

Fashion is my profession

🔦 B2 Level

🔦 Duration: 1 h

🔦 Individual lesson

🔦 Age: adults/teens

🔦 Lesson goals

Can give straightforward descriptions on a variety of familiar subjects within his field of interest.

1

Warm-up

Exercise 1. Answer the following questions:

1. Can you describe your go-to outfit for a casual day out with friends?
2. How do you decide what to wear when you go out?
3. What are some key pieces that every person should have in their wardrobe?

2

Vocabulary

Exercise 2. Match the words and phrases with their definitions/pictures.

to go bold with

never goes out of style

statement

crewneck

easy-peasy

chunky

vibing with

boat-neck

glittery

v-neck

long-sleeved

to tuck into

long silhouette

plain

cropped

1



2

outfits that give the illusion of a long line from top to bottom

3

to put something neatly inside another item

4



5

to choose something eye-catching

6



7



8

having a thick appearance or texture

9

feeling positive energy towards something or someone

10



11

not hard at all

12

something bold that draws attention

13



14

something that remains fashionable for a long time

15



3

Reading and speaking

Exercise 3. Read the blog post with some tips on what to wear in winter and share your opinion on each of them. What do you agree/disagree with? What would you add to the tips?

Winter is here, and that means it's time to start dressing up in your best warm outfits. But just because it's cold outside doesn't mean you have to sacrifice style for comfort. With these **easy-peasy** tips, you'll be looking cool while staying warm all winter long.

1. Layering like a pro

Layering is the key to staying warm in the winter, but it can also make your outfit look more interesting. Start with a basic piece like a **plain** white t-shirt and add a **long-sleeved** shirt or a sweater on top. Then, throw on a jacket or a coat to complete the look. Mixing different textures and patterns can give your outfit an extra stylish touch. For example, try pairing a **chunky** knit sweater with a leather jacket for a cool vibe.

2. Sweater weather

Sweaters are a winter wardrobe must-have item, but they don't have to be boring. Instead of choosing a regular **crewneck** sweater, go for one with a **v-neck** or a **boat-neck** to show off a little skin. You can also try layering a collared shirt underneath your sweater for a preppy look. To keep things interesting, choose sweaters in bold colors or fun prints like stripes or polka dots.

3. Long over lean

When it comes to bottoms, go for a **long silhouette** to balance out your layers on top. Skinny jeans or leggings **tucked into** knee-high boots are a classic winter combo that **never goes out of style**. If you prefer skirts or dresses, wear them with thick tights or leggings to keep your legs warm. A maxi skirt or dress paired with a **cropped** jacket or sweater is another chic option.

4. Accessorize to impress

Accessories are a great way to add some personality to your winter look. A cozy scarf, a cute beanie, or a pair of stylish gloves can instantly elevate even the simplest outfit. Don't be afraid **to go bold** with your accessories – a **statement** necklace, a **glittery** clutch, or a **chunky** chain bracelet can make a big impact.

So there you have it – four tips for looking stylish this winter. Whether you're hitting the slopes or just vibing with friends at a coffee shop, these ideas will keep you fashion-forward all season long.

Glossary:

Beanie - a close-fitting hat that covers the head and often the ears.

Polka dots - small round spots or circles of one color on a contrasting background.

Stripes - lines of different colors or widths on fabric or clothing.

Preppy look - a style associated with traditional, neat, and clean-cut clothing choices.

