

Look at the Learning to Learn box. Then do the task.

LEARNING TO LEARN: LISTENING

Understanding why listening is challenging

Many language learners consider listening the most challenging skill to master. The first step in improving your listening is to understand the reason why it's challenging. Sometimes, you might struggle with the pace or the speaker's accent; other times you might have difficulty with the grammar or vocabulary they use. When you're having difficulty understanding a listening exercise, look at the audioscript and ask yourself: Can I understand the listening exercise when I read the script?

If the answer is "yes," then you need more listening practice. The speaker is probably speaking quickly or in an unfamiliar accent. The more practice you get with different speakers and accents, the more you'll understand what you hear. Try listening again to parts that you find difficult, and follow along on the audioscript. Then listen again without reading.

If the answer is "no," then the challenge is in the grammar and vocabulary. As you learn more grammar and vocabulary, you'll be able to understand more of what you hear. Try writing down language you don't understand as you listen. Then look up unfamiliar words and try to figure out what's going on grammatically.

Think about the listening you did in Exercises 2 and 3. Answer the questions.

- 1 Which parts did you find more difficult to understand?
- 2 When you read Audioscript 7.2 on pages 100–101, do you understand everything?
- 3 Based on your answer to the previous question, do you need more listening practice, or more practice with grammar and vocabulary?
- 4 Can you think of three ways that you can get extra listening practice?

Vocabulary

Buying things

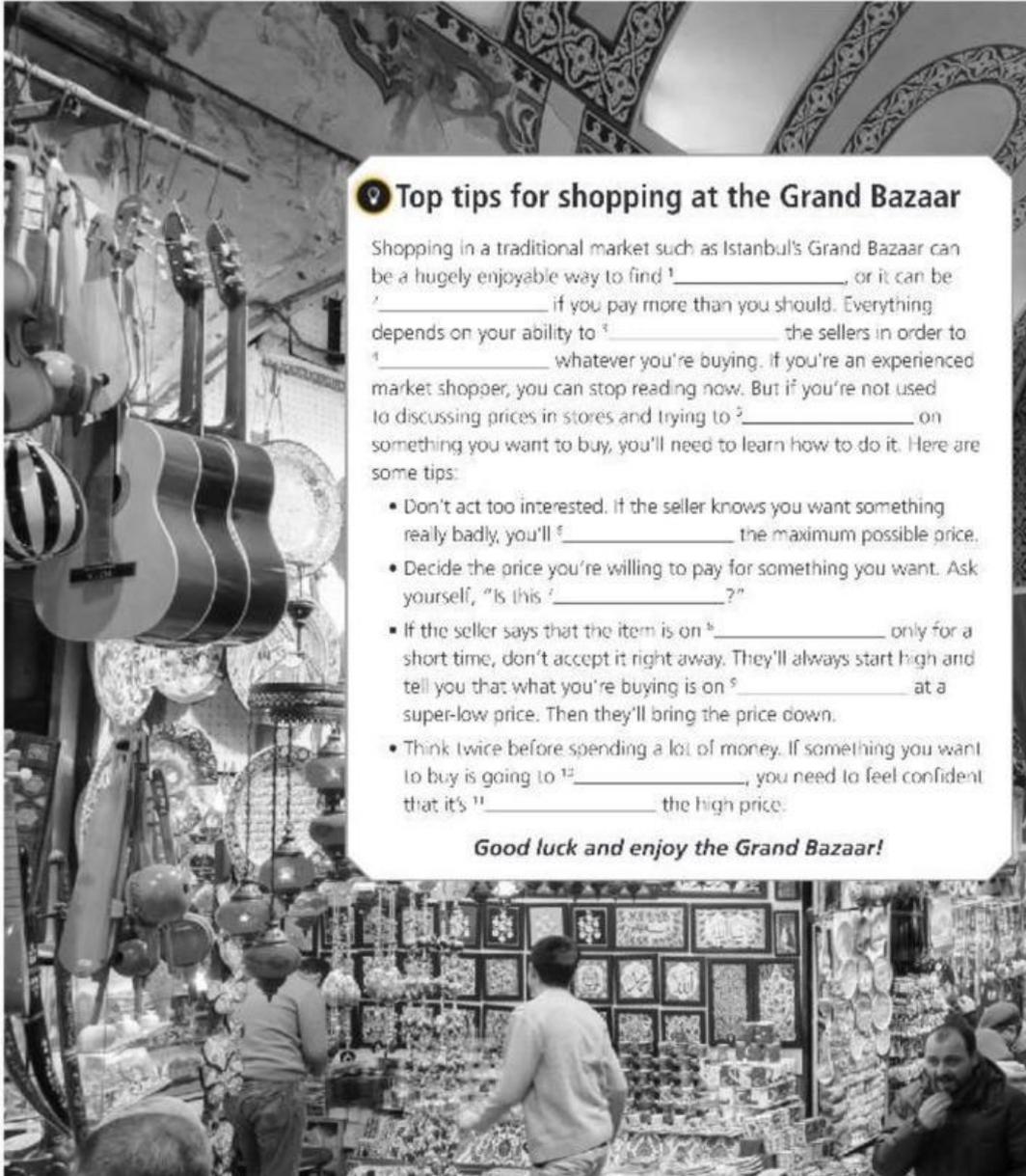
1 Replace the words and phrases in bold in the sentences (1–7) with the words and expressions (a–g).

- 1 Do you like to **discuss lowering the price with** shopkeepers?
- 2 These jeans are expensive, but they're **well worth it** because the quality is high.
- 3 **It will cost you** \$10 for each ticket.
- 4 These shoes **are ridiculously expensive**. They should be half that price.
- 5 Did you **get a price reduction on** your new bicycle?
- 6 The T-shirts are on **special offer** today—half price.
- 7 I love finding **something that's cheaper than the price you'd expect to pay**.

- a good value for money _____
- b get a discount on _____
- c you will be charged _____
- d bargain with _____
- e are a complete rip-off _____
- f a bargain _____
- g sale _____

2 Complete the text on page 63 with these phrases.

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| sale | a bargain |
| well worth | be charged |
| bargain with | special offer |
| get a discount | cost a fortune |
| a complete rip-off | get a good deal on |
| good value for money | |



Top tips for shopping at the Grand Bazaar

Shopping in a traditional market such as Istanbul's Grand Bazaar can be a hugely enjoyable way to find ¹ _____, or it can be ² _____ if you pay more than you should. Everything depends on your ability to ³ _____ the sellers in order to ⁴ _____ whatever you're buying. If you're an experienced market shopper, you can stop reading now. But if you're not used to discussing prices in stores and trying to ⁵ _____ on something you want to buy, you'll need to learn how to do it. Here are some tips:

- Don't act too interested. If the seller knows you want something really badly, you'll ⁶ _____ the maximum possible price.
- Decide the price you're willing to pay for something you want. Ask yourself, "Is this ⁷ _____?"
- If the seller says that the item is on ⁸ _____ only for a short time, don't accept it right away. They'll always start high and tell you that what you're buying is on ⁹ _____ at a super-low price. Then they'll bring the price down.
- Think twice before spending a lot of money. If something you want to buy is going to ¹⁰ _____, you need to feel confident that it's ¹¹ _____ the high price.

Good luck and enjoy the Grand Bazaar!