



Dressing up

Conversation > Intermediate 5



Exercise 1 – Vocabulary

dress up	To wear formal clothes for a special occasion.
[phrasal verb]	<i>Ex: My friend and I dressed up to attend the ceremony.</i>

creep into	To get somewhere very quietly and carefully.
[phrasal verb]	<i>Ex: I really don't like small insects that creep into my room.</i>

pretend	To act as if something is true when you know that it is not true.
[verb]	<i>Ex: He really didn't want to attend the class, so he pretended to be sick.</i>

overdo	To do something more than needed.
[verb]	<i>Ex: You can feed the dog, but don't overdo it.</i>

disappointed	Unhappy because someone or something was not as good as you hoped or expected, or because something did not happen.
[adjective]	<i>Ex: We were really disappointed by the hotel when we got there.</i>



Exercise 2 – Dialogue

Choose one character and read the dialogue aloud with your tutor.

Grace: My father used to dress up as Santa Claus. He'd creep into my room and put a present beside my bed.

Lisa: Really? I would just receive my present in the morning on Christmas Day, under the Christmas tree.

Grace: I pretended to be asleep but was, in fact, secretly watching him.

Lisa: Sounds funny, Grace.

Grace: I think that's normal. My parents wanted me to believe that Santa Claus really existed.

Lisa: So thoughtful of your parents.

Grace: I thought Santa Claus was real, and that he brought presents to those who were nice all year.

Lisa: When I discovered that my parents were the ones who bought the presents for me I was shocked.



Grace: Same. I saw them at night, my mother and Santa chatting while putting gifts under the Christmas tree.

Lisa: Well, that sometimes happens.

Grace: If you had children, what would you do on Christmas?

Lisa: I don't know, but I wouldn't do the same thing my parents did. What about you?

Grace: I see. In my case, I'd do the same thing my parents did for me.

Lisa: Seriously?

Grace: I guess I'd try not to overdo it, though.

Lisa: I wouldn't want my kids to be disappointed when they find out Santa is not real.



Exercise 3 – Fill in the Blanks

Choose the correct answers from the answer pool below and fill in the blanks.

Answer Pool

disappointed

overdo

pretend

crept into

dress up

1. It's hard to _____ you enjoy a job that you don't like.
2. We need to _____ for the prom.
3. Look at his face! He seems _____.
4. I _____ her room and scared her!
5. It's important not to _____ things.



Exercise 4 – Role Play

Take turns with your tutor and act out the scene described below.

Scene: You and your friend John are talking. Share stories about the best presents you've ever received. The teacher can be John.



Exercise 5 – Discussion

Discuss the following questions with your tutor.

1. If you were a child and found out that your father had pretended to be Santa Claus, would you be angry?
2. Do you like to dress up? If so, for what occasion?
3. Have you ever dressed up as Santa Claus? If so, in what situation?
4. Do you exchange presents on Christmas? If so, with whom?
5. How would you give your child a Christmas present?