

## A2 TEENS · VOCABULARY · LESSON 37

# Let's go shopping!

“How much is this?” “Can I try this on?” “Do you have this in a smaller size?” Shopping in English is easier than you think — you just need the right words and phrases.

■ 45 min · ✓ CEFR A2 · ■ Shopping Vocabulary · ■ Buying & Prices

## WARM-UP

## 01 What kind of shopper are you?

*Think about your shopping habits...*

Answer in full sentences. There are no wrong answers — just be honest!

- 01 What was the last thing you bought with your own money? Where did you buy it?
- 02 Do you prefer shopping online or in a real shop? Why?
- 03 Have you ever bought something and then returned it? What happened?
- 04 If you had €50 right now, what would you buy?

## KEY VOCABULARY

## 02 Words for shopping

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
■ MONEY & PAYING		
<b>price</b> noun	the amount of money something costs	<i>The price of the jacket is €45.</i>
<b>cost</b> verb	to have a price of	<i>These trainers cost €80!</i>
<b>expensive</b> adj	costing a lot of money	<i>That shop is too expensive for me.</i>
<b>cheap</b> adj	costing very little money	<i>I found a really cheap T-shirt — only €5!</i>
<b>discount</b> noun	a lower price than normal; money off	<i>There's a 20% discount on all shoes today.</i>
<b>receipt</b> noun	the paper you get after you pay	<i>Keep your receipt — you might need to return it.</i>
<b>change</b> noun	the money you get back when you pay too much	<i>Here's your change — €3.50.</i>
■ CLOTHES & SIZES		
<b>size</b> noun	how big or small something is (S, M, L, XL)	<i>What size are you? — I'm a medium.</i>

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
<b>fit</b> verb	to be the right size for your body	<i>These jeans don't fit me — they're too tight.</i>
<b>try on</b> phr. verb	to put on clothes to see if they look good	<i>Can I try on this hoodie?</i>
<b>■ SHOP TYPES &amp; ACTIONS</b>		
<b>customer</b> noun	a person who buys things from a shop	<i>The shop was full of customers on Saturday.</i>
<b>cashier</b> noun	the person who takes your money at the till	<i>The cashier gave me the wrong change.</i>

SHOP TYPES

### 03 Where do you shop?

#### Common shop types

Every shop has a name. Learn these eight — you'll see them everywhere!

<b>clothes shop</b>	<i>I bought a dress at the clothes shop.</i>
<b>shoe shop</b>	<i>These trainers are from the shoe shop.</i>
<b>bookshop</b>	<i>I love spending time in the bookshop.</i>
<b>supermarket</b>	<i>We buy food at the supermarket.</i>
<b>market</b>	<i>The market is cheaper than the mall.</i>
<b>online store</b>	<i>I ordered it from an online store.</i>
<b>electronics shop</b>	<i>He got new headphones from the electronics shop.</i>
<b>pharmacy</b>	<i>You can buy medicine at the pharmacy.</i>

POLITE PHRASES TOOLKIT

### 04 What to say when you shop

#### Essential customer phrases

These six phrases will get you through **any** shopping situation. Learn them by heart!

ASKING THE PRICE

**“How much is this?”**

Use “is this” for one item, “are these” for more than one.

TRYING ON

**“Can I try this on?”**

Point to the item. The shop assistant will show you the fitting room.

ASKING FOR A SIZE / COLOUR

**“Do you have this in a smaller size?”**

You can also say: “in blue”, “in large”, “in a different colour”.

**PAYING**

**“Can I pay by card?”**

Other options: “pay in cash”, “pay with my phone”.

**GETTING A BAG**

**“Can I have a bag, please?”**

In many countries, bags cost extra — so ask first!

**RETURNING**

**“I’d like to return this.”**

Always bring your receipt! You can also say “exchange” instead of “return”.

