

Clothes Tell You about a Person

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Clothes can give you information about where a person lives, where a person works, and what kind of person they are.

Sometimes people's clothes can tell you where they live. For example, if you wear an expensive suit all the time, you probably live in a wealthy neighborhood like the Upper East Side of New York City. When you see people in jeans and a T-shirt with a baseball hat to match, they probably live in a poorer neighborhood like Washington Heights.

People's clothes can tell you what kind of job they have. For example, if you see someone wearing white, that could mean they work in a hospital, a nursing home, or a doctors' office. Someone who wears a suit might work on Wall Street or might be a corporate executive.



You can look at someone's clothes and can tell what kind of person they are. For

example, when you see young boys with their pants under their butt, you know that they don't work and that they just hang out in the street. If a guy wears wide sneakers, cargo shorts, and fitted T-shirts, that means that he probably likes skateboarding.

Clothes can tell a lot about people. Clothes can tell you where people live, where they work, and what they like to do.

Yvonne Tucker works as a home attendant and is a student in the pre-GED class at Literacy Partners in New York City. Her goal is to go to college to get her degree in nursing.

Take it Further

Discuss the author's thesis. Do you agree or disagree?

Study the structure of this 5-paragraph essay. Underline the topic sentence in each paragraph. Consider the evidence the author offers to back up each topic sentence.

Break it down. Put this essay in outline form (see the following model).

Write your own opinion about what clothes tell you about a person. Start with an outline. Include an introductory paragraph, 3 body paragraphs, and a concluding paragraph.

Sample Outline

I Thesis statement: *Clothes tell about people*

A. Topic sentence: *Clothes tell where people live*

1. **example:** _____

2. **example:** _____

B. _____

1. _____

2. _____

C. _____

1. _____

2. _____