



A **container** is something that holds food or other things. A container is also a type of plastic box that holds some wet foods like potato salad or olives.

1. What containers do you buy these things in? beans and tuna / chewing gum and rice / honey and jam / soda and water
2. A slice is something that people cut. What other foods go with slice?



2

Listening

Listen to this conversation in a small deli. Choose the best option to complete the sentences about what the customer buys.



1. The customer wants pasta that has a **butterfly** / **shell** shape.
2. The customer needs **three** / **two** cans of tomatoes.
3. The customer asks for **7** / **70** ounces of parmesan cheese.
4. The customer buys **black** / **green** olives.
5. The customer gets **four** / **five** slices of cooked meat.



Listen again and cross out the extra word in the sentences in bold.

- Staff:** Good morning!
- Customer:** Hi! ... Wow - what a great shop! ... There are so many different kinds of foods in here and they all look so delicious!
- Staff:** Well, we're only a small shop, but we try to give our customers lots to choose from. What can I help you with today?
- Customer:** I have a list here. ... OK, first, **I'm looking me for**¹a packet of pasta, but it's a special shape of pasta, like a butterfly.
- Staff:** Yes - that butterfly shape is called *farfalle*. They're just behind you, on that shelf at the top.
- Customer:** ... Oh, yes. I see them. Great. And **where can I to find**²the tomatoes?
- Staff:** Those are on the same shelf at the bottom.
- Customer:** Hmm. ... These are only half a pound, so I need two cans. ... Now, let me see - oh yes, **I'd like buy some**³parmesan cheese too.
- Staff:** Of course. How much would you like?
- Customer:** Can I have about 7 ounces?
- Staff:** Certainly. I'll just wrap that up for you.
- Customer:** Those olives look delicious. **Please you give me**⁴some of the green ones.
- Staff:** Yes. These are from Greece - they're really good. I'll put some in a container for you. ... Here - is this ok?
- Customer:** **Can ask I have**⁵a little more?
- Staff:** ... How about this?
- Customer:** **That's very fine.** Thanks. And **do you will have any**⁶cooked meat for sandwiches?
- Staff:** Yes, that's at the side here.
- Customer:** ... This kind looks nice. **I'll take up**⁷four slices, please.
- Staff:** Sure, I'll just cut those for you.
- Customer:** ... Perfect. That's everything!
- Staff:** Ok, if you come to the front of the shop with me, you can pay by cash or card.



3

Language point

There are several types of useful phrases for shopping face-to-face. Read the examples and tips in the boxes and complete the activities.

Asking for help finding things in the shop

- I'm looking for ... / Where can I find ...? / Do you have any ...?
- When questions start with a question word like *Where* ..., your voice goes **up** / **down**. Questions with yes/no answers like *Do you have any* ... are the opposite.
- **Tip:** If the shop staff are busy, start by saying, "Excuse me ..."

Asking for something at the counter

- I'd like some ... / Please give me some ... / Can I have some ... / I'll take ...
- In the expressions with *some*, you can use **plural countable nouns** like **tomatoes** / **uncountable nouns** like **cheese** / **both types of nouns**.
- **Tip:** if no one is at the counter, you can say this to another member of staff - "Please can you help me at the counter?"

Talking about amounts

- Containers: two cans / a packet / four slices
- Weights: half a pound / about 7 ounces / around 4 ounces
- Getting the right amount: a little more / a little less / that's fine
- When you ask for around/about 4 ounces, you get a **little more or less** / **the exact amount**.
- **Tip:** Sometimes it's easier to point to the cheese and say, "I'll just have that piece there." But only if it's a small piece!

Cover your paper. Can you remember two ways to ask for help finding things in the shop and two ways to ask for help at the counter?

Now, remember five types of containers.



4

Practice

Look at the dialogue - you can see what the staff member says. Add the customer's sentences A-H to the correct places in the conversation.

- Ok, I see. Those bottles are half a liter, so I'll get four.
- Can I have around 10 ounces?
- Lovely! I'll take three loaves, please. Where can I find the juice?
- That's fine. Just one more thing - can I have some blue cheese?
- Well, I'd also like some of that potato salad.
- Actually, I'll just have that piece there. It looks like the right size.
- A little less, please.
- I just need a few things. Do you have any fresh bread?

Staff: How can I help you today?

Customer: _____ 1

Staff: Yes, we do. It's in the basket on the floor.

Customer: _____ 2

Staff: There are some bottles in the cooler and some more on the shelf behind you.

Customer: _____ 3

Staff: Anything else?

Customer: _____ 4

Staff: Sure. How much? One container?

Customer: _____ 5

Staff: How's this? Is it too much?

Customer: _____ 6

Staff: And now? It's 11 ounces.

Customer: _____ 7

Staff: Sure. How much?

Customer: _____ 8

Staff: Ok, I'll wrap it up for you and you can pay at the front.