



Choose the correct item.

SHOPPING IN JAPAN

Unlike millions of Britons, who will not know how much the Christmas turkey, child's bicycle and the January sales have (1) _____ them until the credit card bill arrives, the Japanese (2) _____ to settle up before they've even (3) _____ their shopping list.

The Japanese like to improve on every idea, even if the idea is cash. So they have been (4) _____ about the pre-paid card. It (5) _____ the bother of banknotes and it saves the Japanese (6) _____ the fear of being in (7) _____ to someone else. It (8) _____ with the convenient pre-paid telephone card and has (9) _____ through train ticket cards, taxi cards, and supermarket cards all the way to McDonald's hamburgers cards.

Few Westerners can understand why anyone (10) _____ want to give money to a supermarket or a department store (11) _____ by buying a pre-paid card. But credit companies are held in some suspicion in Japan. People have traditionally preferred cash and will happily stroll the streets with quite large (12) _____ of money in their pockets. The fact that street crime is fairly (13) _____ helps. Pre-paid cards are now as (14) _____ as chopsticks and twice as convenient. About 500 million cards were sold in the first five years after they became (15) _____.

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|-----|----------------|----------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1. | 1. priced | 2. cost | 3. charged | 4. lost |
| 2. | 1. select | 2. prefer | 3. enjoy | 4. desire |
| 3. | 1. written out | 2. written up | 3. written off | 4. written about |
| 4. | 1. eager | 2. keen | 3. enthusiastic | 4. exciting |
| 5. | 1. does out | 2. does out of | 3. does without | 4. does away with |
| 6. | 1. by | 2. for | 3. from | 4. of |
| 7. | 1. debt | 2. bill | 3. interest | 4. payment |
| 8. | 1. invented | 2. opened | 3. started | 4. introduced |
| 9. | 1. turned | 2. changed | 3. followed | 4. developed |
| 10. | 1. will | 2. would | 3. may | 4. must |
| 11. | 1. in time | 2. in front | 3. in future | 4. in advance |
| 12. | 1. sums | 2. savings | 3. deposits | 4. masses |
| 13. | 1. slow | 2. rare | 3. slight | 4. seldom |
| 14. | 1. often | 2. usual | 3. regular. | 4. common |
| 15. | 1. ready | 2. prepared | 3. available | 4. possible |

