
- wallet
- winter
- woolly

------fold, cover or cut------fold

Suggested answers

jacket – the top part of a suit/ a light coat pants – underpants/ trousers purse – wallet/ handbag scarf – winter scarf/ woolly scarf OR headscarf/ silk scarf thong(s) – flipflops OR G-string vest – undershirt OR waistcoat