

Activity Type

Listening and speaking activity, group work

Focus

Shopping

Aim

To role-play buying and selling items in a shop.

Preparation

Make one copy of the worksheet for every six students and cut into cards as indicated.

Level

Pre-intermediate (A2)

Time

25 minutes

Introduction

In this shopping role-play, students take on the roles of shop assistants and customers and practice buying and selling items in a shop.

Procedure

Pre-teach or review shopping phrases with the class and have the students practice the language.

Examples:

Shop assistant

Customer

Hi, can I help you?

Could I have...?

That will be \$...

How much is it/are they?

Would you like anything else?

Here you are.

Sorry, I haven't.

Have you got a/any...?

Next, divide the class into groups of six. Half the students take on the role of shop assistants and the other half are customers.

Give a shop card to each shop assistant and a shopping list to each customer.

Tell the shop assistants that the information on their card shows the items they have for sale and the cost per item. Explain that the three customers are going to visit each shop and try to buy the items on their shopping list. Their task is to note down the cost of each item and calculate the total cost at the end.

Have the three shop assistants in each group sit separately.

The customers then go around to each shop and buy the items on their shopping list. When a customer makes a purchase, they write down the cost on their shopping list next to the item.

After a customer has completed their shopping list, they write down the total cost of all the items and show you their answer. If there is a mistake, the customer goes back to the shops and confirms the prices.

Answer key

Shopping list A: \$30.90

Shopping list B: \$25.94

Shopping list C: \$43.99

When everyone has finished, have the students swap roles and repeat the activity, so everyone has a chance to practice being the shop assistant and customer.

Note: This resource can be edited using a PDF editor.



Post Office		Clothes shop		Pharmacy	
Items	Cost	Items	Cost	Items	Cost
1 pack of envelopes	\$2	1 T-shirt	\$9.95	1 toothbrush	\$1.95
1 parcel box	\$1.50	1 pair of jeans	\$19.99	1 pack of razors	\$5.99
1 stamp	\$1	1 shirt	\$14.50	1 box of aspirin	\$1.50
Shopping List A		Shopping List B		Shopping List C	
Items	Cost	Items	Cost	Items	Cost
2 boxes of aspirin		2 packs of envelopes		1 pack of razors	
2 T-shirts		1 toothbrush		6 parcel boxes	
8 stamps		1 pair of jeans		2 shirts	
Total =		Total =		Total =	



Post Office		Clothes shop		Pharmacy	
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1 pack of envelopes	\$2	1 T-shirt	\$9.95	1 toothbrush	\$1.95
1 parcel box	\$1.50	1 pair of jeans	\$19.99	1 pack of razors	\$5.99
1 stamp	\$1	1 shirt	\$14.50	1 box of aspirin	\$1.50
Shopping List A		Shopping List B		Shopping List C	
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