

MAKE COMPLAINTS AND DISCUSS SHOPPING

Today, when people want to have something, they usually have to buy it. Some people still make their own clothes, plant their own vegetables, or raise animals for food, but most of us have to go to the store for these things. In other words, we have to go shopping!

Do you know how to talk about shopping in English? Can you talk about your shopping experiences? About online shopping, grocery shopping, and your personal brand preferences?

That is the purpose of this lesson: to practice asking and answering common questions about shopping with confidence and accuracy.

The shopping conversation questions below are ideal for self-study. This resource is meant to help learners practice their speaking skills, and to learn and use some new vocabulary. With these conversation questions, students will use the present simple, past simple, and the present perfect.

If you are ready, let's go shopping!

Warm-up

1. How old is your current phone? Did you buy it or receive it as a gift?

Example answer: I got my phone three years ago. I bought it.

2. When do you plan to buy a new phone?

Example answer: I will probably buy a new phone in a year or two.

Shopping Preferences and Experiences

3. How often do you go shopping for clothes?

Example answer: On average, I go clothes shopping every three months.

4. Do you like shopping for clothes? What about for other things?

Example answer: I don't like shopping for clothes, but I like shopping for video games.

5. What are some of your favorite stores?

MAKE COMPLAINTS AND DISCUSS SHOPPING

Example answer: Some of my favorite stores are Wal-Mart, Costco, and Game Stop.

6. Have you ever had to return something to a store? What happened?

Example answer: Yes. I had to return a shirt because it was too small.

Online Shopping

7. How often do you shop online? What do you usually buy?

8. Is there something you will never buy online?

9. Do you prefer to walk around a store or to look at items on a screen?

Loyalty Programs

10. Do you have any points cards for specific stores? If so, how often do you use your points?

11. What kind of rewards do you prefer: discounts, gifts, or cash back?

Grocery Shopping

12. Who does most of the grocery shopping (shopping for food) in your home?

13. What is expensive at the grocery store these days?

14. Do you check prices online or in magazines before you go grocery shopping?

15. Have you ever left the grocery store and realized you forgot to buy something?

Shopping Idioms

16. Do you have a credit card? Do you pay off your credit card every month? (*Pay off* means you pay the full amount so that your CC balance is at zero.)

17. Do you like to go window shopping? (Go to stores just to look at things.)

18. Do you like to shop around when you want to buy something? (This means you like to compare prices at different stores.)

19. How often do you make impulse purchases (also: impulse buys)? (This means you buy things suddenly, without planning.)

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Buying and Receiving Gifts

20. What kinds of gifts do you usually buy for other people?
21. Do you think a gift card (a card with money for a specific store) is a good gift?
22. What is one of the nicest things that someone has ever bought for you?

Shopping Behaviors

23. Do you take advantage of major shopping days like Black Friday or Boxing Day?
24. Have you ever bought something because a celebrity advertised it?
25. Do you like to try new brands, or do you usually buy the same brands? (A brand is the name of a company who makes or sells something. *Apple* is a brand.)

Shopping Conversation Questions Picture Exercise

Complete the dialogues with your own ideas. If you finish quickly, try to create an original dialogue. What questions and other vocabulary do you need to know at the grocery store?

NOTE: You don't need to send the exercise; it's for you to practice on your own.

Grocery Store Dialogues

Dialogue 1

A: What do we need to buy for the party?
B: We need to get _____ and _____.
A: Okay, I'll get the _____ and you can get the _____.
B: Okay. I'll meet you at the cash in 5 minutes.

Dialogue 2

A: Excuse me. Where can I find the _____?
B: Try aisle _____. (Use a number)
A: Oh. I already checked there, and I didn't see any.
B: They're next to the _____.
A: Okay. Thank you.
B: No problem. Bye!



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Reference:

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