

## SEQUENCE : LOOKS, FASHION & DIETS

### Final Task:

On a teenager's website you read this message from a girl who is asking for help :

**I am just so fat and ugly. :**

I am crying. I honestly cannot take another look at myself in a mirror. I am 1.64 cm and weigh 60 kg. It's disgusting, my thighs are so big and my stomach isn't flat. Going anorexic is definitely considered at this point. My face has acne and my hair is so boring. I wear stupid glasses. This is how I am going to be for the rest of my life, a 'nobody', a loser, and I'll probably end up marrying no one because I'll never be good enough. Does anyone know what I mean?

Angela, 16, Waco TX

Write a letter to this girl to cheer her up and give her advice. (200 words)

Grammar:

- comparatif - superlatif
- intensifieurs (too / so / such)
- conseil (should / ought to...)

Vocabulary :

- l'apparence physique
- la mode
- se conformer ou pas à la société



### 1. Ugly Betty

Objectif : Amener la thématique et poser le problème - susciter l'attention des élèves par un biais actuel et proche d'eux - mobiliser et enrichir le lexique - la caractérisation des personnages (showing) : accès à l'implicite - entraîner à la CO (vidéo) - entraîner à l'expression écrite - objectif grammatical : intensifieurs - entraînement (limité) à l'expression orale: attitudes à associer à ce qu'on dit

#### 1er Extrait (00'00 - 01'45) Introducing Betty

- Watch and be ready to sum up what you have seen in your own words. (facts)

*Betty Suarez is in a waiting room. A woman sits down next to her and they chat. Then Betty has a lively discussion with a man who dismisses her. He tells her to leave.*

## Séquence "Looks, Fashion & Diets" - Niveau B1+

- Observe the characters and describe them as much as you can (physical appearance and attitude) - En groupe puis mise en commun -

	Betty	Woman	Man
Physical appearance	<i>Wears glasses and braces. Not trendy / not fashionable / out of fashion / old-fashioned not very pretty</i>	<i>An Amazon (strong and powerful) stylish / elegant / chic / flawless (sans défaut)</i>	<i>Professional Suit</i>
Attitude	<i>Looks nervous at first. Keeps smiling in a silly way She initiates the conversation with her neighbour.</i>	<i>Plays with her phone disdainful / condescending / contemptuous haughty / scornful</i>	<i>horrified / disgusted/appalled a weird / bizarre gaze - look snobbish</i>

2

- Concentrate on what is said to find out what the characters are talking about.

Betty compliments the woman on her poncho and says her dad brought one back from Guadalajara for her. She answers by saying her poncho comes from Milan from the Dolce & Gabbana Fall Collection in a scornful manner.

The man claims all positions have been filled and that she was asked to come here because of a mistake. He is quite snobbish too.

She is trying to talk the employer into hiring / choosing her, but/however/yet she's being refused / turned down/ rejected. (why ? probably because of what she looks like)

Betty looks disappointed / lonely / sad.

En cas de difficulté, prévoir une liste de mots :

mobile phone - fashion - poncho - Milan - Chanel - Dolce & Gabbana - mistake - Paris - books - magazines - career - position

SCRIPT :

Betty: I like your poncho. My dad got me one in Guadalajara.

X1: Milan. Dolce & Gabbana. Fall.

X2: Betty Suarez?

B: Hi. That's me. Um, I have a hard copy of my resume if you need it. Should I follow you?

X2: Actually...there's been a mistake.

B: A mistake?

X2: All the entry-level positions we were hiring for...They've been filled. I am sorry.

B: Um, sir? While you got me here, I thought I could tell you a little about myself. Magazines are my passion, ever since I was a kid, and I can't imagine a more amazing place to start my career than Meade Publications. I know most of your magazines inside out. I try to devour as much as I can.

X2: Clearly.

B: Also, I've learned so much through them.. You know, stuff so beyond my world, like- like who the up-and comers are on the London art scene, or- or what the political machinations in Darfur are all about, or which Bali Resort is considered the most romantic in the world. And I have tons of ideas. I'm always jotting stuff down on the subway. But I'm getting ahead of myself, sir. All I really want is a chance...

X2: Good-bye!

B: ...in any position or publication-I can type 100 words a minute!