## 05 READING Four teens, four shopping stories

SHOPPING DIARIES · ISSUE 37

# The Best (and Worst) Shopping Days

*Four teens share their most memorable trips to the shops*

We asked four teenagers from around the world: "Tell us about a shopping experience you'll never forget." Here are their stories — some happy, some embarrassing, all very real.

Shopping is one of those things that seems simple... until it isn't. A wrong **size**, a missing **receipt**, or a **price** that makes your eyes go wide. Read these four stories and pay attention to the **shopping vocabulary** and **polite phrases**.

**MIA, 15, GERMANY** Satisfaction: 9/10

"Last Saturday, I went to a **clothes shop** in the city centre with my best friend. I **tried on** at least ten hoodies. The first one was too big. The second one was too **expensive** — €75! But then I found a perfect blue one on the sale rack. I asked the **cashier**: 'How much is this?' She said: '€25 — there's a 50% **discount**.' I **paid by card** and kept my **receipt**. Best shopping day ever!"

**ELIF, 14, TURKEY** Satisfaction: 5/10

"Two weeks ago, my mum and I went to the **market** in our neighbourhood. Everything was so **cheap** — T-shirts for €3, jeans for €10. I bought two pairs of jeans without **trying them on**. Big mistake! When I got home, one pair didn't **fit** at all — they were way too small. I couldn't return them because the market doesn't give **receipts**. My mum said: 'Always **try on** before you buy!' She was right."

**THABO, 16, SOUTH AFRICA** Satisfaction: 8/10

"I saved money for three months to buy new trainers from the **shoe shop**. The **price** was 1,200 rand. When I got to the shop, I said: 'Can I try these on in a **size 9**?' The shop assistant brought them. They **fit** perfectly. I asked: 'Can I pay by card?' and she said yes. I got my **change** — 50 rand — and walked out feeling like a champion. The **customer** of the year!"

**LILY, 13, UK** Satisfaction: 4/10

"Last month, I ordered a jacket from an **online store**. The photo looked amazing — dark green, cool buttons. But when it arrived, it was completely different. The colour was more like brown, and it was two **sizes** too big. I had to return it. I went to the post office and said: 'I'd like to return this.' The person asked for my **receipt**. Luckily, I had the email. I got my money back, but it took two weeks. Next time, I'll go to a real shop and **try things on**!"

**The lesson:** Notice the shopping vocabulary (price, cost, discount, receipt, size, fit, try on, customer, cashier) and the polite phrases (How much is this? Can I try this on? Can I pay by card? I'd like to return this). These are the words and phrases that make shopping in English smooth and confident!

## 06

## VOCABULARY CARDS

## Review &amp; remember

→ 01

**price** NOUN

The amount of money something costs.

*"What's the price of this jacket?"*

→ 02

**discount** NOUN

A lower price than normal; money off.

*"Students get a 10% discount."*

→ 03

**receipt** NOUN

The paper or email you get after you pay.

*"Keep your receipt in case you need to return it."*

→ 04

**try on** PHRASAL VERB

To put on clothes in a shop to check the size and look.

*"Can I try on these jeans, please?"*

→ 05

**customer** NOUN

A person who buys things from a shop or business.

*"The shop had hundreds of customers on Black Friday."*

→ 06

**queue** NOUN / VERB

A line of people waiting / to stand in that line.

*"We had to queue for 20 minutes to pay."*

## 07

## PRACTICE

## Shopping language check

Choose the correct word or phrase for each shopping situation. The hint tag tells you the category.

- This jacket costs €200. That's very \_\_\_\_\_. **MONEY**
  - A. cheap
  - B. expensive
  - C. discount
- These shoes are too small. They don't \_\_\_\_\_ me. **CLOTHES**
  - A. size
  - B. fit
  - C. try on
- You want to know the price. You ask: "\_\_\_\_\_". **PHRASES**
  - A. What is the cost for this?
  - B. How much is this?
  - C. How many is this?
- After you pay, the cashier gives you a \_\_\_\_\_. **MONEY**
  - A. discount
  - B. change
  - C. receipt
- I want to see if this hoodie looks good. Can I \_\_\_\_\_? **CLOTHES**
  - A. fit it

- B. try it on
- C. size it

6. You buy food and vegetables at a \_\_\_\_\_. **SHOPS**

- A. pharmacy
- B. bookshop
- C. supermarket

7. There's 30% off all T-shirts. That's a great \_\_\_\_\_! **MONEY**

- A. price
- B. discount
- C. receipt

8. The item doesn't work. You say: "\_\_\_\_\_ " **PHRASES**

- A. I want my money.
- B. I'd like to return this.
- C. Give me a new one.

