You are going to read a text about **shopaholics**. Some words are missing. Use the words in brackets to form a word that fits into each gap.

When shopping gets too expensive

Shopping is one of the most popular spare time _____ (ACTIVE) . Magazines are full of pictures of celebrities _____ (LEAVE) exclusive boutiques, with armfuls of bags bearing distinctive designer logos. Millions of us head off at the weekend to shopping malls near city centres. For the _____ (MAJOR) of shoppers , the biggest problems are finding somewhere to park or getting information from _____ (HELP) shop assistants.

But for some, the love of shopping can lead to more serious problems . An estimated one in every five people is _____ (ABLE) to keep their spending habits under control. Teenagers are twice as likely as adults to become compulsive shoppers .

Experts who specialize in peoples' shopping habits view it as an _____ (ADDICT) . However, they point out two important differences between shopaholism and other types of addictive _____ (BEHAVE) . Firstly, it is not taken _____ (SERIOUS) by society, even though it can happen to anyone from any social background. Increasing numbers of men are seen going on uncontrollable shopping sprees, although, when asked, they refer to themselves as "collectors" rather than shopaholics. The second is that, unlike drugs, alcohol or gambling, shopping is socially _____ (ACCEPT) and therefore easily available. We are constantly bombarded with advertisements _____ (PERSUADE) us to buy items we really don't need.

Doctors in the United States have prescribed anti-depressants to shopaholics who cannot stop themselves spending, despite already having enormous debts. In the UK _____ (MEDICINE) experts prefer to send such people to places where they are taught money _____ (MANAGE).

However, there is one glimmer of light on the horizon: doctors believe that while Internet shopping is on the rise, it won't make the problem worse. Shopping addicts need the buzz of the shopping centre to satisfy their wishes. That may explain why we never see pictures of celebrities logging onto Amazon or eBay.

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