

One of the biggest shocks when you arrive in a new country can be the clothes people are wearing. You may look fashionable at home, but you suddenly find you are **behind the times** or simply someone to laugh at when you arrive abroad. With this in mind, let's take a look at teenage fashion in the UK for girls.

One of the things that may shock an outsider most is **piercings**. These days it is not enough to simply wear rings in your ears. You will see many teenagers with rings in their navel, or belly button, nose, lip, or even their eyebrow. Ouch!

Some girls go for a '**glam**' look. They wear T-shirts; trousers are usually preferred, blue or black, and the look is **finished off** with metallic bags and shoes and arms full of bracelets. Another alternative is the '**rocker**' look. You start with a T-shirt of your favourite band and tight jeans or a long skirt. On top of this you can wear a **denim** jacket. Jewellery tends to be large and metallic, and to add colour, wear a **scarf**.

If neither of these is for you, why not go 'sporty'? T-shirts are usually **tie-dyed** in hot colours. Wear long shorts, short jeans or a **denim** skirt. And on your feet? Beach **sandals**, of course! If you prefer something more feminine, there's the 'girly' look. Skirts are long, to the floor. Wear a top with butterflies or flowers printed on it!

Finally, how about the 'Tom Boy' look? Wear **flared** jeans and a T-shirt with a logo. Don't forget your **waistcoat**, of course!

Follow the fashion tips above, and you shouldn't feel **out of place**. However, it's important to remember to wear clothes and choose a look that you feel comfortable with. Don't just be one of the crowd – be yourself!

Glossary

behind the times – out-of-date, unfashionable, not modern	piercings – holes made in the body for wearing jewellery, such as rings or studs
glam – short for 'glamorous', i.e. dressed and/or made up to be extremely good-looking and very fashionable	finished off – completed, given final touches
rocker – someone who really likes rock music (and dresses like a rock music fan)	denim – a thick strong cotton cloth, often blue in colour, used especially for making jeans
scarf – a piece of cloth worn around the neck	tie-dyed – designs on cloth dyed by tightly tying portions of it with waxed thread so the dye only affects the exposed areas
sandals – light open shoes with straps	flared – (trousers or skirts) that widen significantly below the knee (popular in the late 1960s - early 1970s)
waistcoat – a sleeveless garment worn on the upper body over a shirt and usually having buttons down the front	out of place – strange, as if you don't belong

Read and listen to the story online:

http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/learningenglish/newsenglish/britain/081118_what_to_wear.shtml

1. Reading Quiz

Are these sentences true or false? Or is the answer not given in the text? Circle the correct answer.

1. Fashion is the same in all countries.

True / False / Not given

2. British girls put rings only in their ears.

True / False / Not given

3. 'Glam' girls don't usually wear skirts.

True / False / Not given

4. The 'sporty' look uses a lot of colour.

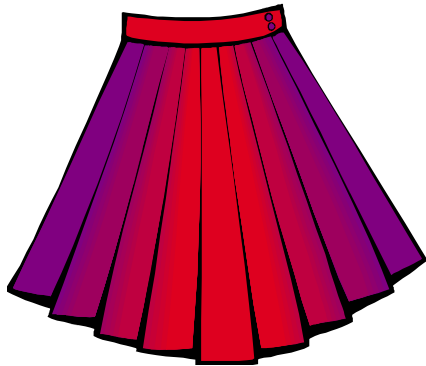
True / False / Not given

5. 'Girly' girls wear short skirts.

True / False / Not given

2. Clothes

Write the names of the following items of clothing in the space provided.



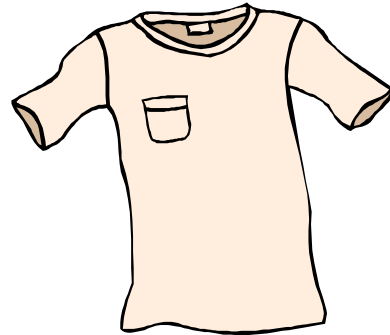
1. _____



2. _____



3. _____



4. _____



5. _____



6. _____

3. Clothes related vocabulary

Each of the verbs/phrasal verbs in the left-hand column is connected to clothes and fashion. Can you match them to their definitions?

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| 1. to dress up | a. to dress |
| 2. to dress down | b. to undress |
| 3. to put on | c. to wear something special, e.g. to a party |
| 4. to take off | d. to wear casual clothes |
| 5. to suit | e. to be the correct size |
| 6. to fit | f. to look good on you |

Now complete the sentences below by using one of the verbs above.

1. _____ your scarf if you're going outside. It's really cold.
2. Can I try a larger one? This doesn't _____.
3. I can wear jeans to work on Fridays as we are allowed to _____.
4. You can't go to a wedding wearing jeans! You should _____.
5. You look good in green. The colour really _____ you.
6. You should _____ your scarf. It's really hot.

4. Wordsearch

Try to find the words associated with clothes in the puzzle below.

There are ten words to find. Words can be written horizontally (g), vertically (i) or diagonally (m)

o	w	a	r	t	r	r	s	k	i	r	t
p	w	s	e	r	f	e	s	r	y	s	u
l	d	a	d	o	v	d	d	f	h	d	y
s	s	d	i	u	t	e	f	w	e	a	r
h	a	f	c	s	g	s	v	s	n	f	p
o	q	g	x	e	t	s	b	z	m	g	d
e	w	h	s	r	b	c	n	a	k	h	r
s	e	s	w	s	y	a	o	q	o	j	e
m	r	j	u	l	h	r	m	a	p	k	s
j	t	k	q	i	n	f	k	s	t	l	s
u	y	l	a	m	t	i	j	d	l	d	s
f	i	t	z	j	u	k	g	f	h	a	t

waistcoat	trousers	skirt	scarf	shoes
wear	fit	suit	dress	hat

Answers

1. Reading Quiz

1. Fashion is the same in all countries. **False**
2. British girls put rings only in their ears. **False**
3. 'Glam' girls don't usually wear skirts. **True**
4. The 'sporty' look uses a lot of colour. **True**
5. 'Girly' girls wear short skirts. **False**

2. Clothes



1. a skirt



3. a waistcoat



5. a scarf



2. (a pair of) jeans



4. a T-shirt



6. (a pair of) sandals

3. Clothes related vocabulary

1. c 4. b
2. d 5. f
3. a 6. e

Now complete the sentences below by using one of the verbs above.

1. **Put on** your scarf if you're going outside. It's really cold.
2. Can I try a larger one? This doesn't **fit**.
3. I can wear jeans to work on Fridays as we are allowed to **dress down**.
4. You can't go to a wedding wearing jeans! You should **dress up**.
5. You look good in green. The colour really **suits** you.
6. You should **take off** your scarf. It's really hot.

4. Wordsearch

				t			s	k	i	r	t
	w			r							
		a		o							
s			i	u				w	e	a	r
h				s							
o				e	t	s					d
e				r		c					r
s		s		s		a	o				e
			u			r		a			s
				i		f			t		s
					t						
f	i	t							h	a	t