

Spend! Spend! Spend!

Warm-up

1 Do you spend money like there's no tomorrow or are you a scrooge? Answer this questionnaire to find out!

1 You win £10,000 with a scratch card. Do you...

- A invest 75% of the money?
- B put all the money into your pension fund?
- C blow it all on loads of presents for your family and friends?

2 Your friends have asked you to go on holiday with them, but you really don't have the money. Do you...

- A say thanks, but no thanks?
- B borrow some money from a family member or friend and promise to pay it back by the end of the year?
- C ask what time the next flight is?

3 There is a natural disaster on the other side of the world and a lot of money is needed for reconstruction projects. Do you...

- A think "Here we go again!" and switch channels?
- B make a small donation?
- C call the donation line and leave a generous amount?

4 You see some cool jeans in your favourite clothes shop. Do you...

- A think you don't need them; there is at least five more years of life left in your favourite jeans.
- B wait until the sales to save up to 50%?
- C go straight in and spend all your money?

2 Now add up your score. Do you agree with it?

1 A: 3 points; B: 2 points; C: 1 point 3 A: 0 points; B: 2 points; C: 3 points
2 A: 0 points; B: 3 points; C: 1 point 4 A: 0 points; B: 3 points; C: 2 points

0-3 points:

Hmmm...you should stop worrying about money and have some fun, you never know, you might make some new friends, too!

4-8 points:

You are pretty good with money, but make sure you are in charge of it and not the other way round!

9-12 points:

You are generous and like having fun, but you need to calm down and start thinking about how to make the most of your money.



1



2

Reading

3 You are going to read about some of the most original shopping centres in the world. Before you read the article, discuss your answers to the following questions with a partner.

- a Do you go to shopping centres? What for?
b Do you like shopping? Why? Why not?

Shopping Centres

It's undeniable, you can pass whole days in shopping centres. These centres resemble real cities more and more. They are places where you can do your shopping, go to the cinema, have something to eat and lots more.

Artificial cities

You go to the shopping centre to do the shopping. You stop to eat something, you check out the shops and then in the evening you go to the cinema. Shopping centres are becoming more and more popular. They are big, convenient and beautiful. The temperature is always perfect even when outside it's too hot or too cold. You can stroll through greenery between fountains and benches. And the great triumph of shopping centres is that everything is organised to make you buy things – even things you have absolutely no need for.

Bluewater – Dartford, UK

Bluewater is the biggest shopping centre in Europe. It is in Dartford, 30 kilometres east of London. There are 320 different shops, lots of bars and restaurants, 13,000 parking spaces, a nursery, a multi-screen cinema and gardens both inside and outside. And for people who like fishing, there is a lake where you can fish. Also in Great Britain, in Birmingham, you can find the department store *Selfridges*. It is shaped like a space shuttle and is covered in 15,000 aluminium discs.

Venus Fort – Tokyo, Japan

In this shopping centre you feel as if you are in a 17th century European city. Houses, with the names of the streets written on them, are painted on the walls. You are inside but you feel as if you are outside. If you look up, you seem to be looking at the sky. Even the artificial light seems real because it changes depending on the time of day. At night it is darker.

West Edmonton Mall – Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

This used to be the biggest shopping centre in the world. Here you can go shopping in more than 800 different shops and leave your car in one of the 20,000 parking spaces. There are 110 different bars and restaurants and 26 cinemas. For people who want to enjoy themselves there is a huge swimming pool with artificial waves, slides and bungee jumping. There is also a lake, a skating rink as well as *Galaxyland* – the biggest attraction park in the world.



4 Read the article and decide if the following statements are true T or false F or doesn't say ?.

- | | T | F | ? |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| a Modern shopping centres look more and more like real cities. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b It can get very hot inside some shopping centres. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c You cannot buy the fish you catch in the lake at <i>Bluewater</i> . | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d <i>Venus Fort</i> in Tokyo dates back to the seventeenth century. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| e It is an open air shopping centre. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| f There's lots of fun for everyone at the <i>West Edmonton Mall</i> in Canada. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

5 Read the article again and match the words below to their definitions.

- | | | |
|--------------------|--|--------------------------|
| 1 check out | a walk slowly | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2 resemble | b true | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3 stroll | c look at | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4 triumph | d success | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5 undeniable | e look like | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6 benches | f a long body of water curling into an arch | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7 department store | g an expanse of ice artificially made for skating. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8 waves | h a large shop stocking many varieties of goods | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9 slides | i long seats for several people | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10 rink | j a structure with a smooth sloping surface for children | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Reading Tip

You don't have to understand every single word in the text, so don't worry if you come across words you don't know the meaning of.