

READING & VOCABULARY

NAME: _____

SHOPPING & THE INTERNET / VOCABULARY:

1) Complete the chart below matching the verbs (a- f) with the collocations (1 – 6):

- | | |
|---|--|
| a compare
b influence
c listen to
d run up
e try on
f access | 1 a bill
2 the conversation
3 a network
4 prices
5 the decision
6 a sweater |
|---|--|

a	b	c	d	e	f

2) Use the collocations in activity 1 to complete the following sentences:

- a** I like to _____ before I buy anything expensive.
- b** His children have _____ of over \$300 by surfing on the Internet all day long.
- c** When she asked to _____ they told her they didn't have one in her size.
- d** To _____ you have to obtain a user name and a password from the administrator.
- e** Did you _____ about restructuring in the canteen yesterday?
- f** What factors do you think will most _____ on salaries?

3) Complete the anecdote using the words in the box:

button came charge clicked complain crashed download
email message online pay reply security website

Why I will never buy anything on the Internet again

Ask most people how shopping will be in the future and inevitably they will mention the Internet. Well, the other day I had a bad enough experience shopping (a) _____ to put me off for life. I heard about a book you could download from a (b) _____ before it was published and sold in bookshops. As it was by an author I adore, I decided to investigate.

I found the page and read the information. They charged 30 euros for the (c) _____. Not a massive amount but you had to use a credit card. I completed the form with the endless details requested, including my (d) _____ address.

Finally I entered my credit card number, because they solemnly promised that there was no (e) _____ risk. When the payment was authorized – it took about a minute – a new screen appeared with a (f) _____ which said 'Download now'. I (g) _____ on the button but nothing happened so I clicked again. Then a (h) _____ came up saying 'Download suspended due to network overload. Please try again later.'

Finally the system (i) _____ and I had to turn off the computer. When I reconnected, the same forms as before (j) _____ up but I didn't want to risk paying again, so I wrote an email to the company explaining the problem. I never got a (k) _____.

I assumed that as I never got the book I wouldn't have to (l) _____, but when I got my credit card statement at the end of the month I saw the (m) _____ for 30 euros was there. It was too late to do anything and there was no one to (n) _____ to. Okay, so it was only 30 euros – no big deal – but the question I ask myself is this: why risk buying online when it amounts to what is basically an act of faith? In any case, it will be a long time before I try buying something over the Internet again.