## Séquence "Looks, Fashion & Diets" - Niveau B1+

- h/w : Apprendre ce qui est dit et surtout respecter les attitudes pour jouer **la 1ère partie de la scène**. Tirer au sort les rôles une fois en classe. Entraînement en classe en groupe de 3.

### ✚ 2ème Extrait (06'32 - 08'43): First Day at Work.

#### ➤ 1. 06'32- 06'53

Watch and take notes of the words you understand. Be ready to sum up what you have understood in your own words.

*Meade publication calls her back to let her know that they decided / made up their mind to hire her as the assistant of the editor in chief of MODE Magazine, which is a fashion magazine. How unexpected as all positions had been filled!*

*Justin, Betty's nephew, asks her if / whether she has something to dress fashionably and she surprisingly replies that she actually does.*

Si nécessaire donner le script avec des trous à compléter (surtout à la fin)

SCRIPT

J: Hello? Some guy from **Mead Publications**.

B: Mead? This is Betty Suarez. Are you serious? Yeah! I- yeah, of course I-I can **start tomorrow**. Um, what **magazine** is this for? **Mode?** Yeah, I'll be there first thing in the morning. Okay, thank you, Bye. **Assistant to the editor in chief!**

J: I didn't know you wanted to work for "Mode".

B: Well, this wouldn't have been my first choice, but...if I do good here, I can go anywhere in the company.

J: **Well, just try and dress fashionably. Do you have anything?**

B: **Actually, I do.**

#### ➤ Objectif grammatical : intensifieurs. Transformer les phrases.

This is a great job! What a great job! It's such a great job!

Betty looks old-fashioned! How old-fashioned she looks! She looks so old-fashioned!

- What / Such + GN

- How / So + Adjectif (+ article + GN) / too + adjectif

Traduire : Betty est une fille tellement laide / Daniel est méchant / Justin est un garçon trop jeune

h/w: exercices 2nde

#### ➤ 2. 06'53 > 08'43

- TV retournée pour le début - Listen to the reaction and imagine what happens.

*A woman says "OMG", which means that Betty must be wearing something ugly/ that is not fashion/dreadful*

*Amanda's reaction: surprise, astonishment, amazement. Her jaw drops.*

- TV normal, avec son - Let's check!

*Amanda: she makes fun of /laughs at Betty owing to her clothes, more specifically her poncho, on which Guadalajara is written/splashed across the front. (Mexican City). Whereas Betty must have thought she was trendy (previous passage).*

One group : Compare the two girls physically.

One group : Take notes on what is said (script à trous si nécessaire)

## Séquence "Looks, Fashion & Diets" - Niveau B1+

- Mise en commun

AMANDA	BETTY
<i>Blond</i> <i>Fashionable trendy classy</i> <i>Beautiful gorgeous sexy pretty attractive</i> <i>Thin well-shaped slender skinny</i> <i>Make up - plucked eyebrows</i>	<i>Brunette - brown-haired</i> <i>Braces glasses - Bushy eyebrows</i> <i>Ugly clothes</i> <i>overweight plump(?)</i> <i>no make up</i> <i>ugly / hideous / repulsive / dreadful / unattractive</i>

4

*Amanda is surprised to find out that Betty works for the new editor in chief. She is also taken aback to find out it's Betty's first real job when she was told she didn't have enough experience.*

- **h/w:** Ecrire un paragraphe pour contraster les deux personnages WHEREAS / CONTRARY TO / UNLIKE...

### SCRIPT

Amanda: Oh, my god. Hi. You the "before"? Before and after- the photo shoot. Are you delivering something?

B: Oh, no! No. I-I work here.

A: For?

B: For the new editor in chief.

A: So everyone's in the conference room, and Daniel's about to start his first staff meeting. I'm Amanda, by the way.

B: Betty.

A: Okay, F.Y.I., Betsy, assistants are usually here before their bosses.

B: Oh, well, I was filling out paperwork in H.R.

A: Yeah, just don't let it happen again. So, uh, where do you come from?

B: Queens.

A: What job did you have?

B: Oh, actually, apart from internships and part-time jobs to pay for school, this is my first real job.

A: That's funny. I was told I didn't have enough experience for the position. It's over there.

### 🚩 3ème Extrait (08'43-09'20 + 10'52-10'57) : People Making Fun of Betty.

- **1. Watch:** take notes of what she says and compare it to how she actually behaves.

