

DEVELOPING CONVERSATIONS

Making offers and checking

A Match the phrases in the box to their function.

Not at all	Would you like a
Thanks a lot	Are you sure
Thanks!	Of course
You don't mind	Do you want to
Do you want me to	

- 1 Making offers:
- 2 Checking:
- 3 Responding:
- 4 Accepting the offer:

B Fill the gaps with a suitable phrase from the box in exercise A.

- A: I'd like this please.
B: Have you tried it out?
A: Yes. It works fine. Could you pack it for me? It's going to travel on a plane.
B: ¹ bag?
A: Hmm, have you got anything stronger? I don't want it to break.
B: Well, we may have a box in the store room.
² have a look?
A: ³?
B: Yes. ⁴ I'll just be a minute.
A: Great. ⁵
C: Oh, no! Only one changing room!
D: Is that all you want to try on?
C: Yeah, it is.
D: ⁶ go first, then? I'll wait.
C: Really? ⁷?
D: ⁸ I'm trying on all these. Go on.
C: ⁹



GRAMMAR Comparatives

A Choose the most suitable phrase to complete the sentences.

- 1 They're a bit tight. Have you size?
a got them in a more bigger
b any in a smaller
c got some in a bigger
- 2 This chair's very hard. Do you?
a got anything less
b have anything more comfortable
c have a more soft one
- 3 I'm afraid we don't have that style any more, Madam. Would you like to try?
a something a little more modern
b a modern one
c less modern one
- 4 This MP3 player doesn't work very well. Can I have please?
a worse than this
b one better
c a better one
- 5 You'll break a leg wearing roller skates, Tim! Why don't you try an activity that is?
a more safe
b less dangerous
c more comfortable

B Write questions using the words in brackets.



- 1 I'm afraid it's too small! (large)?



- 2 I'm afraid it's too expensive. (cheap)?



- 4 It looks rather old fashioned! (modern)?



- 3 It doesn't look very strong. (good quality)?



- 5 It's too hard. (comfortable)?

READING

- A Place the following items in the correct group in the table.

shirt	hairdryer	toothbrush
face cream	wine	trousers
cheese	lipstick	vacuum cleaner
chicken	skirt	dishwasher

food and drink	clothing
toiletries and cosmetics	electrical goods

- B Read the following newspaper article and choose the most suitable headline.

- The changing face of men's shopping
- Men buy face cream and women buy drills!?
- Women still best shoppers

- C Choose the best ending to each of the statements.

- The report says that:
 - 70% of women in the UK shop in supermarkets
 - women do most of the food shopping in the UK.
- Cheap fashion imports from China and the rest of the Far East mean:
 - women buy more clothes
 - an increase in prices.
- The report says that:
 - more men are buying toiletries
 - men are interested in their appearance.
- Supermarkets now sell electrical goods to:
 - get men to shop there
 - get women to buy them.

- D Underline eight comparative words and phrases in the text.

A recent report on the differences between men and women's shopping habits found changes in the balance of buying activity between the sexes. The report, published last month by the market research company, Street Trends, focused on the areas of food and drink, toiletries and cosmetics, clothing and electrical goods.

Little change was found in food and drink shopping habits. Over 70% of supermarket shopping in the UK is done by the women of the household, and they generally control how much is spent on food. The report suggests that women show a greater ability to find special offers, and are more interested than men in getting good value when they shop. Similarly, in the area of clothing, women are still greater consumers than men. There has been a general increase in the purchase of clothes over the last few years, due to the introduction to the UK of cheap fashion from China and the

rest of the Far East. Discount clothing has become more popular, as retailers have become skilled in reproducing fashion designs at lower costs. This is most noticeable in women's fashion, where purchases have increased significantly in the last year.

Interesting changes were seen, however, in the purchase of toiletries and electrical goods. Approximately 80% of British women do most of the shopping for cosmetics and toiletries, but the men's toiletry market is growing, as younger men are more interested in their physical appearance than they were five years ago. Well-known cosmetics companies are now targeting men with new skincare products. In the case of electrical goods, men have traditionally been regarded as the main buyers in the household. However, women are now taking a more active role in the purchase of these items. Several major supermarkets are expanding into this area and targeting female customers, so further changes are expected in these areas in the future.



PRONUNCIATION Stress in collocations

- A Look at the following phrases from the reading text. Practise saying them. Stress the underlined syllable in each phrase.

food and drink toiletries and cosmetics
 electrical goods market research
 special offer good value Far East

- B 2.2 Listen and repeat the phrases.