

Style, Not Fashion

Style goes way beyond fashion; It is the distinctive way we put ourselves together. It is a unique blend of spirit and substance-personal identity imposed on, and created through, the world of things. _____(1) It is what people really want when they aspire to be fashionable.(if they aren't just adorning themselves in status symbols).

Through clothes, we reinvent ourselves every time we get dressed. Our wardrobe js our visual vocabulary. Style is our distinctive pattern of speech, our individual poetry.

Fashion is the least of it. Style is, for starters, one part identity: self-awareness and self-knowledge. _____ (2) And style requires security-feeling at home in your body, physically and mentally. Of course, like all knowledge, self-knowledge must be updated as you grow evolve; style takes ongoing self assessment.

Style is also one part personality: spirit, verve, attitude, wit, inventiveness. It demands the desire and confidence to express whatever mood one wishes. Such variability is not only necessary but a reflection of a person's unique complexity as a human being. _____ (3) In order to work, style must reflect the real self, the character and personality of the individual; anything less appears to be a costume.

Lastly, style is one part fashion. It's possible to have lots of clothes and not an ounce of style. But it's also possible to have very few clothes and lots of style. Yes, fashion is the means through which we express style, but it takes fewer clothes to be stylish than you might imagine.

Whatever else it is, style is optimism made visible. Style presumes that you are a person of interest, that the world is a place of interest, that life is worth making the effort for. It also shows that you are morally responsible. It shows that you don't buy things at the whim of the marketplace or the urging of marketers. _____(4) Style exposes people's ambivalence over good looks. It always demonstrates that appearances do count. Deep down we suspect this, since we ourselves make judgments about others from how they look.

No one should be penalized for not having style, of course, but those who have it are distinctive and thus more memorable._____(5) They announce to the world that they are in command of themselves.

练习:

- A It is a way of capturing something vibrant, making a statement about ourselves in clothes.
- B Fashion is part of style.
- C Rather, you focus on what is personally suitable and expressive.
- D You can't have style until you have a sense of who you are.
- E They create a unique identity for themselves and express it through grooming and a few well-chosen clothes.
- F People want to be themselves and to be seen as themselves.