*"You are an attractive, intelligent, confident business woman"*

*== > She is trying to reassure / cheer herself up*

*Although she says she is an attractive, intelligent, confident business woman, she doesn't see/pay attention to the glass wall and hits it so she is still awkward and has a long way to go before fulfilling her wish/dream. She is wobbly / shaky/ unstable on her heels (not used to it)*

*She trips on her heels and falls flat on her face : people chuckle / giggle*

### **People's Reactions?**

*They laugh out loud / burst in laughs and look at her as if / as though she were sick/contagious.*

*People are reluctant to talk to her.*

## Séquence "Looks, Fashion & Diets" - Niveau B1+

- **2. What's funny here?**

*Marc tells / says to Betty, she has a killer poncho/ her outfit is outstanding. She replies thanks / she is thankful for his compliments and smiles.*

*HOWEVER, he is lying / being hypocritical, since he puts his finger in his mouth as though he were going to puke / vomit / throw up. Therefore, it can be interpreted as a way of conveying /expressing disgust/horror. He mimes vomiting as he walks past.*

- **3. Now, why was Betty hired? Réfléchir à plusieurs.**

*At first all positions were filled, she didn't dress accordingly and she doesn't have any experience! The thing is at least with her, her boss is very unlikely to fancy her! How cruel!*

➤ **h/w** : fiche lexicale : looks and fashion

➤ **h/w** : **Tâche intermédiaire** : écrire la page de journal intime de Betty. Elle s'est bien rendu qu'elle n'était pas comme les autres et le vit mal. (contraste + vocab + intensifieurs)  
Donner une fiche méthodologique sur l'écriture intime. Intercorrection possible.

## 2. Size Zero

*Objectif : Comprendre les faits essentiels et les principaux arguments lors de la présentation d'un problème dans un article de presse - réinvestir et enrichir le vocabulaire vu - entraînement à l'expression écrite- entraînement à l'épreuve orale-*

- **Description de l'image : situation, characters, feelings - Donner 10' de préparation (type bac)**

*A young model is proudly walking down the catwalk in a fashion show... She is very slim / thin, even skinny... Her eyes are closed and she looks quite proud of herself/self-satisfied... What is funny is that she is being watched by an audience of middle-aged women, all of them overweight, who seem to envy her ideal figure.*

- **A l'aide du tableau, demander ce qu'est l'équivalent de Size 0?**

*L'objectif est de comprendre quel serait l'équivalent en mesure française de size zero : il s'agirait d'une taille 30 ou 32, ce qui correspond en fait à une taille enfant :*

*There is no size zero in the chart because it does not correspond to any standard size... It would be the equivalent of sizes 30 or 32 in France, which correspond to children's sizes.*

- **Worksheet à compléter : CORRECTION**

**Part 1** A. 1. survey (l. 1) - 2. highlight (l. 1) - 3. bottom (l. 5) - 4. trend (l. 10) - 5. emphasis (l. 13) - 6. decade (l. 16)

B. 1. False □ "... 6 out of 10 thought they'd be happier if they were thinner." (l. 2)

2. False □ "There is no longer any emphasis on being individual." (l. 12)

C. 1. shock (l. 5) - 2. worrying (l. 10) D. The influence of the media

**Part 2** E. 1. slim (l. 28 / l. 37) - 2. advertise (l. 28) - 3. fashion designer (l. 31) - 4. link (l. 32) -

5. a large amount of (l. 33) - 6. weight (l. 33) - 7. lettuce (l. 36) - 8. design (l. 37)

F. If you want to be beautiful, you have to be thin / slim.

G. 1. anorexia (l. 32) - 2. bulimia (l. 32) - 3. death (l. 34) Accepter également : died (l. 35) - heart attack (l. 35)

H. The influence of the fashion industry

**Part 3** I. 1. however (l. 40) - 2. blame (l. 40) - 3. provide (l. 41) - 4. promote (l. 42/l. 45) - 5. naked (l. 43) - 6. shape (l. 43)

J. has started to change

## Séquence "Looks, Fashion & Diets" - Niveau B1+

- h/w: Entraînement à l'expression écrite: tâche intermédiaire : **According to Sophie Dyer, who is to blame for the size zero trend?**

