STATE 4-H AWARDROBE 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.

   - 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
- 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

**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
- Expode
- Factor
- Fence
- Fiddle
- Fish
- Flash
- Flow
- Fly
- Fold
- Fraction
- Give
- Glide
- Glitter
- Glow
- Goes
- Handle

**PANTS**

- Ankle cropped
- Bell bottom
- Capri
- Hip-pleated
- Military
- Action
- Phrases
- Stepping into spring
- Dancing into summer
- Diving into summer
- Jumping into summer
- Warming up for winter
- Calling for
- Looking for
- Searching for
- Going natural
- Stepping out
- Stepping up
- Teamed with
- Traveling through
- Walking away

**SKIRTS**

- A-line
- Asymmetrical
- Body skimming
- Elegantly edged
- Full
- Gathered
- Gracefully flared
- Handkerchief hem
- Knee-skimming
- Pencil
- Split
- 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
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- Expode
- Factor
- Fence
- Fiddle
- Fish
- Flash
- Flow
- Fly
- Fold
- Fraction
- Give
- Glide
- Glitter
- Glow
- Goes
- Handle

**GENERAL DESCRIPTORS**

- Accent
- Accessorize
- Adds to
- Appeal
- Asymmetrical
- 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

**ADJECTIVES**

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