

9A | A good impression

SPEAKING

- What do you notice about a person when you meet them for the first time? Put the following in order from 1 to 5 (1=very important → 5=not important).
eyes face clothes voice body
- Work in pairs. Compare your lists. Do you notice the same things when you meet someone for the first time?

VOCABULARY: clothes

- Match the pictures A–M with the words in the box.

shoes trainers jacket dress jeans
jumper shirt skirt tie trousers
T-shirt boots sock



- Listen to the recording to check your answers. Say the words.
- Complete the sentences so that they are true for you.
 - I never wear ...
 - I only wear ... at home.
 - I sometimes wear ...
 - Right now I am wearing ...
 - ... is wearing ...

READING

- Read the web page. What is it about?
- Read the web page again and answer the questions.
 - What are the three Vs?
 - Which Vs are more important?
 - Who writes about body language?
 - Who writes about clothes?
 - Who writes about men and women?
- Work in pairs. Put a tick (✓) next to the sentences in the web page you agree with.

PRONUNCIATION: final -e

- Listen to the pronunciation of these words and read the rule.

/eɪ/ make /aɪ/ rice /eɪ/ ate /əʊ/ phone

In English, we don't pronounce the letter -e at the end of words.

- How do you pronounce the underlined letters in these words?

smile clothes face time take fine
phrase arrive wine cake nice

- Listen to the recording to check your answers. Say the words.

GRAMMAR: should/shouldn't

We use *should/shouldn't* + verb to give advice about something.

You **should wear** clean and neat clothes.

You **shouldn't wear** a short skirt for a meeting or an interview.

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- Make new sentences using the information in brackets.
 - You should wear formal clothes. (not)
You shouldn't wear formal clothes.
 - You shouldn't talk loudly. (they)
 - I should listen to the other person. (?)
 - They should do something. (he; ?)
 - I should wear smart clothes. (she; not)
 - I should ask the teacher. (you; not)
 - We shouldn't talk in English. (you; should)

www.agoodimpression.com

Every personal or business relationship starts with a first impression. Psychologists say that when you meet someone for the first time, they make an impression on you in less than thirty seconds.

We evaluate another person using three Vs: visual (how you look, your clothes), vocal (your voice) and verbal (what you say). When you meet someone for the first time, your body language and your clothes make 93% of the first impression. Only 7% are the words you say.

There is an expression in English: You never get a second chance to make a first impression. But what makes a good impression on you? Send us your emails.

* For me, eye contact. You should look at the other person when you meet them. I don't trust a person if he or she doesn't make eye contact.
David Hill, USA

* You should wear clean and neat clothes. A dirty shirt makes a very bad impression, and so do dirty shoes.
Bahiya Wasti, Pakistan

* Your physical appearance and body language say a lot about you. Sit up straight. Your body should say "I am a friendly and confident person".
Gill Launders, Australia

* In Canada, you should shake a person's hand, man or woman. You shouldn't kiss them for the first meeting. It's also a good idea to use the other person's first name quickly. It's more friendly.
Michael Dobbs, Canada

* I think you shouldn't wear a very short skirt for a first meeting, or an interview. It can give the wrong first impression. For a man, I think a shirt and tie make a good impression at an interview.
Marta Wójcik, Poland

* You should smile when you meet someone for the first time. A smile is the best introduction. It's friendly. A smile is universal.
John Wong, Singapore

2 Cristiano is from Brazil. He is on a study trip to England and is meeting his host family for dinner. He asks an English friend for advice. Match Cristiano's questions 1–5 to the friend's answers a–e.

- 1 What should I wear?
 - 2 What time should I arrive?
 - 3 Should I buy a gift?
 - 4 What should I talk about with them?
 - 5 Should I tell them I don't eat meat?
- a You should be there at the time they said. Don't be more than ten minutes late.
 - b A shirt and trousers is fine. No trainers.
 - c Don't worry! They're nice people. But you shouldn't talk about politics or religion.
 - d Yes, a lot of people cook meat for guests.
 - e It's not necessary, but a plant is always a good idea.

SPEAKING

- 1 Imagine someone wants to make a good impression on your parents. What are your answers to the questions in Grammar exercise 2? Is there anything else he/she should know?
- 2 Work in pairs. Tell your partner how to make a good impression.

If you want to make a good impression on my parents, you should ...