

SUPERMARKET SHOPPERS

You are going to read an article in which four people talk about their shopping experience. For each question choose from people A-D. The students may be chose more than once.

Which person

goes to the supermarket every two or three days? 1 _____

avoids buying the most popular brands of products? 2 _____

doesn't like to spend a lot of time in the supermarket? 3 _____

is pleased with a new service that has been provided? 4 _____

uses public transport when they go shopping? 5 _____

doesn't like company when they go to the supermarket? 6 _____

looks out for bargain prices? 7 _____

criticizes the behavior of some other shoppers? 8 _____

appreciates the opening hours of supermarkets? 9 _____

is sometimes in an uncomfortable situation while shopping? 10 _____

sometimes has a meal while shopping? 11 _____

had a frightening experience in the supermarket? 12 _____

dislikes shopping less now than they used to? 13 _____

organizes their shopping carefully? 14 _____

enjoys supermarket shopping despite how tiring it can be? 15 _____



A MELANIE ROGERS

For a mother of two young children, supermarket shopping can be an absolute nightmare. They get bored and restless and start to play up. It can be really embarrassing when everyone stares at you because both your kids are sobbing their hearts out. And if you're not watching them, they can take goods off the shelves without you noticing. Once I even managed to briefly lose my two-year-old. He'd wandered off down another aisle while I was comparing the prices on some items. I was frantic when I realized he wasn't by my side. Luckily one of the assistants saw him and picked him up, but it was a scary five minutes until I got him back. I'm glad to say that things have improved in my shopping center recently, as they've opened a supervised play area where I can drop the kids off while I shop, and pick them up when I've finished. It really makes life much easier.

B JULIAN KENT

I'm not keen on shopping with other people, because it always seems to take much longer, so I usually go on my own. Nowadays big British supermarkets are open all night, which is very convenient for me. I prefer to go as late as possible, when there are no queues at the checkout and I can get all my shopping done very quickly. I usually only go once a month and make sure I stock up on everything I'm likely to need. It means you have to plan all your meals, and you need to have a big freezer, but at least I don't waste my all-too-precious time going to the shops every couple of days. If I do run out of something, or realize I've forgotten something I need, then I'll grab it from the local mini-market. I try to make sure I don't have to do this too often, as small local shops are much more expensive.

C BOB CARTER

My wife and I retired ten years ago and we recently gave up the car as it was too expensive to run on our pensions. We get the bus into town once a week to do our shopping. We're not as fast on our feet as we once were, and some young people can be very inconsiderate, pushing you out of the way at the counters or losing their patience when you are not moving down the aisles as fast as they'd like. Others, of course, are very helpful and will give you a hand when they see you need it. Even though it can wear you out carrying all the bags, we try to make a nice outing of it. We'll treat ourselves to a bit of lunch at one of the cafés, or we'll go for tea and sandwiches at one of the nice tea rooms in the center. We actually look forward to our shopping trips!

D SALLY WALKER

I suppose I'm a bit of a scatterbrain, as I never seem to have what I need when I need it. This means that I end up popping out to the supermarket at least three times a week to get in more supplies. I don't mind, though, because unlike most people, I find supermarkets to be quite relaxing places. I enjoy wandering slowly down all the aisles, checking out any new products or searching for special offers. I always take a calculator with me, as I like to know how much I'm spending, and I prefer to buy the shop's own-brand products, because they cost a lot less than the big name brands. My kids complain that we never have the "proper" breakfast cereal or the "really nice" baked beans, but I just point out that it leaves us with more money to do the really fun things. I'm sure they know I'm right.