4

Listening and vocabulary



Exercise 4.

a. Watch the video. What's its main message? What tips does Andrea give to her followers in the video?

b. Listen again and fill in the gaps in the script:

What's the third best day of the week? Friday, of course. Correct, Lulu. After Saturday and Sunday, Friday is the best day of the week. Today is Friday and I'm going to see some friends. I don't feel like dressing up much. In fact, I feel like an ____ (1) blue jeans outfit. But still, I want to look good, so let's style an outfit. Let's do it! First step, blue jeans. Second step, a nice cozy jumper. But I'm not ____ (2) the ____ (3) and I'm not vibing with the ____ (4). Not good, but I love the color. What do I do? You turn the jumper around, like so. And then we take the end of the jumper and shove it under our bra. And we do the same at the back. And now we have a cute ____ (5) jumper and a sexy back. Fantastic. Okay, shoes. I want the shoes to go with the jumper. Nice. Now I feel like long ____ (6) earrings. Nice. Now I need a small bag for my phone. But I want to add a cute chain. So I'm just going to use this ____ (7) belly ____ (8) and attach it to the bag. Let's add a cute ____ (9) jacket. And we're ready to go. Would you wear it?

5

Speaking

Exercise 5. Here are four winter looks. Imagine that you are a fashion blogger and describe them. Share your opinion on them. Use the vocabulary from the lesson.





Correct answers

Exercise 1.

Made in the “Discussion questions” tool.

Exercise 2.

Partly made in the “Word-Definition Matching” tool.

Correct answers:

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. long-sleeved | 9. vibing with |
| 2. long silhouette | 10. v-neck |
| 3. to tuck into | 11. easy-peasy |
| 4. plain | 12. statement |
| 5. to go bold | 13. boat-neck |
| 6. glittery | 14. never goes out of style |
| 7. cropped | 15. crewneck |
| 8. chunky | |

Exercise 3.

Made in the “Create a text” tool. The glossary is created with the help of the “Word-Definition Matching” tool.

Exercise 4.

The script is made in the “YouTube to Text” tool. The exercise is created in the “Fill in the Gap” tool.

Correct answers:

1. easy-peasy
2. vibing with
3. v-neck
4. long silhouette
5. boat-neck
6. statement
7. glittery
8. chain
9. cropped

Picture sources:

[Picture 1](#)

[Picture 2](#)

[Picture 3](#)

[Picture 4](#)

I Read about main garment categories. The garments fall into three main categories, although these may be split up into additional, more specific subcategories.

Haute couture	Ready-to-wear (prêt-à-porter)	Mass market
<p>Until the 1950s, fashion clothing was predominately designed and manufactured on a made-to-measure or haute couture basis (French for high-sewing), with each garment being created for a specific client. A couture garment is made to order for an individual customer, and is usually made from high-quality, expensive fabric, sewn with extreme attention to detail and finish, often using time consuming, hand-executed techniques.</p> <p>Look and fit take priority over the cost of materials and the time it takes to make. Due to the high cost of each garment, haute couture makes little direct profit for the fashion houses, but is important for prestige and publicity.</p>	<p>Ready-to-wear, or prêt-à-porter, clothes are a cross between haute couture and mass market. They are not made for individual customers, but great care is taken in the choice and cut of the fabric. Clothes are made in small quantities to guarantee exclusivity, so they are rather expensive. Ready-to-wear collections are usually presented by fashion houses each season during a period known as Fashion Week. This takes place on a citywide basis and occurs twice a year. The main seasons of Fashion Week include, spring/summer, fall/winter, resort, swim, and bridal.</p>	<p>Currently the fashion industry relies more on mass market sales. The mass market caters for a wide range of customers, producing ready-to wear garments using trends set by the famous names in fashion. They often wait around a season to make sure a style is going to catch on before producing their own versions of the original look. To save money and time, they use cheaper fabrics and simpler production techniques which can easily be done by machine. The end product can therefore be sold much more cheaply.</p>

II Work individually, in pairs or in small groups. Fill in the missing fields.

