

Task: A friend from Britain has sent you this article from the *Independent*, in which fashion magazine editors defend themselves against criticism, because she is interested in your opinion on the subject. Referring to the article, write an E-mail to your friend giving your reaction to the views and ideas expressed in the article. (200 words)

Toothpick models: the fashionistas fight back

Mag editors are under fire for promoting thinness. And they're not having it

By Katy Guest

Fashion editors bared their teeth and bit back yesterday after the former *Marie Claire* editor Liz Jones criticised glossy magazines for promoting images of emaciated models to vulnerable girls.

Following similar comments by the author, who has struggled with an eating disorder, targeted editors of such fashion magazines as *Vogue*, *Elle* and *Glamour*: "Unless they promote women as toothpicks, they will lose their charm-

of *Grazia*, told *The Independent on Sunday*: "A person with anorexia has loads more issues than just wanting to look like a model. It

agreed: "I don't think it probably helps to see painfully thin girls, but your self-

image comes from so many more social factors than merely looking at a magazine with a celebrity who just happens to be thin."

Several notable editors among Ms Jones's specific targets were reluctant to talk about."

However, in an interview with Ms Jones last year, she defended *Vogue's* policy. "I think I am realistic and pragmatic. If you buy a magazine, fashion magazine, like mine, any comment to make," she said simply: "I don't have a comment to make."

Alexandra Shulman, editor of *British Vogue*, said yesterday: "I've not done look at a world of glamour."



Brton Lilly Cole is among the new breed of even skinnier models MATT DUNHAM/REUTERS