

READING

Cyber Monday

Today is Cyber Monday here in the United States. No, it's not the name of a science fiction story. It's a day when there are special offers on shopping websites. More than 100 million people do online shopping on Cyber Monday and they spend nearly 2 billion dollars.

I'm not a fan of shopping and I hate the shopping centre. There are a lot of people and a lot of noise. But it's different on the Internet. You can look at different websites calmly and compare prices, all from your living room. If you surf the Internet, you can find what you want quickly and it's easy to pay. People don't need to worry about cash or change – you can pay with your credit card. Your shopping usually arrives at your house the next day.

Today I'm looking for a new top. There are lots of sweatshirts but not many jumpers. I want a jumper because it's autumn now and it's getting cold. I've got one jumper in my 'favourites' page but I'm waiting before I buy it. It's 20 dollars at the moment but I think I can get it for 10 dollars. Let's see

1 Read the blog post. Are these statements True (T) or False (F)?

- | | |
|--|-------|
| 1 Cyber Monday is a science fiction story. | T / F |
| 2 People spend a lot of money on Cyber Monday. | T / F |
| 3 The writer likes going shopping. | T / F |
| 4 The writer thinks online shopping is convenient. | T / F |
| 5 You can pay for online shopping with cash. | T / F |
| 6 The writer wants to buy a new sweatshirt. | T / F |

Score: /6

2 Read the blog post. Choose the correct alternative.

- 1 What can you get on Cyber Monday?
online shopping/special offers
- 2 How much do people spend on Cyber Monday?
nearly 100 million dollars/nearly 2 billion dollars
- 3 Why doesn't the writer like shopping?
She doesn't like the people./She doesn't like the Internet.
- 4 How long does your shopping take to arrive?
one day/more than a day
- 5 Why does the writer want to buy a jumper?
because it's cold now/because she's got a lot of sweatshirts
- 6 How much is the top at the moment?
10 dollars/20 dollars

Score: /6

The connected home

Welcome to the connected home. Everything here is connected and life is easy! There's a computer which is connected to your phone. The phone sends information about you and your things to your computer. Because you use your phone to control the house, you can control the lights, radiators, and even the curtains from another town! The connected home has all of the things that you usually find in a house, like windows, doors and furniture, but there's nothing normal about it. Many of the things are connected to the Internet to make your life more convenient. Your house knows when you're coming home, so it opens the door for you. When you walk in, it turns the lights on and if it's cold, it turns the radiators on. When you walk around the house, the computer knows exactly where you are and it does the things it thinks you need. For example, when you are in the living room, it can turn on the TV and put on your favourite programme. Or when you are in the kitchen, it can tell you what's in the fridge and it can recommend a meal to make with the ingredients you have.

3 Read the article. Are these statements True (T) or False (F)?

- 1 Your phone can't control the house.
- 2 You need to be in the house to control it.
- 3 The connected house looks the same as a normal house.
- 4 The house helps you when you come in.
- 5 You tell the computer where you are in the house.
- 6 The computer cooks a meal for you.

T / F

T / F

T / F

T / F

T / F

T / F

Score: /6

4 Read the article and complete the summary with one or two words in each gap.

The idea of the connected house is to make your life **(1)** _____. Your phone gives information to your house's **(2)** _____. You can control your house when you are in **(3)** _____. The computer can open the doors and switch on the **(4)** _____. The computer knows where you are in

(5) _____ and conveniently changes things for you. The computer even knows what you've got in

(6) _____.

Score: / 6

Jesse Owens

Owens was a black American athlete, born in 1913 in Alabama. He became a sports legend for two reasons. He was a brilliant runner, but he also competed in the Berlin Olympics in 1936. In those days, people didn't have the same rights as white people. The organisers wanted white athletes to win the prizes but Owens surprised everyone. He won four Olympic gold medals and broke three world records. After the Olympics, Owens returned to the United States and stopped running in competitions. He died in 1980 but even today people believe that he helped to change the world.

Billie Jean King

King is an American female tennis player, born in 1943. She played in matches and competitions between 1959 and 1990. She became famous when she won the women's doubles at Wimbledon in 1961 at the age of seventeen. She was also famous for her opinions on women's rights. She wanted people to understand that women and men are equal. So she played in a match with well-known tennis player, Bobby Riggs. He was famous for his negative opinions about women and women's tennis. King won the match easily and more than 50 million people watched it. She still fights for women's rights today.

5 Read the sports stories. Are the sentences about Jesse Owens (O), Billie Jean King (K) or both (B)?

- | | |
|--|-----------|
| 1 They are from the United States. | O / K / B |
| 2 They are not only famous for their sports. | O / K / B |
| 3 They were under twenty when they became famous. | O / K / B |
| 4 They won a lot of prizes in one competition. | O / K / B |
| 5 They stopped doing their sport when they were young. | O / K / B |
| 6 They are still interested in equal rights. | O / K / B |

Score: / 6

6 Read the sports stories. Are these statements True (T), False (F) or is the information Not Mentioned (NM)?

- | | |
|--|------------|
| 1 Owens was born more than a hundred years ago. | T / F / NM |
| 2 Black people had equal rights in the 1930s. | T / F / NM |
| 3 Owens wanted equal rights. | T / F / NM |
| 4 King played tennis for more than fifty years. | T / F / NM |
| 5 Riggs' wanted equal rights for men and women. | T / F / NM |
| 6 It was easy for King to win the match against Riggs. | T / F / NM |

Score: /6