

ENGLISH

Chapter 13
Session A





FOLLOWERS OF FASHION

Relative Pronouns / Some, any, no









Style Adjectives

1 Use your dictionary to look up the meaning of the adjectives in the box. Which can you use to describe the pictures?

The sneakers are very sporty.

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

- 1 Stilettos are impractical, tight.
- 2 Sneakers are sporty, comfortable.
- Tennis shoes are colorful.
- 4 Oxfords are old fashioned.
- 5 Espadrilles are comfortable.
- Sandals are loose, trendy.
- 7 High heels are glamorous, colorful.
- 2 (1) 42 Listen and repeat.



- 3 Complete the sentences with words from the box.
 - a I don't like wearing boring black and brown clothes I prefer <u>colorful</u> designs.
 - Those plain leather shoes are very
 conventional I prefer more unconventional designs.
 - c My dad isn't allowed to wear <u>casual</u> clothes at work. His office is very formal, so he wears a suit.
 - d My sister always follows the latest fashions. She never wears anything old-fashioned
 - e This skirt is too <u>loose</u> I need a smaller size.

4 Choose the correct words.

My aunt loves shoes. She has so many pairs, it's unbelievable. She buys new shoes every week. She goes to the gym every day, so she has lots of sneakers, which are all a sporty / old-fashioned. They're also very b trendy / conventional because she always buys the latest designs by famous brands. Her favorite shoes are the high heels she wears on Saturday nights – they're really c casual / glamorous but so d sporty / impractical I tried them on and I couldn't walk! Finally, she has her work shoes. She's a businesswoman, so she wears very **e formal / cool** shoes. She has to stand up a lot at work, so her shoes are f comfortable / uncomfortable – they can't be too **g conventional / tight**. What does she do? She owns a shoe store, of course!

1 Read the text quickly and choose the best title.



Look at the people around you.

Now look at their feet. What type of shoes are they wearing? What do the shoes have in common? Color? Material? Design?

The basic design of shoes has not changed much since they were first invented. Most shoes have a sole on the bottom, a heel at the back and an upper, the piece of material that covers the foot. However, fashion designers have found many creative ways to make shoes look different.

Let's start with heels. They can be low or incredibly high. In the 1950s, Italian designers created a glamorous new shoe: the stiletto, which has a very thin pointed heel. Shoemakers around the world loved the design and stilettos are still popular today. The ultimate pair must be the 40.5cm high stilettos produced by LadyBWear in the UK. Heels don't have to be thin to look different though: one American designer has created huge heels filled with water and toy goldfish! Of course, Lady Gaga is famous for wearing the 'heelless shoes' made for her by Noritaka Tatehana of Tokyo. These shoes have a high sole but no heel, so they're very difficult to walk in.

Shoe designers have also had creative ideas for soles. Platform boots became trendy in the 1970s when lots of glam rock bands such as Kiss began to wear them. Recently, shoe designer Christian Louboutin famously decided to paint the soles



of all his shoes bright red to make them instantly recognizable and extremely glamorous. Soles can also be made to look unusual. What about a pair of grass flip-flops? The grass is real and you have to water it!

Finally, designers can make the uppers fashionable.

Sports brand Nike has produced shoes that look like human feet. Then there are sneakers that look like melting ice cream! But if you want something really original, some websites allow you to design your own shoes.

With all these creative fashion ideas for shoes, it's not surprising that people begin to collect them.

Well-known shoe collectors include Madonna and Sarah Jessica Parker. But no one has a bigger shoe collection than the woman who owned around 3,000 pairs: Imelda Marcos, the wife of a former president of the Philippines. She had so many shoes that she even opened a shoe museum in Manila! Many of the shoes in the exhibitions have never even been worn – it would have taken her over seven years to wear all her shoes!

READING STRATEGY

Notice how texts are structured to identify their *genre*. This helps you access previous knowledge about similar texts to predict the content and make the reading process more meaningful.

- 2 How is the information organized in the text above?
 - a It consists of a title, extensive data and a deep analysis in formal language.
 - b It contains a headline, a lead, topics, and the language is relatively informal.

- 3 What text genre does it illustrate?
 - a newspaper / magazine / blog article
 - **b** a scientific journal article

- 4 Read and listen to the text. Then write T for *true* or F for *false*. Correct the false sentences.
 - a T Designers try to make shoes that are unusual.
 - **b** Stilettos have only recently become popular.

Stilettos became popular in the 1950s.

C Noritaka Tatehana makes shoes for Lady Gaga.



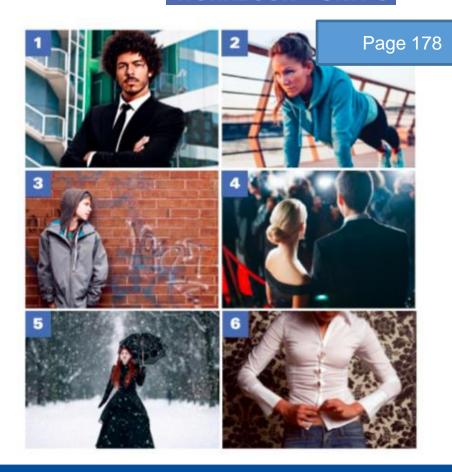
d F Nike makes shoes that look like human hands.

Nike makes shoes that look like human feet.

- 5 Scan the text and answer the questions.
 - a What is an upper?The piece of material that covers the foot.
 - b How high are the world's highest stilettos?
 The world's highest stilettos are 40.5cm high.
 - c Why are Noritaka Tatehana's shoes difficult to walk in? Because they have no heel.
 - d Where can you design your own shoes?
 Some websites allow you to design them.
 - Why do people collect shoes?
 Because there are so many different styles.

Style Adjectives

1 Complete adjectives a-f with vowels. Then match them with pictures 1-6.



2 Match the columns to make adjectives.

- a cas
- **b** col
- c com
- d con
- e fash
- f im
- g tren

- d v
 - ventional
- practical
- g dy
- c fortable
- a ual
- e ionable
- b orful

3 Complete the sentences with the style adjectives in the box.

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colorful comfortable fashionable formal loose old-fashioned tight

She's very interested in fashion. All her clothes are very <u>fashionable</u>.

- a Those jeans are too <u>tight</u>. She needs a bigger size.
- **b** He's very <u>formal</u>. He even wears a tie on weekends.
- c You can walk all day in these shoes. They are really <u>comfortable</u>
- **d** His shirt was covered in big blue, red, green and yellow flowers. It was very **_colorful**

- e These shoes are one size too big. They are too ___loose__ for me.
- At the costume party he wore one of those old-fashioned striped swimsuits from the 1920s that cover the top part of the body as well.

4 Match the descriptions with the style adjectives in the box.

casual conventional glamorous impractical sporty trendy

- b That's my father in the suit and white shirt with a blue tie. He works in a bank. conventional

- She was wearing a long skirt and high heels on her bike. And she didn't have a helmet on. ____impractical
- d She's always very fashionable. Today she's wearing denim shorts with suede ankle boots. ____trendy
- e Adam is the guy in jeans and a pale blue sweater. ____casual