

## S6 Supplementary Set Paper II (Part B)

### Question 9 Learning English Through Social Issues

Recently, one of your school friends seems to be very worried about money matters and keeps asking you if he can borrow money. When you confronted him about this, he told you that he spends all his money buying expensive designer clothes and accessories, and that he feels his spending is out of control. You are very concerned about him and his spending habits.

Write an email to him explaining why you are worried and give him advice on how to deal with this problem. Do not include any email addresses.

Dear Peter,

How's everything? You seem to be addicted to buying expensive designer clothes and accessories. It's alright that you want to buy clothes you like. However, the clothes you want are extremely expensive. You are just a student and you can't afford this. As your friend, I will help you. However, I don't think keep on borrowing money is a good idea. Therefore, here is some advice for you.

Since the clothes and accessories you buy are so expensive that we can't afford, I think you should buy less clothes. As far as I know, you have started buying expensive clothes for a long time. Then you must have a lot of clothes at home. Why don't you just save money and stop buying until you see the one you love the most? You don't need to wear new clothes every day so I think it's an acceptable solution.

Apart from buying fewer clothes, waiting for a sale is also a good idea. No matter what clothes you buy, the price will become lower some day. You can wait for the seasonal sale or year-end clearance sale in order to buy them at a lower price. Last summer I saw some expensive clothes which cost quite a few thousand dollars, were being sold 60% off.

Everything is possible. You can even have more choices if you wait longer. Thus, I think you should try to wait for the sale if you want to buy expensive clothes and accessories. Don't forget to save money during the time that you are waiting.

In my honest opinion, buying many expensive clothes and accessories is wasting your money because you can't wear them all. Many of them are just left at home. I think you should consider whether you need them before you buy them. I don't mean to blame you for buying famous designer clothes and accessories. If you still want to buy loads of clothes at extravagant prices after reading this, here's my last advice.

Buying too much expensive things that you can't afford will bring trouble to your friends and yourself. Therefore, you must find a way to earn money if you want to keep

buying. You can find a part-time job in order to earn extra money for buying clothes and accessories. At least you won't put more pressure on your family and friends. A part-time job can bring you about a few to as much as ten thousand dollars per month. I think that's enough for your everyday life and your clothes if you don't buy too much. If you can find a suitable job, it could be the best solution for you. Remember, don't spend less time on your school work. If I were you, I would find a part-time job as it's the fastest way to earn money and causes the least change to your present lifestyle.

I hope my advice can help you to solve the problem you have, or at least inspire you to step back and think about your own situation. No matter which method you take, the most important thing is not to affect your studies. Besides, don't keep on buying clothes without thinking about your own needs even if you have enough money to spend. Designer clothes and accessories are wonderful, but life is far more than clothes and accessories!

Best wishes,

Chris Wong

(564 words)

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