



STATE 4-H AWARDBOARD CLOTHING EVENT HELP FOR WRITING STAGE COMMENTARIES

Stage commentaries are the link between the 4-H'er and the audience. Commentaries tell about you and the special features of your garment as well as what you learned during the experience of either purchasing and/or making your outfit. Commentaries are brief and concise and consist of a minimum of 55 words and a maximum of 100 words.

Whether you are in Fashion Revue, Clothing Selection, or The \$15 Challenge, all commentaries will share some basic characteristics. These characteristics include:

1. An introduction with your name, age, and county. You may also include what school you attend and your grade.
2. A brief outfit description. Analyze the garment.
 - What is special about the outfit?
 - Don't forget the color, texture and design of the fabric!
 - If you are having trouble describing it, look at catalogs, magazines or pattern envelopes for ideas.
 - Use action verbs like "A row of beads accent the neckline" or "A belt circles the waist".
 - Use "models" rather than "is modeling" or "wears" rather than "is wearing".
 - Describe outfit details that the audience can see from a distance.
 - What is the fabric's fiber content? (For example: 100% cotton knit or a shirt made of 95% cotton and 5% spandex.)
 - Examples of specific garment terms are provided at the end of this document.
3. Include where you will be wearing the garment.
4. Describe what you learned. This can be in general or specific to your category. General ideas could include deciding on your wardrobe needs before shopping, comparison shopping, or looking at the suggested care before purchasing clothing or fabric. You may also include what you have learned from your 4-H experiences.

Below are specific examples for each category. Commentaries will vary slightly if you are in Fashion Revue, Clothing Selection, or The \$15 Challenge. Following are some ideas to include in each of the three categories:

Fashion Revue

- What new sewing techniques were used and in what area did you have problems? (Knowing that you took the sleeves out four times might encourage audience members who sew.)
- What alterations or changes did you make to the pattern?
- What is the fabric and why did you choose this fabric with this pattern?
- Look at the description on the back of the pattern envelope for a description of the garment.

Clothing Selection

- What did you have in mind or what were you looking for before you went shopping and did it change?
- What did you like about this outfit?

The \$15 Challenge

- Where did you buy your outfit? Was it a garage sale, consignment store or Goodwill type store?
- What did you pay for your outfit?
- How many garage sales or consignment stores did you visit before finding this outfit?
- What did you learn about shopping at garage sales, resale or consignment stores?

Example Commentaries

Practice reading stage commentaries aloud. Use an easy-listening slow pace when reading commentaries; do not rush. Edit commentaries so they are concise and informative to hold the audience's interest. Have the words selected painted a picture of the outfit?

“Jane Doe of YYY County, models a colorful polka dot sundress to complement her bubbly and fun personality. The constructed black 100% cotton sundress features purple, orange, pink and yellow polka dots. An orange ribbon circles her waist for contrast. The circle skirt falls in graceful folds and the fitted bodice has spaghetti straps. This was Jane’s first attempt at putting in a zipper. She credits her success to a seamstress friend who was available for pointers, guidance, and encouragement. Participating in the 4-H Awardrobe Clothing Event and educational presentations has given her confidence to walk and talk with poise. Jane will be a senior at ZZZ this fall.”

“Here comes MMM County 4-H'er, John Doe, in his snazzy, blast-from-the-past suit. This outfit features a vintage jacket and matching brown slacks and was worn by John at his senior prom. The white shirt and brown tie compliment the jacket and pulls the outfit together. Simple brown shoes complete the look. His friends really liked this outfit and were surprised to learn he paid under \$10 for the pieces while they spent well over \$100 to rent a tux! John has enjoyed helping younger members in his club, doing community service projects and being on 4-H county council. This fall John will attend college with a business major. He plans to wear his “new” suit in college also.”

“Jennifer Doe of YYY County models an outfit with a layered look. Her pink tank is layered over a white tank and is teamed with a black vest and black pinstripe shorts. She accessorizes with black high heels and silver earrings with pink beads. Jennifer likes this outfit because the pink color stands out and gives it a fun look. Fabric care will be easy as all the pieces are cotton and polyester blends and can be machine washed and dried. She plans to wear this outfit to church, game days for sports and homecoming. Jennifer will be a senior at PPP this fall.”

