SHOPPING

"Happiness is not in money, but in shopping."

Marilyn Monroe (1926 – 1962), American actress

1. Shopping Discussion

1. Do you like shopping? Or is it torture?
2. What do you like shopping for?
3. What don't you enjoy shopping for?
4. What are your favourite shops? Why are they your favourite?
5. Do you prefer to shop in large retail chains or in local independent shops? What are the pros and cons of each?
6. Does it make you feel happy when you buy something?
7. Have you ever bought something and then never really used it? What was it and why didn't you use it?
8. Should people only ever buy what they need? Why or why not?

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2. Shopping Vocabulary

- **sale** (noun) – *a period of time in a shop when there are many discounted items.*
- **to haggle** (verb) – *to negotiate a better price (informal).*
- **to shop around** (verb) – *to compare the price and quality of something in various places before making the purchase.*
- **shopaholic** (noun) – *someone who is addicted to shopping.*
- **to window shop** (verb) – *to browse items for sale without the intention of buying anything.*
- **bargain hunter** (noun) – *someone who searches for a product on sale at a cheaper price than usual.*

Using the vocabulary words above, complete the following sentences (remember to use the correct form of the word, e.g. verb conjugation or plural noun)

1. I'm just _____; I'm not looking to buy anything today, thanks.
2. William found a new Samsung TV at half the usual price; he's a really good _____.
3. She has over a hundred pairs of shoes; I think she's a _____.
4. In the bazaars of Turkey, it's customary to _____ to agree on a better price.
5. I do like this phone, but I'm going to _____ to see if I can find a better price.
6. In the United States, most shops have a _____ on Black Friday.

Shopping vocabulary comprehension questions

1. If there is a sale on, do you like to go to the shops? When is it traditional for the shops in your country to have sales?
2. When you shop is it customary to haggle in your country? Are you any good at haggling?
3. If you are buying an expensive item, do you shop around?
4. Why do people become shopaholics?
5. Do you like window shopping?
6. Are you a bargain hunter?

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3. Video: Real Life Shopaholic

You are going to watch a video by Only Human about an obsessive shopper.

Watch the video here: https://yourenglishpal.com/blog/esl-conversation-lesson-plan-shopping/

While you watch the video, answer the following questions:

Multiple choice

1. How many people in the UK have a compulsive buying disorder?
   a) 8 thousand *b) 80 thousand* *c) 8 million*
2. How old is Dipna?
   a) 20 *b) 30* *c) 40*
3. How much does Dipna earn per week?
   a) £500 *b) £600* *c) £700*
4. How does Dipna feel if she can't go shopping?
   a) angry *b) happy* *c) depressed*

Sentence completion

5. Dipna sees shopping as her best _____.
6. Dipna has more _____ that she could possibly wear.
7. Dipna cannot say 'no' when she sees something in a shop that she really likes because she is not in _____.
8. Dipna paid £_____ for an ugly pair of shoes.

Short answer

9. What does Dipna want to save up for?
10. Who does Dipna blame for her shopping addiction?
11. Dipna thinks she could overcome her shopping addiction by having what?
12. How does the presenter think Dipna is feeling?

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4. Shopping Conversation Questions

1. Do men and women have different feelings about shopping?
2. What are some typical things men like shopping for? What are some typical things women like shopping for?
3. Are you an impulsive shopper? Do you ever see something and think, "I've got to have that"?
4. What kind of pressure is there in society to buy new things?
5. How can we avoid becoming shopaholics?
6. How popular is online shopping in your country? Do you like shopping online? What do you buy online? What would you never buy online?
7. What effect has online shopping had on traditional shops on the high street?
8. How will shopping be different in the future?

5. Shopping Writing Task

Write about something you bought but never used (or have rarely used). Try to use some of the vocabulary you learned earlier in this class. In your answer, you could include some of the following topics:

- What it is.
- Why you bought it.
- Why you haven't (or have rarely) used it.

Alternative exam essay question

These days, people buy too many things that they do not need or want. What are the reasons people buy things that they will never use? What are the problems associated with this?

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