Area	Brief	Market
Women's day wear	Practical, comfortable, fashionable	Haute couture, ready-to wear, mass market
Women's evening wear	Glamorous, sophisticated, suited for the occasion	Haute couture, ready-to-wear, mass market
Women's lingerie		
Men's day wear		
Men's evening wear		
Kids' wear		
Girls' wear		
Teenager girl wear		
Jeans wear		
Swimwear		
Sports wear		
Knitwear		
Outerwear		
Bridal wear		
Accessories		

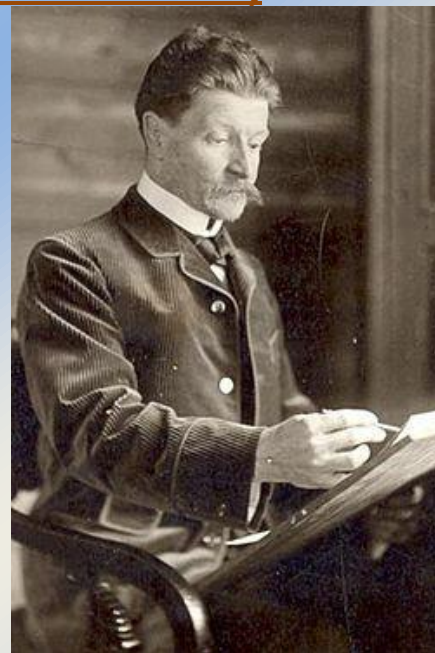
III Check your answers.

Area	Brief	Market
Women's day wear	Practical, comfortable, fashionable	Haute couture, ready-to wear, mass market
Women's evening wear	Glamorous, sophisticated, suited for the occasion	Haute couture, ready-to-wear, mass market
Women's lingerie	Glamorous, comfortable, washable	Haute couture, ready-to-wear, mass market
Men's day wear	Casual, practical, comfortable	Tailoring, ready-to-wear, mass market
Men's evening wear	Smart, elegant, formal, apt for the occasion	Tailoring, ready-to-wear, mass market
Kids' wear	Trendy or classy, practical, washable, functional	Ready-to-wear, mass market
Girls' wear	Pretty, colorful, practical, washable, inexpensive	Ready-to-wear, mass market
Teenager girl wear	Colorful, comfortable, glamorous, pretty, cute	Ready-to-wear, mass market
Jeans wear	Unisex, democratic, comfortable, practical, functional	Ready-to-wear, mass market
Swimwear	Trendy, stylish, practical, functional, colorful	Haute couture, ready to-wear, mass market
Sports wear	Comfortable, practical, well-ventilated, washable, functional	Ready-to-wear, mass market
Knitwear	Right weight and color for the season	Ready-to-wear, mass market
Outerwear	Stylish, warm, right weight and color for the season	Ready-to-wear, mass market
Bridal wear	Sumptuous, glamorous, classic	Haute couture, ready-to-wear, mass market
Accessories	Striking, fashionable	Haute couture, ready to-wear, mass

MIKHAIL VRUBEL (1856-1906)

Among famous Russian artists of the turn of the century, such as Isaac Levitan, Valentin Serov, Victor Borisov-Musatov, Mikhail Vrubel stands out because of the originality of his art. Despite the absence of direct followers, the importance of Vrubel's art should not be underestimated he pointed the way and made the experiments in the succeeding decades possible. This many-sided painter, sculptor, theatre designer, draftsman, and illustrator can be considered as a transitional figure between traditional and modern art because of his influence on and inspiration for the artists of a new generation.

Mikhail Aleksandrorovich Vrubel was born in Omsk, Siberia, in 1856. He was the son of an officer of the Russian army, Alexander Vrubel. The family had many different ethnic roots – Russian, Polish, Tartar and Danish. Mikhail Vrubel had an older sister Anna with whom he kept a friendly relationship until his death. His younger sister Ekaterine and brother Alexander died in childhood. The parents taught the children fundamental educational skills, providing them with literature in several languages (Latin, French, German), encouraging and stimulating the children's interest in history, art, theatre, music, and literature.



Mikhail Vrubel was interested in drawing from childhood, and his father, Alexander Vrubel, had a positive attitude towards his son's enthusiasm for painting. Vrubel received formal painting lessons at the Society for the Encouragement of the Arts in St. Petersburg University from 1874 to 1880, and also attended painting classes during 1878-1879.

