

EVERYDAY LIFE

SHOPPING QUESTIONNAIRE

TEACHER'S NOTES

Age: Teenager/Adult

Level: Intermediate (B1)

Time: 30 minutes +

Activity: In this lesson, students will:

1. do a shopping questionnaire;
2. read about credit cards.

Language focus: shopping vocabulary

Materials: one copy of the worksheet per student

PROCEDURE

Ask students if they think they are shopaholics or shopophobes and why. Tell them they are going to do a questionnaire to find out.

Hand out copies of the worksheet. Students work in pairs on Exercise 1, asking each other the questions and making a note of their partner's answers. They calculate their scores and read the analysis. Then they report to the class what they discovered about their partner.

Generate a short class discussion about consumerism (consumerism = the belief that it is good for a country if people buy and use a lot of goods and services).

Ask students if they have credit cards, and, if so, how many and what they use them for. Do they think credit cards are dangerous or useful?

Students look the Exercise 2. They read the text and discuss with a partner what they think of what happened, and if they've heard any similar stories.

Ask students to imagine they had \$5,000 to spend (or the local currency equivalent). What would they buy?

EXERCISE 1: SHOPPING QUESTIONNAIRE



Are you a *shopophobe*, a *shopaholic* or something in between? To find out, answer the questions below. Be as honest as you can.

- Yes No Do you enjoy shopping?
- Yes No Do you absolutely *adore* shopping?
- Yes No Is a credit card with no limit your definition of paradise?
- Yes No It's your birthday. Would you consider spending the day at a shopping mall?
- Yes No Have you ever browsed an online shop in the middle of the night?
- Yes No You're waiting for a friend in the town centre. Your friend phones to say s/he's going to be 10 minutes late. Would you use the time to do some shopping?
- Yes No Do you ever spend too much money when you go shopping?
- Yes No Do you ever buy things you don't really need?
- Yes No Do you usually buy things on impulse, or do you plan your shopping?
- Yes No Have you ever got to the till in a shop and discovered that you don't have enough money to pay for your shopping?
- Yes No Do you usually pay by credit card?
- Yes No Do you have any shop loyalty cards?
- Yes No Have you ever worked in a shop?
- Yes No Have you ever bought something from a catalogue?
- Yes No Have you ever bought anything on the internet?

Score 1 point for each time you answer yes. Calculate your total score, and then read the analysis.

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SHOPPING QUESTIONNAIRE

WORKSHEET

Score 0–7

You don't enjoy shopping, do you? In fact, Saturday at the shopping mall is probably your idea of a bad dream come true! But are you a *shopophobe*? Shopophobes hate shopping and go only when nobody else will go for them. When they do go, they drive and get enough supplies for the whole month in one visit. Some shopophobes don't even leave home – they go online and have their purchases delivered to their house.

Score 8–12

Your score suggests you are a practical shopper. You enjoy shopping, but there are other things you would prefer to do in your free time. You usually plan your shopping, and though you do sometimes buy on impulse, you don't mind waiting for items to go on sale to pick up more expensive items at bargain prices. You probably also enjoy window shopping and browsing online. That way you can look and compare prices, but without spending much money.

Score 13–15

You obviously love shopping. Your score suggests you may even be a *shopoholic*. Shopoholics are addicted to shopping. Any free time they have is spent at the shopping mall, and when they surf the net they head straight for the online shops. They usually buy on impulse, but if they do plan their shopping, they always come home with items that were not on their list. In extreme cases the only cure is to cut up their credit cards!

EXERCISE 2: PUT IT ON THE CARD, PLEASE!

One day Alessandra Scalise received an application form for a credit card. Nothing strange about that, you might think, apart from the fact that Alessandra was only three years old at the time. Her mother completed the application form, listing her daughter's occupation as 'pre-schooler' and saying that she wanted the card to 'buy more toys'. Alessandra's mother was surprised when, a few weeks later, Alessandra received a Platinum Visa card with a \$5,000 credit limit. What would you buy if you had to spend \$5,000?

