

- **Answer the questions.**

- 1) What has already been the popular place to buy and sell?
- 2) What percent of town centre shops are now empty?
- 3) Where have all the shoppers gone?
- 4) When was The Oracle opened?
- 5) How many shops has The Oracle today?
- 6) When was The Burlington Arcade opened?
- 7) Was The Burlington Arcade one of the first world shopping centres?
- 8) How long is the Arcade?
- 9) Are The Burlington Arcade's owners going to modernize it?
- 10) What percent of retail transactions take place online?

- **Fill in the gaps.**

- 1) The Oracle costed \_\_\_\_ million pounds to build. Today it has shops from \_\_\_\_ different levels and covers over \_\_\_\_ thousand square metres. Shoppers can browse their \_\_\_\_\_ labels, have a \_\_\_\_ or a \_\_\_\_\_ in one of its 22 \_\_\_\_\_, cafes and \_\_\_\_\_ or even \_\_\_\_\_ a \_\_\_\_\_. With its glass \_\_\_\_\_ and riverside \_\_\_\_\_, The Oracle offers the 21st century shopping \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2) \_\_\_\_ George Cavendish, the man \_\_\_\_ built The Arcade, said it was for the sale of jewellery and \_\_\_\_\_ articles. Today shoppers can still \_\_\_\_ luxurious and unique \_\_\_\_\_ such as handmade \_\_\_\_\_ and silverware, precious \_\_\_\_\_ and even these golden slippers.
- 3) The Burlington Arcade and The Oracle are two very \_\_\_\_\_ shopping centres, but both are almost always \_\_\_\_\_. Experts predict that this is \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ as online shopping \_\_\_\_\_ more popular and \_\_\_\_\_ start to shop from \_\_\_\_\_.