

FASHION FALLACIES

Some undeniably chic fashions are also expected to be functional. But let's face it: they often aren't.

Take jump suits. Forever being considered as the most contemporary and modern outfit, they are, in fact, often a disadvantage. Just try dealing with one in a jumbo jet's tiny bathroom. Also since a jump suit is cut in one piece, unless it is fitted perfectly, it tends to climb up on your body. For airline travel, jersey trousers and a shirt or sweater might be better choices.

Tent-shaped dresses are another of fashion's fallacies. To look great in one, you have to be really slim.

Despite the general opinion that the tent is the most flattering silhouette for the overweight, a stylish dress is much more becoming.

Leather boots are handsome and warm. But snow or rain will ruin them. Rubber boots are better.

Capes are great. You can move freely in them but capes also let the cold winds in. So you clutch the cape and now your arms are out in the cold.

There are more of these awkward fashion problems. For instance, the soft surfaces of fur coats make shoulder bags slide off.

Bodysuits give a glossy, firm look on top but can be uncomfortable below the belt.

But none of this should stop the determined dresser. She will gladly suffer the fashion now and then.

1- Based on the ideas from the text, answer these questions:

- A) Are leather boots functional/practical?
- B) Are any clothes spoken of positively in the text?
- C) How can you keep warm when wearing a cape?
- D) What is the author's direct objection to fashion clothes?

2- Are these sentences True (T) of False (F)? Give the evidence:

- A) Jump suits are quite comfortable if you are travelling by plane.
- B) It is convenient to wear leather boots in the snow.
- C) Tent-shaped dresses should not be worn by the overweight.
- D) Nowadays clothes are often fashionable rather than functional.

3- Complete these sentences. Be very careful with the GRAMMAR.

- A) If fur coats were _____.
- B) A jump suit should not _____ when travelling by air.
- C) Some people object to _____ capes, because they let the wind in.
- D) Some women will suffer uncomfortable fashions _____ they look nice.

4- Match these words with their meanings in the text. Six possibilities are offered.

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| a) climb up (l. 7) | 1. Styles of clothing that change. |
| b) overweight (l. 13) | 2. Unfavourable condition. |
| c) clutch (l. 18) | 3. Grasp tightly. |
| d) fashion (l. 20) | 4. Attractively thin. |
| | 5. Go towards the top |
| | 6. Too fat and therefore unhealthy. |

5- Write a composition (about 120 words):

Are young people today too dependent on fashion? Why?