



Student's name:

Book: Full Blast B1 - Units: 3 - 4a



Reading

A. Rebecca is reading an interesting article about impulsive shoppers.



Shop till you drop!



Pressures of everyday life have led people go on shopping malls to relax and shopping therapy has become a way of life for many people in the world. Countries like the USA have been witnessing the growth of consumers who virtually "shop till drop". Most of the shopaholics are women who spend a lot of their free time wandering around the malls buying anything from cosmetics to furniture. This has led to massive debt and large numbers of people living off credit cards. Overspending and debt lead in turn to extra pressures and depression so that shoppers go out and buy more to make themselves feel better. In this way the vicious circle continues and the purpose of shopping therapy has defeated itself.

But are consumers to blame? We live in a materialistic world and for many years big businesses have been spending money on advertising in order to persuade us to buy products we do not really need. Banks too, have been allowing people to borrow money they may never be able to pay back; these loans encourage them to keep spending.

Can we ever stop this cycle of needless spending and borrowing? According to some doctors, impulsive shoppers often have a low opinion of themselves and want to be surrounded by beautiful and expensive things to make themselves feel good. The only way to break this cycle is to help impulsive shoppers build up their self-confidence so they do not want to buy, buy, buy!

A. 1- After reading, choose the correct option. (6x2=12)

1. According to the text, who is likely to spend more?
 - a. People who wander around shopping malls.
 - b. Someone who is not in debt
 - c. Women.
2. Shopping makes shopaholics feel...
 - a. better
 - b. nothing
 - c. worse.
3. What does the term "vicious circle" refer to?
 - a. shopping till you collapse
 - b. spending, getting into debt, becoming depressed, spending again.
 - c. the use of credit cards.
4. What has had a bad influence on consumers over the years?
 - a. Big businesses advertising
 - b. Impulsive shoppers
 - c. The spread of shopping malls
5. How do banks contribute to overspending?
 - a. by giving loans
 - b. accepting credit cards
 - c. by helping to finance shopping malls.
6. According to the text, what might be a cure for impulsive shoppers?
 - a. getting medical help
 - b. improving one's self-confidence
 - c. trying to pay back loans.

A. 2- Now, read the text again and match the underlined words with a definition (5x1=5)

- a. to increase gradually: _____
- b. moving from place to place without a purpose: _____
- c. sums of money lent at interest: _____
- d. enormous: _____
- e. convince: _____

wandering

massive

persuade

loans

build up



Listening

B. Have you ever heard of a mystery shopper? You will hear a radio interview with John Eastman, a mystery shopper. The interview is in three parts. Listen and choose a,b or c. (12 p.)

Part 1

- 1. What kinds of businesses use mystery shoppers?
 - a. Any business that has customers
 - b. Only businesses that sell products
 - c. Any business that has a problem with its staff
- 2. What should you do if you want to become a mystery shopper?
 - a. Write e-mails to businesses
 - b. Register on a website
 - c. Attend a business and customer service course



Part 2

- 3. What is true about the job of a mystery shopper?
 - a. It's a full-time job
 - b. It's a part-time job
 - c. You can work on weekends only
- 4. How long does a typical job at a store take?
 - a. 30 minutes
 - b. A few hours
 - c. It's not mentioned

Part 3

- 5. What happens to the things mystery shoppers buy?
 - a. Mystery shoppers can keep them, but they have to pay for them
 - b. Companies give you the money for them and you can keep them
 - c. They have to give them back to companies
- 6. How did the waitress find out Greg was a mystery shopper?
 - a. She asked his wife
 - b. She used to be a mystery shopper, too
 - c. His wife said it by accident



Vocabulary

C. Rebecca loves shopping. Match these expressions to their meaning. (6p)

- "I like to shop around before I buy something."
- "I went on a shopping spree and bought lots of presents."
- "I usually tell my friends "Let's shop till we drop."
- "When I feel sad, I need some shopping therapy."
- "I also love shopping online."
- "My mom is definitely a shopaholic."

