

UNIT 5: CONSUMERISM

VOCABS + SPEAKING

Exercise 1: Complete the descriptions. Use the words in the box.

DIY store	bakery	bookshop	butcher's
chemist's	greengrocer's	newsagent's	travel agency

1. You can buy meat in a _____
2. You can buy bread and cakes in a _____
3. You buy books in a _____
4. You buy newspapers and magazines in a _____
5. You book a holiday in a _____
6. You buy fruit and vegetables in a _____
7. You buy things to help you build and fix things around the house in a _____
8. You get medicines in a _____

Exercise 2: Choose the correct words to complete the story.

The department store in my town was having a **discount / sales / sell** last week – everything was 25% cheaper than usual. So, I went to find some **bargains / discount / sell**. I love buying things that are cheaper than they should be.

In the footwear and bags department, I found a lovely bag, with a 40% **up to / off / sale**. It had a two-year **fitting room / guarantee / receipt**, so I could get my money back if it broke. Then I went to the womenswear department and found some nice trousers on **sell / refund / special offer**. They were 50% of the normal price. I wanted to go to the **fitting room / queue / car park** to try them on, but there was a long **bargain / queue / sale** – there were about ten other people waiting – and I didn't want to wait. So, I went to the **cash machine / fitting room / toilet** and paid for everything.

When I got home, I tried the trousers on. They were the right size, but they didn't **fit / pass / suit** me at all – they looked terrible on me. So, I decided to take them back and ask for a **receipt / refund / return**. But I couldn't find my **footwear / receipt / shopping bag**, so the shop assistant said he couldn't give me my money back. Next time, I'll be more careful when I shop at the sales.

Exercise 3: Complete the phrases. Use the words in the box.

book	eat	go	meet	spend	take	try	watch
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1. _____ up with friends.
2. _____ bowling.
3. _____ out some money from a cash machine.
4. _____ a film.
5. _____ fast food.
6. _____ on some clothes to see if they fit you.
7. _____ a holiday.
8. _____ money.

Exercise 4: Do the advantages of online shopping outweigh the disadvantages? Choose the best words to complete the sample answer.

In my view, the main **advantage / disadvantage / positive aspects** of online shopping is that it is convenient – you can buy things in your own home, at any time of day or night. Another **benefit / drawback / negative aspects** is that online stores are often cheaper than traditional shops. **All things considered / Moreover / Overall**, they usually have a wider range of sizes and colours.

However, there are also some important **advantages / benefits / drawbacks** to online shopping. **First / Overall / Personally**, you have to wait a few days, or even weeks, for your shopping to arrive. **Although / However / What's more**, you can't try on clothes before buying them. **Because / However / In addition**, you sometimes need to pay extra for postage. Many online shops do try to **deal with / find out / add** the disadvantages by offering free delivery for any clothes that you want to return, for example.

For instance / Overall / So, I believe the benefits of online shopping **deal with / outweigh / suffer** the disadvantages.

Exercise 5: Complete the conversation. Use the words and phrases in the box.

another reason	however	in addition	in most cases	the main reason
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Examiner: Why do you think that shopping on the Internet has become so popular?

Student: Well, in my opinion, _____ is that it's so convenient. You don't have to leave your house to do it. _____ is that it's often cheaper. _____, there is a lot of choice online, so you can choose from a wider variety. _____, I still prefer to shop in a mall. I like to spend the afternoon with my friends looking at clothes. _____, it's better to shop for clothes in a mall because you can try them on before you buy them.

Exercise 6: You are going to do IELTS Speaking Part 2. You have to take notes your ideas.

Describe a time you went shopping to buy something, but you were not able to buy it.

You should say:

what you wanted to buy
when and where you tried to buy it
why you were not able to buy it

and explain how you felt when you weren't able to buy it.