

CLOTHES

Where do you usually buy your clothes? What kind of clothes do you usually wear?



DEFINITION

Clothes are the things that you wear such as shirts, dresses, pants, etc. The word itself is uncountable and is more specific. This is most often pronounced like the word "close".

Clothing means clothes in general and of a particular type. The word is countable.

LANGUAGE POINTS

Here are some types of clothing with their British and American English terms.

British English

trousers
pants
pullover
waistcoat
trainers
swimming costume

American English

pants
underwear
sweater
vest
sneakers
bathing suit

PRACTICE 1

Reveal the American term for each type of clothing by unscrambling the letters.

British English

1. pants
2. trousers
3. swimming costume
4. tights
5. trainers
6. pullover
7. waistcoat

American English

- | | |
|--------------|-------|
| edrawnuer | _____ |
| nastp | _____ |
| htnbaig tsiu | _____ |
| ohpyantes | _____ |
| krsneesa | _____ |
| eerwtsa | _____ |
| tevs | _____ |

CLOTHES

VOCABULARY

get dressed (phrasal verb) – to put on clothes; to clothe oneself

put on (phrasal verb) – to cover a part of your body with a piece of clothing or jewellery so that you are wearing it

take off (phrasal verb) - to remove something, especially a piece of clothing

fit (verb) – if clothes fit, they are the right size for you

fold (verb) – to bend a piece of cloth and press one part of it over another part

try on (phrasal verb) - to put on a piece of clothing in order to see how it looks and whether it fits

hang up (phrasal verb) – to hang a piece of clothing on something

accessory (noun) – a small thing such as a piece of jewellery or a pair of shoes that you wear with clothes to give them more style

PRACTICE 2

Complete the following text by filling in the gaps with the appropriate phrasal verbs learnt above.

Mary got up at 7:00 o'clock in the morning, took a bath, _____ and ate breakfast. She went to work on foot. She _____ her coat and left home at around 7:45. She was already at the station when it began to rain. Luckily, she brought an umbrella with her. When she got to her office, she _____ her coat, _____ her umbrella and left it outside her office to dry. As she entered her office, she suddenly remembered that it's her sister's birthday and has to buy her a present. Her sister loves clothes like she does, so it won't be that difficult to get her one. After work, Mary went to a nearby boutique. She found a very nice floral summer dress. Mary and her sister are exactly the same size, so she decided to _____ them _____ herself to see if it'll fit her. It was a perfect ____! She then had it _____ and wrapped neatly.

PRACTICE 3

Describe the type of clothing you would wear in the following situations?

- a corporate meeting
- at the park
- a party with friends
- at the beach
- dinner at a restaurant

SPEAKING

Have you ever felt uncomfortable with what you wear?

In your point of view, what's the basic difference between "fashion" and "style"?

Describe the traditional clothes people from your country wear?

How do clothes people wear reflect their personalities?