

## T-SHIRT TALK (Pre-Intermediate – A2)

### INTRODUCTION

T-shirts are among the most popular types of clothes in the world. As they have lots of visual and cultural prints, expressive messages, fun pictures and texts on them, they can be used as a fun and authentic resource in English language classes. As a teacher, you can use printed pictures, messages, vocabulary, characters, symbols, cultural stuffs, abbreviations, etc. which are on t-shirts. You may also talk about the language used on t-shirts. Moreover, you can ask general questions to your students about t-shirts and you also can ask what colour and style of t-shirts they like. What's more and important, you can make use of images and resources below to engage students in discussions about a variety of topics.

### TARGET VOCABULARY

<i>Screen printing:</i>	A method of printing by forcing ink through a pattern cut into a piece of cloth stretched across a frame.
<i>Plain:</i>	Not decorated or elaborate; simple or basic in design.
<i>Voguish:</i>	Popular or in fashion at a particular time.
<i>Stylish:</i>	Fashionably elegant and sophisticated.
<i>Cool:</i>	The quality of being fashionably attractive or impressive.
<i>Vintage:</i>	Clothes from more than 30 years ago.
<i>A snappy dresser:</i>	A person who dresses with a great attention to detail and who looks good.

### OBSERVATION THROUGH LEAD-IN QUESTIONS

- ❖ Do you like to wear t-shirts? Are they nice or comfortable?
- ❖ Do you have a favorite t-shirt? If you have, which color is it?
- ❖ Do you pay attention to the texts or pictures on t-shirts while buying them?
- ❖ Do you prefer a plain t-shirt or a colorful t-shirt? Why or why not?
- ❖ Do you have a favorite shop to buy t-shirts in your country?
- ❖ Do you like writings or pictures on t-shirts? Which one do you prefer?
- ❖ Do you have a t-shirt of your favorite character? If so, which character it is?
- ❖ Do you think t-shirts reflect people's identities or styles? Why or why not?

## QUESTIONS FOR IMAGE / TEXT ANALYSIS

### #Image1

- ❖ What do you see in picture? What kind of a place is this? What do they sell?
- ❖ When do you think this picture is taken? What makes you think that?
- ❖ How many t-shirts do you see in the picture? Which colors do they have?
- ❖ Can you read the statement on the t-shirt? Have you ever heard that?
- ❖ Do you like the text written on the t-shirt? Have you ever used it in your life?



*( An image taken inside of a small clothe shop in the USA )*

## #Image2

- ❖ Do you know this famous character? What is its name?
- ❖ Have you ever watched it? Do you like him?
- ❖ Do you think there is a connection between paw and hand?
- ❖ Do you think it is the front side or the back side of the t-shirt? Why?
- ❖ What does Garfield want to mean? What is the message here? Is it funny?



*( An image taken from an Instagram page whose owner is from the USA)*

### #Image3

- ❖ What do you see in picture? Are they ghosts? Are they scary?
- ❖ How do you like the text written on the t-shirt? Do you agree or disagree with it?
- ❖ Why do you think the text written is in red color? Why the red paint is flowing?
- ❖ For what concept do you think this t-shirt is designed? Is it for a costume party?
- ❖ Do you think it is for men or women, or can it be for both?



*(A t-shirt designed for Halloween taken from an online shop in the USA)*

## DIGITAL RESOURCES FOR POST-ANALYSIS PRACTICES

- ❖ [T-shirt Talks: an online gallery](#) created as a part of LLinELT project (Images)
- ❖ [Etsy: Shirts and Tees: an online shop](#) (Images)
- ❖ [Funny Sayings T-shirts: an online shop](#) (Images)
- ❖ [10 pro tips for creating better T-shirt designs](#) (Images and Text)
- ❖ [Popular T-Shirt Designs of the Week](#) (Images)
- ❖ [Talking T-Shirts: Tee Public](#) (Images)
- ❖ [How to Create a T-Shirt Design from Nothing](#) (Video)
- ❖ [How to design a t-shirt from scratch-Canva](#) (Text and Mobile App)
- ❖ [How I design a T-Shirt- Clothing Art Tutorial](#) (Video)
- ❖ [TOP 5 Free Design Apps For Creating T-Shirts Designs](#) (Video)
- ❖ [The Talking Shirt](#) (Images)

## IDEAS FOR BRIDGING ACTIVITIES

- ❖ Tell students to form groups and design character, picture or write a text for their t-shirt. Encourage them to support their creations through colors, font styles, and funny things. You can organize it like a competition. You can reward them.
- ❖ Ask students to visit a clothes shop in their country to observe t-shirts and see how much English used on them, are they just text or colorful and picture printed. They can take photos of them and can share their experiences in the next class.
- ❖ Ask students to bring their favorite t-shirt to the class, you can choose the best t-shirt which have colorful printing and the most funny text on it. You can focus on the language used on t-shirts with students.
- ❖ Ask students to look people who wore t-shirts around them and take notes the text of the t-shirt which has the most expressive message on it. You can ask them to bring the notes to the class and you can discuss the meanings of them with students.
- ❖ Encourage students to imagine that they are a t-shirt designer and have a shop and what kinds of t-shirts would they design, what would be their shop's name. Ask them to write a mini text about these.
- ❖ Ask students to watch this [video](#) and design their online favorite t-shirt with one of them or other applications. If they want, it can be in groups or individually. They can share their designings with class.

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