Shopaholics

We all like to treat ourselves occasionally and buy a new pair of shoes, a shirt, or some new CDs. But shopping can become an addiction. Studies show that 17 million Americans can't control their craze for shopping. That is about one in every twenty Americans.

Cindy Marshall is of those people. Cindy stole 3.7 million dollars from the company where she worked. She uses the money to pay for her shopping adventures. The following is a list of things she bought. Most of them she never opened and they remained in their original packaging or were in storage units: 32 cars, 1,200 items of designer clothing (all unused), four Rolex watches, and 600 Barbie dolls.

Cindy suffers from medicine condition called compulsive shopping disorder. She cannot resist the temptation to buy something, even if she doesn't need it. People with this addiction believe that if they shop, they are going to feel better. Cindy was arrested for stealing, and she is in jail now.

How to prevent uncontrolled shopping

- Do not use credit cards a lot. Keep only one credit card for emergencies.
- Pay for purchases with cash or with a check.
- Don't take a lot of money with you.
- Window - shop after stores are closed.
- Make a shopping list and only buy what is on the list.
- If you feel out of control, then look for help from a professional counselor.

1) What is the best topic from this passage?

a. Americans. b. Clothes c. Shopping. d. Shopaholics.

2) How many Americans suffer from compulsive shopping disorder?

a. 3.7 million. b. 32 million. c. 17 million. d. 1,200 million.

3) How did Cindy get money to pay for her shopping?

a. She worked. b. She found. c. She stole. d. She won lottery.

4) What did Cindy's problem?

a. She was sick. b. She never opened packaging.
c. She was poor. d. She cannot stop to buy.

5) What happened to Cindy?

a. She was happy. b. She was going to feel better.
c. She suffered from a medicine condition. d. She was arrested for stealing.

6) How to prevent uncontrolled shopping?

a. Use credit cards every day. b. Don't take a lot of money with you.
c. Don't pay for purchases with cash. d. Window - shop before stores are closed.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Answer the question about yourself

1. Do you like shopping?

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2. How often do you go shopping?

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3. How long do you take?

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4. How much do you spend?

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5. What things do you buy the most often?

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LIVEWORKSHEETS