

Outfit on a Budget

This is a fun activity I did with my students when we were practicing clothing vocabulary and money vocabulary. Students had to design a complete outfit (top, bottom, shoes, and accessories) for a specific occasion and within a specific budget. It gave them the opportunity to practice talking about money and various items of clothing.

To complete the activity:

1. Print and cut apart the budget and occasion cards. I highly recommend printing each on a different color of cardstock. I also recommend laminating them for future use.
2. Decide how you want students to submit their completed outfit. When possible, I provided students with a Google Slides presentation and had each pair of students choose a slide. Students put their names on the slide as well as their occasion and budget. They then took screenshots of the various components of their outfit and placed the price of each component next to or under it. The final piece was to put a grand total at the bottom. When a digital project was not an option, I provided students with a worksheet to complete. This was actually a more linguistically challenging version since they had to describe the various components of the outfit in writing.
3. Give students a list of websites that you have approved for their “shopping.” I suggested students use Amazon and Walmart. I did allow them to use other sites, provided they got approval first.
4. Allow students time to work in pairs and create their signature looks. Students may decide if they are creating an outfit for a man or a woman. I will decide if I want students to include tax in the cost of their outfits or not based on each group’s average age and language proficiency.
5. Have each pair of students present their custom designed outfits to the class. This is a great opportunity to practice using adjectives, as well as clothing and money vocabulary.

The Gaming Grammarian

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Attending a wedding	Typical day at school
Going on a casual date	Going on a formal date
Attending a formal dance	Going to hear the symphony orchestra play
See a movie with friends	Working in an office
Playing at the park with kids	Staying home on a Saturday
A child's birthday party	An adult's birthday party

A 50th wedding anniversary party	Halloween party
Going on a casual date	Going on a formal date
Shopping at the mall with friends	Going to the amusement park
Visiting the county fair	Picking fruit at a farm or orchard
Going to a professional sporting event	A job interview
A funeral	A day at the beach

\$195	\$170
\$100	\$140
\$125	\$155
\$150	\$135
\$110	\$165
\$180	\$105

\$55	\$95
\$65	\$40
\$60	\$30
\$35	\$45
\$50	\$70
\$85	\$75

Names: _____

Directions: Complete this worksheet to describe your chosen outfit. Some items may be combined (for example, the top and bottom would be combined if choosing to purchase a dress). You may list more than one item in each section.

Occasion: _____

Budget: _____

Item	Description	Cost
Top		
Bottom		
Socks & Shoes		
Accessories		

Total cost: _____