

Teaching English lesson

Shopping nation

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Task 1: Think of your local shopping area (e.g. a street or town centre). Write the names of six different types of shop and three things you can buy in each one.

Shop:	Shop:
1.	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.
Shop:	Shop:
1.	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.
Shop:	Shop:
1.	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.

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Task 1: Ask your classmates questions and complete the table.

Find someone who...	Name	Extra information
...bought something new last week.		
...hates shopping.		
...is going shopping next weekend.		
...has worked / would like to work in a shop.		
...has a favourite shop.		
...buys more things online than in shops.		

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Task 3: Read what the people have to say about shops and shopping. Then discuss the questions.

Zara: I LOVE shopping, and I think it's great that shops are open all weekend. I'm busy all week so it's great to be able to go into the city on Sundays and find things to do. Sometimes, I meet up with my friends and we look around the shops. Some people say shopping's my hobby!

- Do you think it's a good idea for shops to be open seven days a week?
- Do you think shopping can be a hobby?

Anita: I hate shopping! I only go shopping when I have to buy something. I don't understand the obsession with shopping. You can buy almost anything you want, whenever you want these days. There's a 24-hour supermarket near my house. I feel sorry for the people who work there all night.

- Do you think it's a good idea for shops to be open 24 hours a day?
- What do you think about the people who work in shops when most people are off work or during the night?

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Oscar: Most weekends I go shopping with my girlfriend. There's a new shopping centre near where I live, and you can get everything there. It's great in the winter 'cause you don't even realise it's cold and wet outside. What's the point of working all week if you can't go out and spend your money at the weekend?

- What are some advantages of shopping centres?
- What are some disadvantages of shopping centres?

Ben: I hate the way all the shops in every town centre are the same. It's impossible for small businesses to survive these days so only the big stores can keep going. Every town and city in Britain is a carbon copy of the others. I'd like some more independent shops!

- Are shopping areas the same in your country? Do they have many of the same shops?
- Why do you think it can be difficult for independent shops to survive?

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Maryam: I live in a small town and it's really changed in the last few years. Big stores have opened up outside the town and now everyone drives there. It's a real shame because many of the smaller shops in the town centre have closed. It used to be really busy, but now it's dying.

- Has a similar thing happened where you live?
- How can towns attract more people to shop there?

Joshua: I work in a sports' shop in the town centre and people just go crazy buying so much stuff, especially before holidays. I don't get it. Do people really need all that stuff? I bet most of it ends up in sheds and cupboards! Well, it's their money, I guess!

- Why do you think some people buy more than they need?
- Do you think it matters if people buy more than they need?

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Ezra: I do nearly all my shopping online. It's so convenient. I love having stuff delivered right to my front door. It saves me a lot of time. I hate the crowds and the queues of town centres, and I don't like the artificial atmosphere of shopping centres, so for me the internet is a great way to shop.

- What are some advantages of internet shopping?
- What are some disadvantages of internet shopping?

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**Task 4: Buy Nothing Day is celebrated in many parts of the world. What is it about?
Read the article and check your ideas.**

Buy Nothing Day started in 1993 and is now an international event that takes place in more than 55 countries. It is a simple idea to challenge consumer culture and ask people to stop shopping for 24 hours.

Buy Nothing Day encourages people to think about what they buy and the possible effects the product may have on the environment and developing countries. For example, if you buy a new pair of trainers, do you know where they were made and if the people who made them are treated well by the company?

According to the organisers of Buy Nothing Day, shopping itself isn't harmful but what we buy can be. They claim that 20% of the world's population consume 80% of the earth's natural resources. They want consumers to think more about what they buy and to ask themselves some questions before buying anything new. Here are some of the questions to put on your check list:

Do I need it? How many do I already have? Will I use it a lot? Will it last a long time? Could I borrow it from a friend instead?
Is it recyclable?

Each year Buy Nothing Day is at the end of November. There are some events in town centres to celebrate the event and to encourage shoppers to have a day off and buy absolutely nothing!

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Task 4: Answer these questions about Buy Nothing Day.

1. How long has Buy Nothing Day existed?
2. What happens on Buy Nothing Day?
3. According to the article, why should people think about what they consume?
4. Do you ever ask yourself any of the questions in the article before you buy something new?
5. Does your country celebrate Buy Nothing Day? If so, what happens? If not, do you think it would be successful in your country?
6. Do you think you could buy nothing at all for 24 hours?

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Task 5: Design your ideal shop.

1. What is the name?
2. What does it sell?
3. Where is it?
4. How will you attract customers to the shop?
5. How will you keep customers?

Get ready to present your shop.

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Thanks for attending the lesson