Potential Awardrobe Clothing Event Commentary Garment Terms and Color Descriptors

COLLARS/

BODICE

Boatneck
 Button down
 Cropped
 Jewel neckline
 Pleated
 Princess lines
 Stand up

Warming up for winter
 Calling for
 Looking for
 Searching for
 Going natural
 Stepping out
 Stepping up
 Teamed with
 Traveling through
 Walking away

POCKETS

In-seam
 Patch
 Concealed
 Welt

ACTION

VERBS

Act
 Add
 Avoid
 Bank
 Beat
 Borrow
 Brand
 Build
 Buy
 Carry
 Catalog
 Classify
 Combine
 Compare
 Complete
 Compute
 Construct
 Color
 Cool
 Create
 Craft
 Dance
 Define
 Depart
 Disarm
 Discover
 Dive
 Divide
 Dress
 Enrich
 Enhance
 Exaggerate
 Explore
 Explode
 Factor
 Fence
 Fiddle
 Fish
 Flash
 Flow
 Fly
 Fold
 Fraction
 Give
 Glide
 Glitter
 Glow
 Goes
 Handle

TROUSERS

Ankle cropped
 Bell bottom
 Capri
 Hip-pleated
 Military

SKIRTS

A-line
 Asymmetrical
 Body skimming
 Elegantly edged
 Full
 Gathered
 Gracefully flared
 Handkerchief hem
 Knee-skimming
 Pencil
 Split

SLEEVES

Cap
 Dolman
 Gathered
 Kimono
 Pleated
 Raglan
 Ruffled
 Set in
 Three quarter

WAIST

Contoured
 Draw-string
 Dropped waist
 Elastic
 Empire/High
 Gathered

ACTION PHRASES

Stepping into spring
 Dancing into summer
 Diving into summer
 Jumping into summer

Hide
 Hold
 Indicate
 Initiate
 Inspire
 Job
 Jump
 Keep
 Know
 Leave
 Look
 Love
 Match
 Mix
 Models
 Maximize
 Move
 Multiply
 Offer
 Outline
 Overstate
 Pad
 Paddle
 Play
 Provide
 Pull
 Push
 Put together
 Read
 Romance
 Run
 Sell
 Separate
 Sews
 Shine
 Slide
 Shimmer
 Slow
 Spark
 Speed
 State
 Steal
 Step
 Stop
 Stress
 Sum
 Swim
 Take
 Team
 Wears

ADJECTIVES

Active
 Bold
 Boxy
 Breezy
 Brief
 Bright
 Brilliant
 Casual
 Chic
 Classic
 Classy

Comfortable
 Contoured
 Cosmopolitan
 Country
 Creative
 Deep
 Definite
 Detailed
 Earthy
 Embellished
 Fall
 Fancy
 Fashionable
 Fast
 Fine
 Flippy
 Floppy
 Fully
 Fun
 Gentle
 Glitz
 Graceful
 Harvest
 Heather
 Heavy
 High
 Hushed
 Innocent
 Inventive
 Jewel
 Light
 Luxurious
 Medium
 Mere
 Mild
 Military
 Misty
 Natural
 Novel
 Nice
 Obvious
 Ornamental
 Over
 Outrageous
 Pale
 Pearlized
 Pagoda
 Prestigious
 Primary

GENERAL DESCRIPTORS

Accent
 Accessorize
 Adds to
 Appeal
 Asymmetrical
 Back to nature
 Big, bold, & bright
 Bling
 Bright & breezy
 Bright & swingy
 Bright woven accents
 Casual
 Challenge
 Chic
 Classic
 Closure
 Combo to inspire
 Compliment
 Construct
 Coordinate
 Country clothes
 Country pattern
 Creative
 Dancing dream
 Day to night
 Daybreak fresh

