

Teenage life – Teacher's Notes

Aim

This lesson looks at extreme teenage fashions. Students read two interviews and then write an article about fashion in their country.

Warmer

Write the word 'fashion' on the board. Ask students about the fashions they like. Do they know of any extreme fashions? They might say goths (people who like to dress in black), punks (people who have a lot of body piercings and multi-coloured hair). If you can find any pictures of different trends, bring them in to show your students.

1 Reading

- Tell students they are going to read an interview with a goth from Britain and a 'ganguro girl' from Japan ('ganguro' means 'black face' in Japanese and is used because the girls like to have very dark suntans).
- Check understanding of the global reading task – do they dress like either of these teenagers?

2 Comprehension

- Students answer the comprehension questions.

Answers

- 1 Yumi likes to wear coloured clothes.
- 2 Yumi and Dan's parents don't like what they wear.
- 3 Yumi likes to have a suntan.
- 4 Dan doesn't smile. (It doesn't say this in the article, but students can guess from the context which teenager doesn't like to smile.)
- 5 Yumi spends a lot of money on clothes.
- 6 Yumi and Dan like to wear make-up.
- 7 Dan doesn't buy a lot of clothes.
- 8 Dan started wearing these clothes two years ago.

3 Vocabulary

Answers

baggy	You use this word to say that your clothes are too big for you.
eyeliner	You can use this to draw a line around your eyes.
false	Something that is not real, for example, '... teeth'.
nail varnish	You can use this to paint your finger nails different colours.
pocket money	Your parents give you this to spend or save.
charity shop	A place where you can buy cheap, second-hand things.
knee-high boots	These go up to your knees.
matching	Finding two things that go together.

4 Speaking

- Tell the students to work in pairs. Ask them to ask each other the questions from the interviews.
- Monitor the pairs. When everybody has finished, ask for any interesting comments that students had.

5 Writing

- Students write an article about extreme fashion in their country. They may like to do some research on the Internet to get more information. You could ask them to do a longer piece including pictures.

Websites

Here are some websites which have pictures of the fashions discussed in the article.

http://www.bbc.co.uk/gloucestershire/getfresh/2003/08/teen_categories.shtml – looks at teenage fashion in Britain.

http://www.bbc.co.uk/norfolk/kids/goths_talk.shtml – website with interviews of three teenage goths.

<http://www.livemusicstudio.com> – pictures of ganguro girls in Japan.