B2.1

UNIT 7

1. For questions 1-8, read the text below and think of the word that best fits each gap. Use only ONE word in each gap. There is an example at the beginning (0).

THE STORY OF JEANS

In 1853, a young tailor **0** ***from*** Germany, called Levi Strauss, began working in San Francisco. Levi sold thick canvas to miners; the miners used the canvas to make tents. **1**____ day, a miner told Levi that he could not find trousers that were strong enough for work in the gold mines. Levi decided to make some trousers out of canvas. Very soon, he had sold all the canvas trousers he had made. They were just **2**____ miners wanted!

However, the canvas was rather heavy and stiff. Levi began to look **3**____ a different material, and soon he found a heavy cloth from France; it was called *serge de Nimes*. Americans just called this *de Nimes*, and this name soon got reduced to denim. Denim was a bit lighter **4**____ canvas, but it was very strong; it was ideal for miners. Original denim was almost white, and miners did not like the color. Their denim trousers got dirty as soon as they began working. Levi Strauss therefore decided to use colored denim, and he chose dark blue. In 1873, he began to make denim trousers **5**____ metal rivets to make them stronger. "Blue jeans" had arrived!

Levi's jeans were so popular that his company got bigger and bigger. Soon, other firms were making blue jeans too. Miners liked them, but so **6**____ cowboys and other working men. Blue jeans became classic American working trousers. After the Second World War, jeans became popular all **7**____ the world. Today, blue jeans are made in many countries, but most of them in Asia. Very few jeans are now made in the USA **8**____ of the cost, but it is still possible to buy blue jeans that are made in San Francisco.

Article adapted from www.linguapress.com.

2. Fill in the gaps with the words below. Remember to put them in the correct comparative form if necessary.

cheap	**more**	**likely**
hard	**late**	**safe**
spicy	**rich**	**more**
late	**slow**	**happy**
more	**big**	**less**
good	**merry**	**easy**
loud	**likely**	**small**
long	**tired**	**more**

1. The _____ you study for your exams, the _____ you will do.
2. Carl doesn't really like rum, so the _____ the bottle you find, the _____ it will be for us.
3. My housemate is driving me crazy! It seems that the _____ at night it is, the _____ he plays his music.

4. After spending a year in Mexico, he got a taste for Mexican food. The _____ the food is, the _____ he likes it.
5. I don't mind if people bring their friends to my party. The _____ the _____!
6. He'll be really angry if he finds out that you scratched his car. The _____ he knows about it, the _____.
7. Karen has 5 large dogs to protect her house. The _____ the dog, the _____ she feels.
8. Earning money has always been the thing he likes the most. The _____ he becomes, the _____ he is.
9. You must drive slower in residential areas. The _____ you drive, the _____ it is that you will have an accident.
10. It is difficult to speak a foreign language at first, but the _____ you practise, the _____ it gets.
11. I don't like going out until really late at night. The _____ it gets, the _____ I feel.
12. When a person goes missing, it is important to find them quickly. The _____ they are missing, the _____ it is that they will be found.

3. Complete the text using the words in the box.

sloppy / neat / over-dressed / loose-fitting / dress code / under-dressed / casual / designer / tight-fitting / smart / outfit

How to dress for work

Like it or not, the way you dress at work is important. Of course, every workplace is different; some have a strict **1** _____, while others are more relaxed, and some require employees to wear uniforms or protective clothing, so there can be no universal rule. However, if you are unsure, here are a few good general rules to follow.

Firstly, unless you're told otherwise, you should probably wear reasonably **2** _____ clothes. This doesn't always have to mean a suit and tie, but think shirt and trousers, rather than t-shirt and shorts. Some workplaces may allow more **3** _____ clothes, but even then certain items like torn jeans or flip-flops may be prohibited. If in doubt, it's better to be **4** _____ than **5** _____.

Secondly, it sounds obvious, but make sure your clothes are the right size. Clothes that are too **6** _____ could look **7** _____ and create a bad impression. Likewise, an **8** _____ that's too **9** _____ could also look bad, as well as being uncomfortable for you.

Finally, remember that it's not a fashion show. You don't need to wear **10** _____ clothes every day. The most important thing is to be **11** _____ and presentable.

4. **Now it's your turn. What kind of clothes do you like to wear and why? Are you interested in fashion? Do you prefer to be stylish or comfortable? Write 140-180 words.**