

Eastside Literacy Talk Time Summer 2006

Topic: Stores & Shopping

Let's get started...

If you had a million dollars, what is the first thing that you would buy? Why?

Background:

Whether you do your shopping mostly in retail stores, thrift stores, or at garage and yard sales, there are some strategies that will work for you and help you to find a good bargain every time! Certain items go on sale at different times of the year. Here is a list of items that regularly go on sale. Most items go on sale at the beginning of the season they are used due to competition for sales. They also go on sale at the end of the season during clearance sales.

January: winter clothes, holiday clearance, white sale (towels, bedding, etc.)

February: household items, furniture, dinnerware, electronics

March: garden supplies, spring clothes, winter outdoor recreation equipment

April: seasonal clothes, clearance on Easter dresses, men's suits and ties

May: white sales, tires, home maintenance items, handbags, lingerie

June: summer clothing, television sets, refrigerators, home improvement products

July: clearance on summer clothes & bathing suits, clearance on air conditioners, home appliances, rugs and carpets, radios and stereo equipment, summer sports equipment, used cars

August: furniture; white sales, clearance on outdoor sports equipment, clearance on barbecues, air conditioners, fans, lawn mowers, school supplies, new car clearance

September: back to school clothes & supplies, gardening supplies, rugs, lamps & dishes, bicycles

October: fishing supplies, school clothes & supplies clearance, cars, crystal & silver

November: coats, boots, gloves, quilts and blankets, heating appliances

December: toys, holiday items (tablecloths, gift items, party ware), day after Christmas clearance sales

(Ideas taken from: www.allthingsfrugal.com.)



In pairs for 5 minutes, ask and answer these questions:

Do you think fashion is important? What kinds of clothes do you usually wear? Why do you wear these clothes? Do you like shopping for new clothes? How often do you buy new clothes?

Share your partner's answers with the group.

Discussion Questions:

Are there popular shopping times in your native country?

What kind of places do you like to go to shop in your native country?

Where do you like to shop in the U. S.?

Can you return something to a store in your native country? If yes, describe the process.

Have you ever returned something to a store and asked for your money back in the U.S.? What happened?

What new products have you discovered since coming to the U.S.? What products do you miss from your country?

Are the sizes in the U.S. similar to or different from your home country?

Where do you shop for groceries and food items? Why did you choose that grocery store?

How often do you go grocery shopping in the U.S.? How often did you go in your native country?

Which grocery store has the best prices for:
produce? meat? dairy? organic and natural foods?

New words and Idioms:

department store, retail store, grocery store, fruit stand, farmers' market, warehouse store, specialty shop, outlet store (factory outlet), thrift store, consignment store, garage sale, yard sale, rummage sale, on sale, clearance, bargain, "going-out-of-business" sale, back-to-school sale, impulse buy, to "get your money back," return, complain, to "get a good deal", to "drive a hard bargain", to barter, shop till you drop, etc.

Local Farmers' Markets - Summer 2006

City	Location	Day	Time	Last day
Bellevue	Crossroads Shopping Center	Tues.	11 a.m. to 4 p.m.	10/10/06
Bellevue	First Presbyterian Church parking lot 1717 Bellevue Way NE (9 blocks north of Bellevue Square)	Thurs.	3 p.m. to 7 p.m.	10/12/06
Issaquah	1730 - 10th Ave NE (Pickering Barn)	Sat.	9 a.m. to 2 p.m.	10/14/06
Kirkland	Park Lane East between Third St and Main St	Wed.	10 a.m. to 4 p.m.	10/11/06
Lake Forest Park	on the corner of Bothell Way NE and Ballinger Way	Sun.	11 a.m. to 4 p.m.	10/8/06
Redmond	7730 Leary Way in downtown (on the Northwest corner of Redmond Town Center)	Sat.	9 a.m. to 3 p.m.	10/28/06
Woodinville	downtown near the Carol Edwards Center (formerly the Woodinville Community Center)	Sat.	9 a.m. to 3 p.m.	10/14/06