Decorate	Touch of	<u>COLORS &</u>	Tan	Coral
Design	sophistication	<u>COLOR PHRASES</u>	Tropical tan	Cotton candy pink
Dressed up to go	Trendy	<i>Blues</i>	Walnut	Country rose
Effortless grace	Unique	Aqua		Cranberry
Elegant	Unmistakably	Aquamarine	<i>Greens</i>	Crimson
Embellish	feminine	Azure	Acid	Fire engine
Enchant	Unusual	Baby	Apple	Fuschia
Enduring look	Upbeat spirit	Blueberry	Army	Garnet
Enhance	Varsity victory	Cobalt	Avocado	Geranium
Fashion	Warm & natural	Enamel	Blue-green	Magenta
components		Indigo	Cactus	Oxblood
Fashion package	<u>PATTERNS &</u>	Lapis	Celery	Paisley pink
Fashionable	<u>FABRICS</u>	Navy	Curry	Pink
Fast moving colors	Abstract	Peacock	Emerald	Plum
Festive	Batiste	Persian	Forest	Raspberry
Flatter	Braided	Royal	Grass	Rocket red
Flounce	Brocade	Teal	Jade	Rose
Gleaming	Buffalo checks	Turquoise	Jasper	Ruby
Gracefully flared	Chambray	Sky	Kelly	Shocking pink
High flying style	Checks	Wedgwood	Lime	Strawberry
Highlight	Chiffon		Lowden	Tea rose
Jazz age	Color-blocked	<i>Black/Gray</i>	Malachite	Watermelon
Jazz up everything	Country garden	Anthracite	Mint	Wine
Jewels of fashion	Crocheted	Basic	Moss	
Legacy of elegance	Denim	Charcoal	Olive	<i>White</i>
Light as silk	Embroidered	Coal	Pea-green	Alabaster
Lighthearted outlook	Fleece	Coffee	Sea-green	Almond
Masterpiece of detail	Floral	Dusty	Sage	Antique
Modeling	Gauze	Gunmetal	Shamrock	Bleached
Modern	Georgette	Jet	Spruce	Bright
Modern romantic	Herringbone	Matte	Tealeaf	Cotton
One of a kind	Knitted	Midnight	Wintergreen	Frosted
Outfit	Lacy	Misty gray	Yellow-green	Ivory
Pastel	Paisley	Pewter	<i>Orange</i>	Lily
Polished	Plaid	Raindrop silver	Apricot	Milk/Milky
Preppy	Polka dot	Silver	Burnt	Pearl
Pulled together look	Printed	Slate	Carrot	Snowflake
Rare	Silky	Taupe	Flame	Snow
Reflection of good	Striped		Peach	Vanilla
taste	Stylized	<i>Browns</i>	Pumpkin	
Rough & ready	Tapestry	Allspice	Rust	<i>Yellow</i>
combo		Auburn	Tangerine	Amber
Sassy	<u>COLOR</u>	Autumn		Bronze
School girl look	<u>DESCRIPTIONS</u>	Bay	<i>Purple</i>	Brass
Sense of rhythm	Chromatic	Bark	Amethyst	Buttercup
Set for action	Color sliced	Beige	Blackberry	Camel
Shades that conquer	Color spliced	Camel	Eggplant	Cream
Shimmering	Cool	Caramel	Grape	Crocus
Silhouette of	Crayon bright	Chestnut	Iris	Dandelion
Simple &	Crisp	Chocolate	Lavender	Gold
straightforward	Deep	Cinnamon	Lilac	Honey
Slimmest of slim	Dynamite color	Copper	Mauve	Lemon
Smashing look	Fresh	Ecu	Orchid	Mustard
Soft, natural, &	Jewel tone	Ginger	Plum	Saffron
luxurious	Light	Khaki	Plum wine	Spun-gold
Spanning the	Lively	Mahogany	Prune	Sunshine
seasons	Pastels	Mocha	Violet	Tiger-eye gold
Sparkly	Plaid	Nut		Topaz
Special	Preppy colors	Nutmeg	<i>Reds/Pinks</i>	
Spice of the season	Stimulating	Pecan	Brick	
Stitched	Striped	Pumpkin	Burgundy	
Stunningly bold	Stripes	Rust	Cherry	
Stylish	Subdued pastels	Sand	Cherry blossom	
Timeless quality	Warm	Spice brown	Claret	