Activity Type

Vocabulary and Speaking Activity: ordering a conversation, role-play, creating and presenting a dialogue (pair work)

Focus

Clothes shopping

Aim

To review and practice language for clothes shopping.

Preparation

Make one copy of the worksheet for each student.

Level

Pre-intermediate (A2)

Time

30 minutes

Introduction

In this clothes shopping activity, students order conversations set in a clothes shop and role-play clothes shopping dialogues.

Procedure

Give each student a copy of the worksheet. Explain that the students are going to sort the three mixed-up clothes shop dialogues into conversation one, two and three.

Students then read the customer and shop assistant responses and label the lines 1, 2, or 3, depending on which conversation they belong to. When the students have finished, check the answers with the class.

Exercise A - Answer key

1. Could you tell me how much these jeans are?
2. I'm looking for something to match this shirt.
3. I bought this skirt last week, but it's too small.

3. I'm sorry, but that's the only size we have at the moment.
1. Yes, they are $19.99.
2. Well, we have some new jeans just in. They are half price.

2. They look good. Do you accept credit cards here?
3. Could you order a larger size for me?
1. They're nice. Do you have them in dark blue?

3. Yes, but it would take two weeks to arrive.
1. No, I'm sorry. We only have them in light blue.
2. Yes, we do.

2. OK, I'll take them then.
3. That's too long. I need it for a party on Friday.
1. That's fine. Could I try them on?

3. I'm sorry. Would you like to exchange it for something else?
1. Of course. The changing rooms are over there.
2. I'll just put them in a bag for you.

Next, divide the students into pairs and have them practice the three shopping conversations.

After that, review shopping language with the class and ask students to suggest phrases a shop assistant and customer might use, e.g. 'Hello, can I help you?' Write their ideas on the board.

In their pairs, students then create their own clothes shopping dialogue between a shop assistant and customer. Students then present their dialogues to the class and feedback is given.

A. Sort the three mixed-up clothes shop dialogues into conversation 1, 2 and 3.

Customer

...1... Could you tell me how much these jeans are?

...2... I'm looking for something to match this shirt.

...3... I bought this skirt last week, but it's too small.

Shop assistant

.... I'm sorry, but that's the only size we have at the moment.

.... Yes, they are $19.99.

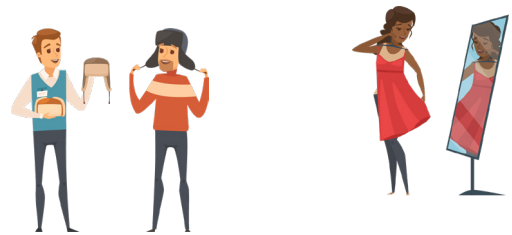........ Well, we have some new jeans just in. They are half price.

Customer

.... They look good. Do you accept credit cards here?

.... Could you order a larger size for me?

.... They're nice. Do you have them in dark blue?

Shop assistant

.... Yes, but it would take two weeks to arrive.

.... No, I'm sorry. We only have them in light blue.

.... Yes, we do.

Customer

.... OK, I'll take them then.

.... That's too long. I need it for a party on Friday.

.... That's fine. Could I try them on?

Shop assistant

.... I'm sorry. Would you like to exchange it for something else?

.... Of course. The changing rooms are over there.

.... I'll just put them in a bag for you.

B. Now, read the three shopping conversations with a partner.

C. In pairs, create your own clothes shopping dialogue between a shop assistant and a customer. Then, present your dialogue to the class.

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