

# Vocabulary

## take in

**Meaning:** To make clothing smaller by sewing it tighter.

**Examples:**

1. I tried to take in the dress because it was too wide.
2. She took in her jeans to make them fit better.

## secondhand

**Meaning:** Used by someone else before; not new.

**Examples:**

1. I like buying vintage or secondhand clothes.
2. She bought a secondhand sewing machine online.

## take up

**Meaning:** To make clothing shorter by sewing or cutting it.

**Examples:**

1. If a dress is too long, I will try to take it up.
2. He took up the curtains so they wouldn't drag on the floor.

## revamp

**Meaning:** To change or improve something to make it look new or better.

**Examples:**

1. She likes to revamp her old clothes by adding new buttons.
2. They revamped the store to make it look more modern.

## an ecological way

**Meaning:** A method that is good for the environment; eco-friendly.

## Examples:

1. Buying secondhand clothes is an ecological way of shopping.
2. They try to live in an ecological way by recycling and reusing.

Elaine / England 

## Do you like to make your own clothes?

Hello, my name's Elaine, and I'm from England. My question was, do you like to make your own clothes?

I wish I could make my own clothes. I have tried, but I don't have the patience. My mom's actually a costume designer, and so when I was little she used to make all my clothes for me. I had lots of beautiful party dresses and nobody else had anything like them. In fact, my mom even bought me a sewing machine for my birthday last year. I haven't had much time to learn how to use it.

I really like buying vintage clothes or *secondhand* clothes and adjusting them. So I will try to, for example, if a dress is too long, I will try to *take it up*. Or if something is too wide, I will try to *take it in*. Maybe sometimes I like to change a button or to make it more beautiful. I find this is also *an ecological way* of shopping. It's a bit unusual, and I don't want to dress like everyone else.

But what about you? Do you make your own clothes? Do you modernize or *revamp* your clothes? Let us know.

## Quiz

1) Could Elaine make her own clothes?

- a) **Yes, but she is lazy.**
- b) Yes, but she has no sewing machine.

2) What were Elaine's childhood clothes like?

- a) Dull
- b) **Unique**

3) Elaine buys secondhand to be \_\_\_\_\_.

a) distinctive

b) ubiquitous

**What is the correct word?** Listen to the audio to hear the answer!

Hello, my name's Elaine, and **I'm/I** from England. My question was, do you like to **make/made** your own **clothes/cloth**?

I wish I could make my own **clothes/closet**. I have tried, but I don't have the **patience/patient**. My mom's actually a costume **designer/design**, and so when I was little she **used/use** to make all my clothes **off/for** me. I had lots of **beautifully/beautiful** party dresses and **nowhere/nobody** else had anything like **it/them**. In fact, my mom even **bough/bought** me a sewing machine for my **birthday/birth** last year. I haven't had **many/much** time to learn how to **use/used** it.

I really like **buy/buying** vintage clothes or secondhand **clothes/cloth** and adjusting them. So I **will/want** try to, for example, if a dress is **to/too** long, I will try to take it **up/off**. Or if something is too **wade/wide**, I will try to take it in. **May be/Maybe** sometimes I like to **change/charge** a button or to make it **much/more** beautiful. I find this is also an **ecology/ecological** way of shopping. It's a bit **unusual/unusually**, and I don't want to dress like **everywhere/everyone** else.

But what **around/about** you? Do you make **you're/your** own clothes? Do you **modernize/modern** or revamp your clothes? **Lot/Let** us know.

## Vocabulary Quiz

Complete the sentences below with the vocabulary words.

take it up • take in • secondhand  
revamp • an ecological way

1. Not using straws is \_\_\_ to drink.
2. I've lost weight so I must \_\_\_ all my pants.
3. I like to paint my sneakers to \_\_\_ them.
4. I bought my jacket at a \_\_\_ store.
5. My skirt is too long, could you \_\_\_, please?