*Sophie Dyer believes that both the media and the fashion industry are to blame for this dangerous size zero trend... She explains that the media make people fantasize about the "perfect" person (l. 12)... She blames them for persuading women that "slim equals beautiful" (l. 38)... It means that if they want to be trendy/fashionable, they must go on a diet... She thinks that the fashion industry is also responsible for brainwashing women into associating "true beauty with being thin" (l. 26)... She reproaches fashion designers with/for always using skinny models to advertise their collections... that is to say women who are larger and older than fashion models and who accept their body image...*

- h/w: fiche de révision lexicale

6

### **CORRECTION**

- A. 1. The survey shows that many teenage girls don't like their self-image.  
2. Ad campaigns try to persuade them that they must go on a diet to lose weight.  
3. She wants to be thin / slim. However, she wants to remain healthy.  
4. Children nibble in front of the TV and put on weight: it's a worrying trend.  
5. He thinks (that) he is overweight and wants to get thinner.  
6. She is always self-satisfied and proud of being trendy / fashionable.
- B. L'industrie de la mode leur a lavé le cerveau et maintenant elles veulent ressembler aux mannequins trop maigres qu'elles voient dans les défilés de mode.
- D. 1. découvrir - 2. faire la publicité de - 3. fournir
- E. fantasize about: fantasmer sur

### **3. Young fat and fabulous**

Objectif: entraînement méthodologique à la CE - avoir un point de vue ouvert sur la question en abordant des aspects opposés - s'entraîner à la tâche d'écriture en interaction - objectif grammatical (comp / superlatif + suggestion)

- **Préparation par le paratexte:**

press article by Kira Cochrane for *The Guardian* published on January 30<sup>th</sup> 2010 and entitled *Young fat and fabulous*.

- **Anticipation à partir du titre (donner un temps de réflexion si nécessaire)**

*This article is probably about young women who are corpulent but who are not bothered by their weight.*

- **1ère Lecture**

Lire en soulignant ce que l'on comprend. Etre capable de résumer à l'écrit ou de restituer oralement ce qui a été compris.

*This article is about Christina Lewis who is a corpulent woman. In spite of being bigger than the average/ideal woman, she is proud of her body and doesn't take the size zero trend into consideration.*

## Séquence "Looks, Fashion & Diets" - Niveau B1+

- **2ème lecture**

Retrouver des informations sur le personnage principal en surlignant les passages pertinents.

*Christine Lewis is a 24-year-old young woman. She works as a graphic designer and lives in Maryland. Even though she is a US size 24, she is not afraid to wear sexy clothes ("body- con miniskirt") or unconventional outfits ("PVC dress", "studded waistcoat").*

*She keeps a style blog.*

- **What is the impact of such blogs? Quote.**

*The fashion world never used to pay much attention to corpulent women. But now that more and more overweight women have created their own style blogs, the clothing industry is starting to take more notice/take careful note of what they say and how they feel about fashion because they represent a fair amount of potential customers!*

- **What does she mean when she says that she is "fat and fancy"?**

*When Christina says that she is "fat and fancy", she means that her corpulence does not stop her from being fashionable or from dressing smartly. "Fat and fancy" sounds a bit like a slogan meant to encourage fat women to wear what they want even if it means showing wobbly body parts.*

- Travail grammatical sur le comparatif et le superlatif + exercices  
cf fiches de 2nde à simplifier

- **Tâche intermédiaire en classe**

*Betty and Christina are friends and they chat online. Imagine their conversation.*

Cette activité se fera à deux. La feuille circulera entre les 2 élèves à chaque changement d'interlocuteur.

Fiche avec expressions de la suggestion / conseil

### **Final Task:**

*On a teenager's website you read this message from a girl who is asking for help :*

**I am just so fat and ugly. :**

I am crying. I honestly cannot take another look at myself in a mirror. I am 1.64 m and weigh 60 kg. It's disgusting, my thighs are so big and my stomach isn't flat. Going anorexic is definitely considered at this point. My face has acne and my hair is so boring. I wear stupid glasses. This is how I am going to be for the rest of my life, a 'nobody', a loser, and I'll probably end up marrying no one because I'll never be good enough. Does anyone know what I mean?

Angela, 16, Waco TX

*Write a letter to this girl to cheer her up and give her advice. (200 words)*