

THE DUBAI SHOPPING FESTIVAL

A relatively new **addition** to the age-old tradition of global, national and local festivals, the Dubai Shopping Festival, or the DSF as it's more commonly called, is an event that offers something for everyone. It **lasts** for about a month, and takes place in one of the winter months every year.

What first began as a tourist attraction in 1996 is now a 1) of buying and selling that welcomes hundreds of thousands of visitors. Over 2,300 shops offer an enormous variety of goods at very low prices. 2) will find even more **bargains** at one of the most popular **attractions** of the DSF, the Night Souk. This is a big street market that is open from the afternoon till the small hours of the morning. There, it is customary for the shoppers to haggle with the sellers over the price of something, until both the buyer and the seller agree on a 3) price.

But the DSF is not only about shopping. There is a wide range of 4) that keep everyone in the family happy. Over the years, events such as a food festival, fashion show, carnival and a fireworks display have offered visitors an 5) experience. The festival 6) keep surprising visitors with new, bigger and better events every year.

The Dubai Shopping Festival is a fantastic family event that **combines** shopping with fun and culture, and brings people from the four corners of the world together. As the slogan of the festival says: "One Family, One World, One Festival".



1 Read the text and use the words below to fill the gaps.

- enjoyable • organisers • activities
- satisfactory • celebration • festival-goers

2 **RNE** Read the text again and mark the statements below as T (True), F (False) or NS (Not stated).

- 1 The DSF always takes place in the same month every year.
- 2 The DSF began as a way to make Dubai's shops more famous.
- 3 The first DSF was not very popular.
- 4 The Night Souk is a favourite with visitors.
- 5 The DSF offers different things to do every year.
- 6 A family pays less to visit the events at the DSF.