





#### LET'S SPEAK ENGLISH

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# Art, culture and fashion

- Art:
- Idioms we might use when discussing the arts
- To blow someone away to overwhelm a person; to excite a person very much
- Work of art a good result of one's efforts; a piece of artwork
- On the edge of one's seat to be very interested in something, usually something that is both extremely exciting and nervewracking.
- Mixed feelings When you have mixed feelings about something, you react to it with conflicting emotions; you are happy and unhappy at the same time.

# Vocabulary:

- Do you know the meaning of these words in the context of the arts?
- Rave reviews
- Cast
- Sculptor
- Collage
- Composition
- Medium
- Choreographer

### Conversation questions

- What are your "top three" art forms?
- What is your favourite art form?
- Do you think it is important for people to be educated in 'the arts'?
- Do you think it should be compulsory for children to study the arts at school?
- In what ways were you encouraged to appreciate the arts at school?
- Why are the arts important?
- Does your country have any well-known artists who are famous for cinema, theatre, literature, ballet, opera, classical music or painting?
- What can art tell us about history and culture?
- What would life be like without art?
- Do you have a favourite artist?
- Which country would you visit to appreciate the arts? What would you go to see?
- What is your opinion of modern art?
- Do you think art was of a higher quality in the past?
- Why is music and dancing considered a form of art?
- Do you think of cartoons and comics as art?
- Have you ever been to any famous art museums?
- What do you think of shock art?
- Do you think art can affect people's emotions?
- Do you think it is a waste of money for people to spend millions of dollars on a piece of art?
- How important is dancing in your culture?
- Do you think today's literature is up to the same standard of the literature from a hundred years ago?
- Has the literature of your country influenced the world?

#### Culture

- When people from other countries think about your culture, what do they usually think of?
- Have you ever experienced culture shock?
- What does it mean to be polite in your culture?
- What is considered rude in your culture?
- What has surprised you when you've met people from other countries?
- Have you ever felt confused by the actions of someone from another culture?
- What are the most important values of your culture?
- What in your culture are you most proud about?
- Do you think that people should adapt to the customs and culture of the country they are visiting?
- Are there any occasions when you think someone shouldn't have to adapt?
- What do you think is important when visiting another culture?
- If a group of people just came to your country from overseas, what advice would you give them?
- What culture besides your own do you admire? Why?
- What is the best/most important thing your culture has given to the world?
- What are some things that define a culture? For example, music, language, etc ...
- Do you think multiculturalism can result in a country losing its identity?

# Fashion – phrasal verbs and idioms

- Scruffy dirty and untidy
- Dressy suitable for formal occasions
- Baggy loose clothing
- **Grow out** (of) to become too big to fit your clothing. *Those shoes don't fit the boy anymore. He's grown out of them.*
- Change out (of) to take off clothes you are wearing and put on different ones. He changed out of his weekend clothes into his uniform.
- **Dress up** dress very smartly. I love dressing up for parties because I normally wear jeans.

### Conversation questions

- What are the good things about fashion?
- What are the bad things about fashion?
- Do you think it is important to wear fashionable clothes?
- Do you think people feel different when they wear different clothes?
- How does fashion affect our lives?
- Have you seen any strange fashions in your country?
- What do you think of body piercing?
- · What fashions that you see today do you think will be out of fashion within two years?
- Do you like shopping for new clothes?
- Do you often buy new clothes?
- What kind of clothes do you usually wear?
- Do you like getting dressed up for special occasions?
- What do you think of the fashion industry?
- · Do you think that the clothes we wear reflect what is inside us?
- What do you think of people who always and only wear black?
- What do you think of people with tattoos?
- Why do you think fashion is so important to teenagers?
- · Do you think we choose clothing according to our mood?
- Is it possible for women to wear too much make-up?

### Conversation questions

- Do fashionable clothes really change the way a person looks?
- What differences have you noticed in the fashions here and in your country?
- Are some people more fashion conscious than others? What types/groups of people?
- What traditional clothes do people from your country wear?
- In your country do children have to wear school uniform?
- Did you wear a school uniform?
- Do you think wearing uniforms is a good idea?
- What would you do or feel if you were refused entry to somewhere because of what you are wearing?
- What is your favorite brand?
- Do you go to many shops before buying one particular item or do you just buy the first one you find?
- Did your parents ever make you wear something you didn't like when you were a child?

#### Fashions statements

- Where do you buy your clothes?
- What is the most expensive garment you have ever bought?
- What is good and bad taste in clothes?
- Who is the best-dressed person in the class?
- Which countries are the most influential in fashion?
- What do you think of the fur trade?
- What famous designers do you know about?
- What is a "fashion statement"?
- Do you ever make your own clothes?
- What piece of clothing would you most like to buy?
- What piece of clothing would you most hate to wear?
- Is fashion important? Why? Why not?
- What do clothes tell you about the person wearing them?

#### Clothes lines

- In groups, discuss the meaning of these sayings:
- Keep it under your hat.
- We will have to tighten our belts.
- Keep your shirt on.
- Put yourself in my shoes.
- I wear the trousers in this family.
- She has got a bee in her bonnet.
- He was caught with his pants down.
- He is too big for his boots.

# Project

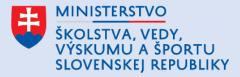
- Write a description of someone you saw today or an imaginary description of a famous person you would like to meet. Then work in pairs. Student A, read the beginning of your description. Student B, ask yes/no questions about what the person was wearing. Then swap roles.
- Use the Internet to find a biography of a famous fashion designer.
  Make notes for a short presentation. Bring some pictures of his/her designs you feel strongly about. Work in small groups and show the others what you have brought and why you chose the designer.

#### Coco Chanel









#### **ĎAKUJEM ZA POZORNOSŤ**