After graduation from the Law Department, Vrubel entered the St. Petersburg Imperial Academy of Arts (one of the leading schools in Russia at that time) as a full-time student in 1880, where he studied under Pavel Tchistyakov until 1884. This teacher, famous for his teaching abilities in painting and drawing, played a significant role in the development of Vrubel's style, developing in him a taste for detail. Among Tchistyakov's pupils were such Russian painters as Ilya Repin, Vasili Polenov, Victor Vasnetsov, Valentin Serov, and Vasili Surikov. Vrubel had great respect for the Art Academy and never denied its influence on his art as many advanced artists of the time did. In his autobiography, written in 1901, Vrubel referred to his Academy years as the happiest in his life as an artist.

The next step in the development of Vrubel's artistic career began in Kiev in April 1884 when he accepted an invitation to take part in the restoration work of old Russian churches in Kiev. He was commissioned to replace the lost XII century murals and mosaics in the St Cyril church of Kiev with the new ones. In order to execute this commission, he went to Venice to study the medieval Christian art. It was here that, in the words of an art historian, "his palette acquired new strong saturated tones resembling the iridescent play of precious stones". Most of his works painted in Venice have been lost, because the artist was more interested in the creative process than in promoting his artwork.

In 1886, he returned to Kiev, where he submitted some monumental designs to the newly-built St Volodymir Cathedral. The jury, however, failed to appreciate the striking novelty of his works, and they were rejected. At that period, he executed some delightful illustrations for Hamlet and Anna Karenina.

While living in Kiev, Vrubel started painting sketches and watercolours illustrating the Demon, a Romantic poem by Mikhail Lermontov. The poem described the passion of "an eternal nihilistic spirit" to a Georgian girl, Tamara. At that period Vrubel developed a keen interest in Oriental arts, and particularly Persian carpets, and even attempted to imitate their texture in his paintings.

During the 1884-1889 Vrubel painted not only the commissioned religious works, but also images of Christ, the Virgin Mary, and angels for himself. In the figures of the saints and angels, in the plasticity of their forms and in the psychological importance of drawing, compositions, and color are evidence that

Vrubel was closer to the modern ways of painting than to Byzantine and Old-Russian frescoes and mosaics.

In 1890, Vrubel moved to Moscow where he could best follow innovative trends in art. Like other artists associated with the Art Nouveau, he excelled not only in painting but also in applied arts, such as ceramics, majolica, and stained glass. He also produced architectural masks, stage sets, and costumes.

It is the large painting of Seated Demon (1890) that brought notoriety to Vrubel. Most conservative critics accused him of “wild ugliness”, whereas the art patron Savva Mamontov praised the Demon series as “fascinating symphonies of a genius” and commissioned Vrubel to paint decorations for his private opera and mansions of his friends. Unfortunately, the Demon, like other Vrubel’s works, doesn’t look as it did when it was painted, as the artist added bronze powder to his oils in order to achieve particularly luminous, glistening effects.

The analysis of Vrubel’s work done in Moscow, where he lived during the two-decade period (1889-1910), shows the influence of old traditions and contemporary artistic movements – Neo-Romanticism, Symbolism, Art Nouveau. Some of the artist’s works have features similar to Neo-Primitivism, Rayonism, Futirism, Cubism which soon caught on with many painters in the Russian Avant-Garde.

In 1896, he fell in love with the famous opera singer Nadezhda Zabela. Half a year later they married and settled in Moscow, where Zabela was invited by Mamontov to perform in his private opera theatre. While in Moscow, Vrubel designed stage sets and costumes for his wife, who sang the parts of the Snow Maiden, the Swan Princess, and Princess Volkhova in Rimsky-Korsakov’s operas.

Failing under the spell of Russian fairy-tales, he executed some of his most acclaimed pieces, including Pan (1899), The Swan Princess (1900), and Lilacs (1900).

