

Bargain and Buy

Let's get started . . . When you were a child, did you have money? If so, what did you do with it? Explain.

Story: Alice goes to the market for food. She stops by the vegetable seller. She and the seller talk about the price of tomatoes.

Alice: "How much are the tomatoes?"

Seller: "One dollar for a kilogram."

Alice: "Hmmm, those tomatoes don't look fresh. That's too much!"

Seller: "What?! They're perfect!. Here, taste one."

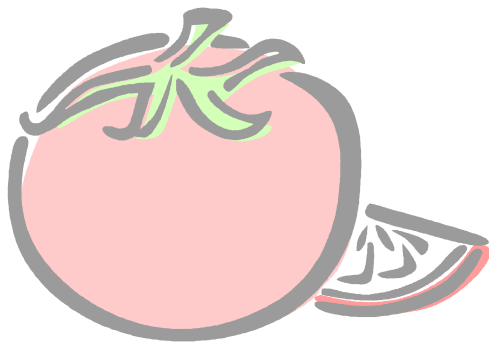
Alice: "Not too bad. I'll give you fifty cents for a kilo."

Seller: "No way! I'll go broke. I have a family to feed. Eighty cents."

Alice: "I have a family to feed too! Sixty cents."

Seller: "These are good, fresh tomatoes and I'm giving them to you, just for you, at a special price of seventy-five cents a kilo."

Alice: "Ok. Give me 2 kilos, please."








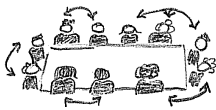
Alice and the seller are bargaining. In your native culture do you bargain with sellers? How do you know you are buying for a good price?

Do you like to bargain? How do you get a good price on something?

Are tomatoes expensive or cheap in your native country? How much do they cost? Do tomatoes cost more in the U.S.?

Interview 3 people about shopping. Write their names in the far left column, and then check the box if true. Ask for an example or details. "Do you like to shop for _____?"

Name	Groceries? 	Clothing? 	Appliances? 	Music? 	Gifts? 



Discuss these questions in pairs or groups.

How is shopping in the U.S. different from shopping in your native culture? Talk about how you shop for food, clothing and other things in your native culture.

In your native culture, if you needed to buy eggs, where did you get them? How far would you go to find eggs?

Where do you shop? What stores do you recommend to your conversation partners? What items do you buy every week?

Do you like to try new things? Why or why not?

Do you shop alone or with other people? Give examples of people you shop with. Do you like to shop with other people or alone?



Role Play - bargain for a car or other item. What do the people say to each other?

Seller:

Buyer:

Seller:

Buyer:

Seller:

Buyer:



Many people buy things on credit in the United States. Some people have many credit cards. What do you think of buying on credit? Useful? Risky? Is it common in your native country? Please describe the usual way of paying for purchases in your native country.

What do you do with your paycheck or family income each month? Do you

.... save money in a bank account?

..... send some to family back home?

..... spend it?

..... lend it?