Module 1

Crazy Mom’s Fashion

It started 20 years ago. One day, Jane Smith, a busy mom and a loving wife, went shopping for some new, trendy clothes because she wanted to look elegant in her sister’s wedding. The mall was too crowded, but she was determined to find something that suits her well. Unfortunately, after a few hours of searching, she couldn’t find anything. Hence, she returned home feeling exhausted, disappointed, and somehow miserable. In the mid-80s, few manufacturers made smart clothes for women over thirty. Mrs. Smith set on her sofa feeling gloomy. Suddenly, she came up with a brilliant idea. “Thousands of women in England have the same problem, and I will help them,”—thought Mrs. Smith. With very little money, no connections in the fashion world and a husband who thought that her idea was crazy, the ambitious and optimistic woman decided to start up her own business.

Jane designed her first collection of twenty clothing items which included different kinds of stylish rather than ridiculous outfits. Furthermore, she bought suitable material, like cotton, fur, leather, and wool. She also bought sewing machines and hired experienced tailors. The Smiths’ balcony turned into a workshop. When the collection was ready, Jane offered it to a famous chain of stores. To her surprise, they bought the whole collection at once. When they asked her about the name of her company, Jane looked at her husband, smiled and said: “Crazy Mom”. The collection was sold in a very short time—women liked Jane’s models. She had designed an elegant line of clothing. In a month, the manager of the chain ordered more clothes from “Crazy Mom” and Jane had to hire more people and find a bigger place for the workshop. The next step was opening her own shop at the central train station in Manchester.

Now “Crazy Mom” has 50 boutiques all over the world and it became a very well-known shop. These boutiques are extremely elegant where customers are treated in a very special way. Mrs. Smith has also decided to design a new line of clothing for men. Hence, Mr. Smith left his job as an engineer and became head of the company. “Crazy Mom” became a family business. Their four children also joined the company, and according to Jane, this is what makes the business so successful. “One day, we might also design clothes for teenagers,”—said Mrs. Smith.
I. Give the meaning or the opposite of the words and expressions in bold in the text.(3.5pts)

1- Determined: __________________________________________________________
2- exhausted :__________________________________________________________
3- miserable ≠ _________________________________________________________
4- smart: _______________________________________________________________
5- optimistic ≠ ______________________________________________________________________
6- “it became a very well-known shop” : _____________________________________________
7- “Mr. Smith became head of the company” : _______________________________________

II. Answer the following questions in a complete sentence. (12pts)

1. Why didn’t Jane manage to buy any clothes? (2pts)
   ________________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________________

2. What difficulties did Jane face when starting up her business? (3pts)
   ________________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________________

3. What special trait helped Jane succeed in her new career? (2pts)
   ________________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________________

4. What did Mrs. Smith do in order to start her business? (3pts)
   ________________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________________
5. Where did Jane sew her first collection? (1pt)

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

6. In your opinion, why did Jane decide to call her collection “Crazy Mom”? (1pt)

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

III. Fill in the blanks with the words in the box. Put the words in the correct form if necessary. (4.5pts)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>flower</th>
<th>wear</th>
<th>long sleeve</th>
<th>buy</th>
<th>matching</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>put</td>
<td>high heels</td>
<td>stripe</td>
<td>fur</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. It is really cold. I’d better wear a ________________ shirt.
2. Yesterday, my mom bought ____________________ shoes. I don’t think I can walk properly wearing them.
3. My friend enjoys ____________________ pants. They remind him of zebras.
4. My sister agreed ____________________ on her ____________________ top. She was finally convinced that it ____________________ her black purse designed with flowers.
5. My brother can’t stand ____________________ coats. He is an activist in animals’ rights.

IV. Rewrite the following sentences using the correct form of compound adjectives. (5pts)

1. Mr. Sam does a lot of work.

________________________________________________________________________

2. My neighbor is very attractive.

________________________________________________________________________
V. Fill in the blanks with the present simple or present continuous. (5pts)

Dear Ruth,

My name is Mary and I’m thirteen years old. I __________________ (to write) to you because I’ve got a really big problem and I __________________ (to need) your advice now. It’s about a boy from school, Nick. He’s a good-looking and fun-loving boy and we __________________ (to have) a great time together, but my mum __________________ (not / to like) him at all. The truth is that Nick isn’t a very good student. He ____________________ (not / to study) very hard but he __________________ (to dance) very well and he plays the guitar beautifully. In fact, he ____________________ (to play) with his group at a pub these days. Mum ____________________ (not / to want) me to be friends with Nick. You see, Mum ____________________ (always / to complain) that I can’t choose the right friends and this really irritates me.

So, dear Ruth, here is the photograph of Nick. ____________________ (you / to understand) why mum doesn’t like him? How can I make her change her mind?

Please help me!

Yours,
Mary