



# READ & DISCUSS

## The Sandal



Shoes have one of the longest histories of any of the clothing items that we still wear in modern times. While it cannot be pinpointed to a specific place or time, paintings from Egypt to China and various other early civilizations indicate that some form or replica of shoes existed back in ancient times already. Depending on the climate, people either simply strapped leaves around their feet if they were in warm, temperate regions, or they wrapped their feet, ankles, and calves in animal skins if they were in colder regions with harsher terrains.

Today, one of the most commonly worn footwear items in warm areas is the sandal. Easily slid on and comfy as hell, it can be decorated with impressive accessories to give it more class for a more formal situation, or it can be made with a plain, simple design reflecting eloquence; it all depends on the maker and wearer's culture and taste. Amongst youngsters and many hippies, a sandal commonly referred to as the "Jesus Sandal" is one of the trendiest footwear items today and is considered a must-have, followed by the deeply beloved flip-flop that gained ground in the 1960s. Simplistic, hassle-free, comfortable, and versatile, the flip-flop is the 20<sup>th</sup> century's top go-to shoe, with prices ranging from \$27 - \$45 dollars for a single pair!



## Follow-up & Discussion Questions

1. Do you own a pair of sandals?
2. How often do you wear sandals?
3. What footwear item do you consider a “must-have” where you come from?
4. Do you think flip-flops should only be worn at home or can we wear them when we go out?
5. How much are you prepared to pay for a pair of flip-flops?
6. How would you explain “hassle-free” to someone?
7. Do you have any other hassle-free shoes besides sandals?



*This can be a teacher-student discussion, pair work or a group discussion.*

