

READING COMPREHENSION PRACTICE

TRUE / FALSE / DOESN'T SAY

A. Read the article and tick A, B, or C.

The best shopping cities

Which are the best cities to shop in? Writer, Ellie Clare, has been to five cities around the world to find out. This week she writes about Paris.

I went to Paris in June. It's a lovely city for sightseeing at that time of year, but it's also a great place to find high-quality fashion. I started in the boutiques and visited all the top names, including Cartier, Chanel, Christian Dior, and Yves Saint Laurent. I've never seen such beautiful things, but they are, of course, expensive.

I bought some perfume and moved on to the huge department stores of Paris. **Two of the most famous** are Printemps and Galeries Lafayette and they are definitely good places to visit. One place I found **disappointing** was The Champs-Élysées. In the old days, it was a great place for fashion, but now there are too many fast-food restaurants, banks, airline offices, shopping centres, and cinemas **aimed at** tourists. Don't waste your time there!

After the shops, I tried the markets. One of the most famous places to find treasures in Paris is the flea market. There are three main flea markets and **they** are situated around the old gates of the city. I spent hours walking around these fascinating places and while I was there, I discovered the meaning of the name flea market. Hundreds of years ago, the royal family gave away their old clothes, but they were full of little insects – fleas, of course! One stall holder told me that the best time to find treasures at the market is before the crowds arrive, usually between 5 a.m. and 6 a.m. But that was a bit early for me. I was enjoying Paris night life too much! There are also open-air markets all around the city where you can buy flowers, clothes, pets, food and many other things. And if you want to buy a book, visit the rows of **bookstalls** along the River Seine. You can find some great bargains there, or you can spend hours just looking.

If you want to buy half of Paris or if you just want to walk around and look, you'll love the experience. Paris is a great place to shop!



1 Ellie went sightseeing in Paris.

A True ☐ B False ☐ C Doesn't say ☐

2 She didn't buy anything in the boutiques.

A True ☐ B False ☐ C Doesn't say ☐

3 She went to some department stores in the city.

A True ☐ B False ☐ C Doesn't say ☐

4 She recommends the department stores.

A True ☐ B False ☐ C Doesn't say ☐

5 She thinks the Champs-Élysées isn't as good as it was.

A True ☐ B False ☐ C Doesn't say ☐

6 She had something to eat on the Champs-Élysées.

A True ☐ B False ☐ C Doesn't say ☐

7 She bought something near the old gates of the city.

A True ☐ B False ☐ C Doesn't say ☐

8 You can buy flowers at the flea market.

A True ☐ B False ☐ C Doesn't say ☐

9 Ellie visited the flea markets early in the morning.

A True ☐ B False ☐ C Doesn't say ☐

10 It's possible to spend a lot of time looking at books.

A True ☐ B False ☐ C Doesn't say ☐

B. For items 1 & 2, choose the correct REFERENCE WORD. For sentences 3-5, select the right definition for the **words in yellow**.

1 "I bought some perfume and moved on to the huge department stores of Paris. **Two of the most famous** are Printemps and Galeries Lafayette."

kiosks

2 "There are three main flea markets and **they** are situated around the old gates of the city."

uninteresting

3 "One place I found **disappointing** was The Champs-Élysées".

especially for

4 "...There are too many fast-food restaurants, banks, (...) and cinemas **aimed at** tourists."

department stores

5 "...If you want to buy a book, visit the rows of **bookstalls** along the River Seine."

flea markets