

Shops and shopping

A Shop and shopping

- Where's the **shop assistant**? (= person who works in a shop; also called sales assistant)
 The shoes were in the **shop window**. (= the window at the front of the shop)
 We went to the new **shopping centre**. (= a place with many shops, outside or indoors)
 I just went **window shopping**. (= looking round the shops without buying anything)
 Did you make a **shopping list**? (= a list of things to buy)
 I **went shopping** yesterday. (= I bought things, e.g. clothes, CDs, a present for my sister)
 I **did the shopping** yesterday. (= I bought food and things for the house)
 You have to **shop around** for the best prices. (= go to different shops to find the best price)

B Types of shop and what they sell

NOTE

Most other shops are just '+ shop', e.g. shoe shop or record shop. Some countries have stalls/shops in the street for newspapers. We call them **kiosks**.

<i>name of shop</i>	<i>what they sell</i>
department store	almost everything (furniture, clothes, electrical appliances, e.g. TV and washing machine, toys, e.g. dolls, games, jewellery, e.g. rings, earrings)
supermarket	most things, but especially food and household goods, e.g. cleaning products and kitchen equipment, etc. In some, you buy meat at a meat counter and fish at a fish counter . (= place where people serve you)
newsagent('s)	newspapers, cigarettes, stationery , e.g. writing paper, envelopes
butcher('s)	meat
chemist('s)	medicine, baby products, shampoo, soap, toothpaste, etc.
off-licence	specialist shop for wine, beer and soft drinks

C In a clothes shop

- ASSISTANT: Can I help you?
 CUSTOMER: Yes, I'm **looking for** (= I want) a blue jumper. *or*
 No, I'm **just looking**, thanks. (= I don't need help) *or*
 I'm **being served**, thanks. (= another assistant is already serving/helping me)
- ASSISTANT: What **size** are you? (e.g. large? small? medium? 14? 16?)
 CUSTOMER: Where's the { **changing room**? (= the room where you try on clothes)
 { **fitting room**?
- ASSISTANT: It's down there on the right.
 CUSTOMER: Yes, I'll **take** this one/these. (= Yes, I want to buy this one/these.)
 CUSTOMER: No, I'll **leave it** thanks. (= No, I don't want to buy it/them.)
 CUSTOMER: Excuse me. Where do I pay for these?
 ASSISTANT: Over at the **cash desk** (also **till**).
 CUSTOMER: And can I pay by credit card?

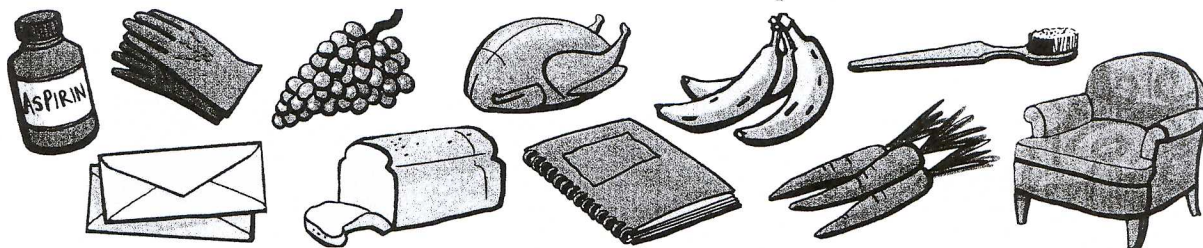


Exercises

62.1 What 'general' word on the opposite page describes each group of items below.

- 1 meat e.g. lamb, beef, pork
- 2 e.g. shoes, trousers, jacket
- 3 e.g. potatoes, beans, onions
- 4 e.g. sofa, armchair, table
- 5 e.g. television, washing machine, food processor
- 6 e.g. ring, earrings, necklace
- 7 e.g. teddy bear, plastic gun, Lego
- 8 e.g. writing paper, envelopes

62.2 Where would you buy these things? Choose from the shops below.



butcher newsagent chemist supermarket department store

Write down two more things you could buy in each shop.

62.3 What word or phrase is being defined in these sentences?

- 1 A shop where you buy meat.
- 2 A place with many shops, either outside or indoors.
- 3 A person who works in a shop.
- 4 The place where you can try on clothes in a shop.
- 5 The place where you pay for things in a shop.
- 6 To look round the shops without planning to buy anything.
- 7 A shop where you buy wine, beer and soft drinks.
- 8 A shop where you buy medicines, baby products, shampoo, etc.

62.4 Complete this shopping dialogue with a suitable word or phrase.

ASSISTANT A: Can I help you?

CUSTOMER: Yes, I'm (1) a blouse like this, but in blue.

ASSISTANT A: I see. And what (2) are you?

CUSTOMER: Er, 12 usually.

ASSISTANT A: OK, I'll just go and see if we've got any.

CUSTOMER: Fine.

ASSISTANT B: Can I help you?

CUSTOMER: No, it's OK, I'm (3) thanks.

ASSISTANT A: Here we are. The last one in stock.

CUSTOMER: Great. Can I try it on?

ASSISTANT A: Yes, of course. The (4) is just over there. *[pause]*

How was it?

CUSTOMER: Yeah, fine. I'll (5)