

FCE Speaking – Clothes and Fashion

Learning Objectives: Talking about clothes and fashion, FCE speaking part 4 practice	Preparation Time: 5 minutes
Skill/Grammar: Discussion	Completion Time: 60 minutes
Resources: Clothes and Fashion Worksheet	Age/Level: First Certificate Exam

Teacher's Notes

Warm-Up (10 minutes)

- Give out the worksheet and ask students to match the pictures to the descriptions. Discuss the questions as a class.

Warm-Up Answer Key:

A formal/work B casual C party D traditional E vintage

Presentation (20 minutes)

- Ask students to decide which things on the list are not valuable in a discussion. Briefly discuss why.
- Ask students to write the remaining things in the correct parts of the table.

Presentation Answer Key:

a

Keeping the discussion moving	Giving your opinion
Making others agree with you	Speaking the most
Accepting other people's opinions	Giving examples
Politely disagreeing	Involving others
Shouting to get your point across	Interrupting

b

Giving examples	For example ... For instance ... To illustrate, I'd like to talk about ... As an example ...
Involving others	How about you ...? What do you reckon ...? Over to you ... What are your thoughts on that ...?
Accepting other people's opinions	I see what you mean ... I see your point ... That's a good point ... I guess that's fair ...

FCE Speaking – Clothes and Fashion

Disagreeing politely	I'm afraid I have to disagree with you there ... I can't really agree with you there ...
Keeping the discussion moving	Shall we move on? Let's move on to the next question/picture ... Anyway, moving on ...
Giving your opinion	I guess I think ... I really believe ... I can't help but feel ... In my view ... I feel ... I reckon ...

Practice (15 minutes)

- Ask students to fill in the gaps and then answer the questions.

Practice Answer Key:

a

Felicity:	Do you think the way you dress says anything about who you are?
Boris:	Er, well in my view it doesn't. I guess I think there's a lot more to people than the clothes they wear.
Felicity:	That's silly. Of course it says <i>something!</i> For example , if I see someone wearing designer brands, I automatically think they are rich.
Boris:	Well, that's a good point, but I'm afraid I have to disagree with you there . They might not be rich at all – they might just love designer brands. Over to—
Felicity:	Okay, but that's my point – it says something about them. Or maybe it says what they are <i>not</i> ... For instance , if someone is wearing designer brands, they are probably <i>not</i> poor, and they are probably somewhat concerned about the way the world perceives them. They want to look nice, otherwise they wouldn't spend so much on clothes.
Boris:	I guess that's fair. What are your thoughts on that , Susan?
Susan:	Oh, well, I don't know really. Shall we move on?

b No, it is not balanced. Felicity speaks too much, while Susan speaks too little.

c Boris – he tries to involve Susan, he doesn't speak too much but he puts across his opinion and accepts Felicity's. Felicity speaks too much, disagrees rudely, interrupts, and doesn't try to involve anyone else. Susan speaks too little.

Test Practice (15 minutes)

- Ask students to discuss the questions in pairs. Check that they are using the target language correctly.

FCE Speaking – Clothes and Fashion

- 1 **Look at the pictures below. What kinds of clothes are the people in them wearing? Match them to the descriptions below.**



A

B

C

D

E

Party/Evening Wear

Formal/work

Traditional

Casual

Vintage

- Which of the clothes in the pictures do you like/dislike? Why?
- What other descriptions can you think of for different types of clothes?

2 **Work with a partner and complete the tasks below.**

- a Cross out anything on the following list that you do not think is valuable in a discussion. Why are these things not valuable?

Keeping the discussion moving	Giving your opinion
Making others agree with you	Speaking the most
Accepting other people's opinions	Giving examples
Politely disagreeing	Involving others
Shouting to get your point across	Interrupting

- b Complete the table below with the six things you left on the list.

	For example ... For instance ... To illustrate, I'd like to talk about ... As an example ...
	How about you ...? What do you reckon ...? Over to you ... What are your thoughts on that ...?
	I see what you mean ... I see your point ...

FCE Speaking – Clothes and Fashion

	That's a good point ... I guess that's fair ...
	I'm afraid I have to disagree with you there ... I can't really agree with you there ...
	Shall we move on? Let's move on to the next question/picture ... Anyway, moving on ...
	I guess I think ... I really believe ... I can't help but feel ... In my view ... I feel ... I reckon ...

3 **Work with a partner and complete the following tasks.**

a Complete the dialogue below with appropriate words and phrases from Exercise 2.

Felicity:	Do you think the way you dress says anything about who you are?
Boris:	Er, well in _____, it doesn't. I guess _____ there's a lot more to people than the clothes they wear.
Felicity:	That's silly. Of course it says <i>something</i> . _____, if I see someone wearing designer brands, I automatically think they are rich.
Boris:	Well, that's _____, but I'm _____. They might not be rich at all – they might just love designer brands. Over to—
Felicity:	Okay, but that's my point – it says something about them. Or maybe it says what they are <i>not</i> ... _____, if someone is wearing designer brands, they are probably <i>not</i> poor, and they are probably somewhat concerned about the way the world perceives them. They want to look nice, otherwise they wouldn't spend so much on clothes.
Boris:	_____ fair. _____, Susan?
Susan:	Oh, well, I don't know really. Shall _____?

- b Is the discussion balanced between the three participants? Why/why not?
c Who do you think is best in this discussion? What is wrong with the other two?

4 **Discuss the questions below with a partner.**

- Why do people buy designer brands?
- Why are designer brands so expensive?
- Are designer brands superior to normal brands?
- Do you think designer brands are becoming more popular? Will they become more popular in the future?