

THE FUTURE OF SHOPPING

At present, it is a common practice to buy products by phone or online. Also, there are many channels with lots of infomercials that show the advantages of many kinds of products. All you have to do is to take your phone, have your credit card at hand and call a 1-800 number or a local number in your city.

With the advances in technology, there are no geographical limitations. You can buy anything in the WWW from any place in the world. In the near future, refrigerators will have sensors that will order from the virtual supermarket your milk, meat and other food items when the system detects that you have run out of them.

Credit and debit cards might disappear or will change their card format into implanted nano-chips under your skin or the iris in your eye. Those codes will be registered by special scanners and the data will be compared in an international database, so when you consume any product, or you enter some security areas, your code will be registered and recorded with the cost of your consumption and time you entered the building. All you will have to do is to place your hand on the sensor and open your eye in front of an iris reader.

Voice recognition might be another means to do your e-shopping. The system will recognize your order and will charge the cost to your personal account. The same system might be used to access your home, office, or security areas in official buildings. In the same ways stated above, you will be able to pay for everything you will consume: Pay-Per-View TV, phone, electricity, restaurants, and many other things.

In this sense, many things won't exist as they do at present. We won't use keys or codes to open doors. We won't need paper money and even bank buildings will disappear. We will be able to walk safely in the streets because the system will detect if we are nervous and the transactions won't be successful. These security measures will prevent instant kidnappings ("Millionaire Trips")

because the police will detect any attempt of robbery and they will find you by tracking your position with a GPS device. Shopping in the future will be the safest for you.

Task I. Complete the following statements with an appropriate option according to the text

1. According to the text, at present, we can buy products in many ways, EXCEPT:

- A) Shops
- C) TV Infomercial
- B) WWW
- D) Nano-chips implants

2. To buy by phone, you will not need:

- A) your credit card.
- B) a code or product name
- C) a chip under your skin
- D) an address to have the item sent.

3. With nano-chips implants, thieves won't be able to

- A) go shopping
- B) go home at night
- C) buy products through the WWW
- D) rob money from the banks.

4. The safest way to spend your money in the future is

- A) to use technology to replace paper or plastic money.
- B) leave your credit cards at home and carry them only when you really need them.
- C) carry only the cash you need, or distribute it in different pockets, in your shoes, and underwear.
- D) buy everything by credit.

5. In the future, the systems will NOT __ to charge you for your consumptions:

- A) recognize your normal voice pattern
- B) read a code from nano-chip implants under your skin

- C)** read your iris in your eyes
- D)** take ADN from blood samples and send them to a lab to approve your shopping