## Hoarding and Panic buying

**LISTENING:** Listen and decide whether these sentences are True or False.

1. Shoppers in every world country are panic buying.
2. People are panic buying sanitiser but not food.
3. Governments said there is no need to panic buy.
4. Video of people fighting in an Australian supermarket is on social media.
5. FOMO means fear of missing out.
6. The psychologist said people are underestimating the risk of COVID-19.
7. Singapore's leader said the country has plenty of supplies.

**VOCABULARY MATCH:** Match the words to their definition.

**1.** Go viral
**2.** Stock up
**3.** Sanitiser
**4.** Irrational
**5.** In bulk
**6.** Herd mentality
**7.** Brawl
**8.** Spree
**9.** Footage

**a.** A behavior in which many, many people follow the actions of the group to which they belong.
**b.** Very large quantities.
**c.** A short period of doing something in an extreme way without control.
**d.** Not logical or reasonable.
**e.** Spreading very, very quickly over the Internet.
**f.** Buy many things and keep them for later use (especially in an emergency)
**g.** A liquid that makes things clean and hygienic.
**h.** A piece of film or videotape.
**i.** To fight in a rough, noisy, uncontrolled way.

**READING:** Now read the text and check your answers.



Shoppers are going on panic **buying sprees** over fears of the coronavirus. People in England, Japan, Singapore and Australia are emptying supermarket shelves of toilet paper, face masks, hand sanitiser and dried food. Governments have told people there is no need to "panic buy". They added that panic buying would reduce the supply of products needed by medical staff, which could **exacerbate** the problems the COVID-19 virus is causing. **Footage** of shoppers in Australia **brawling** over the last pack of toilet roll in a supermarket has gone viral across social media.

A psychologist said panic is an "irrational" behaviour. It is part of a condition called FOMO – the fear of missing out. A "**herd mentality**" sets in during disasters that make people copy each other. People see items being bought **in bulk** and immediately rush to the stores to do the same. People are overestimating the risks of dying from the coronavirus. A doctor said more people die in car accidents but we don't panic about this when we go to work. Singapore's Prime Minister reassured Singaporeans that: "We have ample supplies. There's no need to stock up".

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**READING COMPREHENSION:** Read the text again and answer the questions.

1. What kind of food are people panic buying?
2. Who said there was no need to panic buy?
3. What kind of mentality did a psychologist say people were exhibiting?
4. Who said his country had ample supplies?

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