**08** **SPEAKING**  
**Customer & shop assistant role-play**

Work with your teacher or a partner. One person is the **customer**, the other is the **shop assistant**. Use the polite phrases from this lesson. Then swap roles!

- You're in a clothes shop. Ask the price of a jacket, try it on, and ask for a different size.
- You're in a shoe shop. Ask if they have your size, try the shoes on, and pay by card.
- You bought a T-shirt online but it's too big. Go to the shop and return it.
- You're at a market. Ask the price, say it's too expensive, and ask for a discount.
- You're buying a gift for a friend. Ask the cashier for a bag and a receipt.

**EXAMPLE CONVERSATION**

**Customer:** Hi! How much is this hoodie?

**Assistant:** It's €35.

**Customer:** Can I try it on?

**Assistant:** Of course! The fitting room is over there.

**Customer:** Thanks! ... Hmm, it's a bit too big. Do you have this in a smaller size?

**Assistant:** Let me check. Yes, here's a medium.

**Customer:** Perfect, I'll take it. Can I pay by card?

**Assistant:** Sure. Here's your receipt. Have a nice day!

**Customer:** Thank you!

**09** **WRITING**  
**Your own shopping story**

**Write a short shopping story (70–100 words)**

Like the four teens in the reading, tell us about a shopping experience you had. It can be a great find, a funny mistake, or a disaster. Use the vocabulary and phrases from this lesson!

- at least 3 shopping vocabulary words (price, discount, receipt, fit, try on...)
- at least 2 polite shopping phrases (How much is this? / Can I try this on? / I'd like to return this...)
- at least 1 shop type (clothes shop, market, online store...)
- at least 1 opinion adjective (expensive, cheap, perfect, terrible...)

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## 10 QUIZ Check your understanding

Circle the correct answer. Check your answers at the end.

1. Choose the word that means 'costing a lot of money':
  - A. cheap
  - B. expensive
  - C. discount
  - D. free
2. You want to check if a jacket looks good on you. You say:
  - A. Can I have this?
  - B. Can I try this on?
  - C. Can I return this?
  - D. How much are these?
3. The person who takes your money at the till is called a:
  - A. customer
  - B. discount
  - C. cashier
  - D. queue
4. What do you get after paying that proves you bought something?
  - A. a discount
  - B. change
  - C. a receipt
  - D. a bag
5. "These jeans don't fit me" means:
  - A. They are the wrong colour
  - B. They are not the right size for my body
  - C. They are too expensive
  - D. They don't have my size
6. Where do you buy medicine?
  - A. a bookshop
  - B. a clothes shop
  - C. a pharmacy
  - D. a market
7. From the reading: Why couldn't Elif return her jeans?
  - A. She lost them
  - B. The market doesn't give receipts
  - C. They were too expensive
  - D. She didn't try them on
8. Which is the MOST polite way to return something?
  - A. Give me my money back!
  - B. I want to return this now.
  - C. I'd like to return this.
  - D. This is broken, take it back.

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## ANSWER KEY

**Fill in the blanks:**

1. expensive · 2. fit · 3. How much is this? · 4. receipt · 5. try it on · 6. supermarket · 7. discount · 8. I'd like to return this.

**Quiz:**

1. B · 2. B · 3. C · 4. C · 5. B · 6. C · 7. B · 8. C

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**Happy shopping! You finished Lesson 37.**

*Next lesson: How Do I Get There? — Directions & Public Transport*