



## Written expression (writing)

## Clothes throughout history

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Type of resource	Didactic task for written production.
Description of the resource	This resource offers an integral task for writing skills. Before writing, other skills are addressed.
Target population	Both teachers and learners at a B1 level can use this resource.
Resource designer	Edwin Londoño Alape, language teacher at UNAD, Schools of Educational Sciences, 2023.

### ✓ Think about...

1. Do you think the way of dressing was better in the past? Why?
2. Do you think that the way of dressing speaks of the personality of each person?
3. Do you consider that one can dress as one likes, no matter what the occasion, or do you think that every occasion has its own dress code?



### ✓ Words matter!

To do well in this lesson, it is necessary to learn a number of words. Please complete the following exercise. In the end, you will have increased your vocabulary.



Select the expression that best matches the idea of the boldfaced words or phrases.  
Have a dictionary at hand if needed!

1. "Look! The boy is running through the yard in his birthday suit".
  - a. The boy is naked.
  - b. The boy is happy.
2. "Guys, we have to roll up our sleeves if we're going to sew these clothes soon".
  - a. We are tired of working today.
  - b. We are prepared to do hard or difficult work.
3. "In his meeting, the boss was talking about women and their little dresses at work.  
He hit them below the belt".
  - a. Treating unfairly, insulting.
  - b. Treating with love.

✓ Read a bit!

Read the following text about clothes throughout history. Discuss the definitions of the words in bold and the context of the reading.

### Clothing in the Middle Ages

In the 12th and 13th centuries, clothes were still quite basic. In the Middle Ages, men wore tunics. Some men wore shorts and all wore 'hose' (tights or stockings).

Medieval women wore a nightie-like linen garment. However, they did not wear knickers. They wore a long tunic (to their ankles) and over it another garment, a gown. Women held their dresses with a belt tied around their waists. In the Middle Ages, both sexes wore clothes made of wool but they varied in quality. Wool could be fine and expensive or coarse and cheap. From the mid-14th century





laws lay down which materials the different classes could wear, to stop the middle classes from dressing 'above themselves'. (Poor people could not afford to wear expensive clothes anyway). However, most people ignored the law and wore whatever clothes they wished.

Taken from: <http://www.localhistories.org/clothes.html>

✓ Let's write!

Think of a typical Colombian family working on a farm. Do you think that their way of dressing is different/the same as the clothing in the Middle Ages? What has changed?