In 1901, Vrubel returned to the demonic themes in the large canvas Demon Downcast. In order to astound the public with underlying spiritual message, he repeatedly repainted the demon’s ominous face, even after the painting had been exhibited to the overwhelmed audience. At the end he had a severe nervous breakdown, and had to be hospitalized to a mental clinic. While there, he painted the mystical Pear Oyster (1904) and striking variations on the themes of Pushkin’s poem *The prophet*.

In 1905 Vrubel created the mosaics on the hotel Metropol in Moscow. The centre piece of the façade overlooking Teatralnaya Ploschad is taken by the mosaic panel, Princess Gryzoza (Princess of dream).

In 1906, overpowered by mental disease and approaching blindness, he had to give up painting.

1. Use the words from the box to complete the sentences

1. Mikhail Vrubel was a painter, a sculptor, a theatre designer, a draftsman and an
2. Mikhail Vrubel was interested in drawing from
3. Pavel Tchistyakov played a significant role in the of Vrubel’s style.
4. In 1884 he accepted an invitation to take part in the work of old Russian churches in Kiev.
5. He executed some illustrations for Hamlet and Anna Karenina.
6. Vrubel got interested in Oriental arts, and Persian carpets.
7. During the 1884-1889 Vrubel painted images of Christ, the Virgin Mary, and angels for
8. In 1906 Mikhail Vrubel had to give up painting because of

ILLUSTRATE

CHILD

DEVELOP

RESTORE

DELIGHT

PARTICULAR

HE

BLIND

2. Match adjectives with nouns.

Make up sentences.

- many-sided a) languages
- transitional b) play
- several c) painter
- striking d) effects
- iridescent e) novelty
- delightful f) clinic
- glistening g) figure
- mental h) illustrations

3. Find 10 words. Use the text.

u	q	p	o	e	m	w	e
r	g	t	f	y	u	i	c
h	o	l	f	p	a	s	a
c	c	s	i	s	t	e	r
r	i	d	c	n	f	g	p
u	n	k	e	h	e	j	e
h	h	s	r	k	l	s	t
c	t	a	n	g	e	l	s
d	e	m	o	n	i	c	z

4. Make up sentences.

- influenced/a new generation/ the artists / Mikhail Vrubel/ of.
- Alexander/ an officer/ of/ was/ the Russian/ Vrubel /army.
- painting/during/Mikhail/ classes/ Vrubel/ 1878-1879/ attended.
- a Romantic/ poem/the Demon/ Vrubel/ Mikhail Lermontov/ illustrated/ by.
- and/produced/masks/ he/ costumes/ architectural/ stage sets.
- Seated Demon/ the large/ brought/ of/ notoriety to/ painting/ Vrubel.
- the famous/Nadezhda Zabela/ he/ opera/ married/ singer.
- Vrubel/ fairy-tales/Russian/ illustrated/ Mikhail.
- the hotel/in/ Vrubel/ the mosaics/ on/1905/ Metropol in/ created/ Moscow.

6. Answer the questions.

- When and where was Mikhail Vrubel born?
- What family did Mikhail Vrubel come from?
- What did Mikhail Vrubel's parents do for their children?
- Where did Mikhail Vrubel learn to paint?
- Why did Mikhail Vrubel go to Venice in 1884?
- What works did Mikhail Vrubel make illustrations to?
- What did Vrubel add to his oils in order to achieve particularly luminous, glistening effects?
- Why did Vrubel give up painting?

7. Match the paintings and their names.



A



B



C



D



E



F

- [The Swan Princess, 1900](#)
- [The Virgin and Child, 1884](#)
- [Pan, 1899](#)

- [Demon Prostrate, 1902](#)
- [Demon Seated, 1890](#)
- [The girl on the background of a Persian carpet](#)

5. Derive the words. Use the text.

- follow –
- education –
- commission –
- demon –
- graduate –
- Georgia –
- inspire –
- stimulate –
- biography –