- A. buying things over the Internet
- B. someone who is addicted to shopping
- C. compare prices and quality
- D. go shopping believing it will make you feel better
- E. spend a short time doing a lot of shopping
- F. until we are very tired

D. You are reading a digital newspaper. Complete the headlines using the words from the box. (5p)

put off - get by - get away with - getting along with - put out

- a. Retired people try to _____ with a few dollars per week.
- b. Firefighters _____ the fire _____ before 10 pm.
- c. Donald Trump _____ the meeting with Kim Jong-un
- d. How to _____ murder? Final Season- all the details here!
- e. A few tips to help you _____ others, by Psychologist Andrew Jackson.

E. Read the following conversation between Rebecca and Jeff. Choose: "do" or "make". (8p.)

Rebecca: Ray was right to make / do an effort and study languages at university.

Jeff: Yes, he made / did the right decision. He always made / did very well at school and now he has made / did a lot of money as a translator at the United Nations.



Rebecca: Yes, I remember when we were all at school together. He made / did all the projects.

Jeff: Well, have you made / done any plans for the weekend?

Rebecca: Not really but I have to make / do some research for my final project at college.

Jeff: If you make / do up your mind, we can go to the movie theater.



Grammar

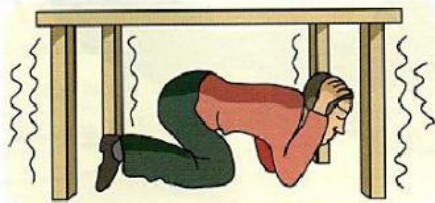
F. Read the following article about a teacher who became an extra in movies. Complete the article using Present Perfect Simple or Present Perfect Continuous. (10p)

From ex-teacher to extra!

Ex-teacher 34-year-old Adrian Jenkins _____ (make) a successful career as an extra and _____ (appear) in more than 40 feature films and TV shows. "I _____ (work) as an extra for over five years now, and I _____ (never be) bored. For the last two days, I _____ (do) a commercial for a bank - that finishes tomorrow. After that, I don't know - something will turn up. I _____ (just, change) my agency, and the new agency _____ (work) really hard to find me jobs. They _____ (show) my picture to lots of directors and, as a result, I _____ (have) plenty of offers. So you can see that I _____ (not sit) around at home watching daytime TV - even if I am in some of the programs.

G. Salta is an earthquake area so you have to follow some safety rules. Read the rules and choose the correct modal verb. (10p) (aquí se van a usar drop down boxes con dos opciones)

Earthquakes (1) _____ very scary and very dangerous. If an earthquake hits, what you (2) _____ to do is stay calm and keep the following tips in mind.



During an earthquake:

- Take cover under a table or a desk. If the table moves, you need (3) _____ with it. Otherwise, you (4) _____ seriously injured.
- You (5) _____. Just stay calm and encourage others to do the same.



After the earthquake:

- You (6) _____ anyone who has been seriously injured. However, if you (7) _____, you (8) _____ really careful because you may (9) _____ more problems to the injured person.
- If you (10) _____ back into your house after the earthquake, stay where you are until the authorities tell you that it's safe.

H. You are writing your end of year resolutions, complete them using the correct form of be going to, Simple Future or Future Perfect. (6x2=12p.)

Your predictions about your future

a- I think _____.

b- I'm sure _____.

Your plans or intentions for the future

c- I _____.

d- I _____.

Actions that will be completed before a specific time in your future

e- _____ by 2030.

f- _____ by the end of 2020.



Writing

1. There is a writing contest at your school, you have to write a paragraph expressing your opinion about one of the following topics. (20p)

1. Having a part-time job after school is a good idea.
2. Open-air markets are great places to shop.

Use linking words/phrases such as:

Firstly...To begin with... Secondly... Moreover...In addition...

Finally... From my point of view... The way I see it... Personally, I believe...