Clothes

VOCABULARY PRACTICE

UPPER-INTERMEDIATE | B2

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

1 Match each fashion and clothing term with its meaning.

1 tailored	____	a made specially for one customer
2 off-the-peg	____	b designed to attract attention
3 bespoke	____	c produced with regard for workers and the environment
4 hard-wearing	____	d shaped to fit neatly
5 flattering	____	e ready-made in standard sizes
6 understated	____	f old and valued for its style or quality
7 statement piece	____	g simple and not intended to draw attention
8 wardrobe staple	____	h making the wearer look especially good
9 ethically sourced	____	i durable under frequent use
10 vintage	____	j basic versatile item worn regularly

2 Complete the fashion collocations.

collection | cut | dress | fashion | label | piece | staple | trend

1 a designer _____

2 a seasonal _____

3 a flattering _____

4 a statement _____

5 a wardrobe _____

6 follow a _____

7 fast _____

8 a smart-casual _____ code

3 Choose the most precise expression for the context.

1 A suit made to one client's measurements: *bespoke / off-the-peg*.

2 Work boots designed to last: *hard-wearing / flattering*.

3 A simple navy coat worn for years: *wardrobe staple / statement piece*.

4 A dramatic metallic jacket: *statement piece / understated garment*.

5 A ready-made shirt in standard sizing: *off-the-peg / tailored*.

6 A shape that improves the wearer's appearance: *flattering / fashionable*.

7 Clothes made under verified fair labour conditions: *ethically sourced / vintage*.

8 A restrained outfit in neutral colours: *understated / eye-catching*.

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4 Complete the buyer's report with terms from the box.

bespoke | ethically sourced | flattering | hard-wearing | off-the-peg | statement piece | tailored | understated | vintage | wardrobe staple

The range combines practical basics with stronger design pieces. A **1** _____ coat in navy should become a **2** _____, while a bright embroidered jacket serves as a **3** _____. The workwear line is deliberately **4** _____ and **5** _____. Most garments are **6** _____, but alterations create a more **7** _____ fit. A limited **8** _____ service is available. The collection also includes restored **9** _____ garments and wool advertised as **10** _____.

5 Read the text and answer the questions briefly.

When a uniform is redesigned

A hotel replaced its formal uniform after staff reported restricted movement and overheating. Designers observed employees at work, tested fabrics and invited wearers to compare prototypes. The new uniform retained the hotel's visual identity but used breathable material, adjustable fastenings and a wider range of sizes. Managers initially focused on appearance; staff emphasised comfort, dignity and the ability to perform physical tasks. The final design cost more per garment, yet replacement rates fell because the fabric was more durable.

1 Why was the old uniform replaced? _____

2 What three steps informed the redesign? _____

3 How was the hotel's identity preserved? _____

4 What did staff prioritise? _____

5 Why did the new garments cost more initially? _____

6 What reduced the replacement rate? _____

6 Rewrite using the expression in capitals.

1 The jacket was made specially for one client. **BESPOKE** _____

2 The boots withstand frequent heavy use. **HARD-WEARING** _____

3 The dress improves her appearance. **FLATTERING** _____

4 The coat is a basic item she wears regularly. **STAPLE** _____

OVER TO YOU

Write a **120-150 word** evaluation of a uniform, dress code or clothing range. Consider appearance, fit, function, inclusivity, durability and sourcing.

[ ] Use at least ten target expressions. [ ] Separate style from function. [ ] Support judgments with specific criteria.

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ANSWER KEY

1 Fashion and clothing terms

1 **d** 2 **e** 3 **a** 4 **i** 5 **h** 6 **g** 7 **b** 8 **j** 9 **c** 10 **f**

2 Fashion collocations

1 **label** 2 **collection** 3 **cut** 4 **piece** 5 **staple** 6 **trend** 7 **fashion** 8 **dress**

3 Precise expressions

1 **bespoke** 2 **hard-wearing** 3 **wardrobe staple** 4 **statement piece**
5 **off-the-peg** 6 **flattering** 7 **ethically sourced** 8 **understated**

4 Buyer's report

1 **understated** 2 **wardrobe staple** 3 **statement piece** 4 **hard-wearing** 5 **flattering** 6 **off-the-peg** 7 **tailored** 8 **bespoke** 9 **vintage** 10 **ethically sourced**

5 Reading - suggested answers

1 Restricted movement and overheating. 2 Observation, fabric tests and prototype comparisons. 3 The visual identity was retained.
4 Comfort, dignity and movement. 5 Better features and materials. 6 More durable fabric.

6 Rewriting - possible answers

1 It was a **bespoke jacket**. 2 The boots are **hard-wearing**. 3 It is a **flattering dress**. 4 The coat is a **wardrobe staple**.

Over to you: Answers will vary. Check register, criteria, evidence and precise fashion vocabulary.