

CELEBRATIONS

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Christmas shopping

Teacher's notes

Age: Teenagers/Adults

Level: Pre-intermediate (A2)

Time: 45 minutes



Activity: In this lesson, students will:

1. plan what presents to buy and where;
2. talk about attitudes towards Christmas.

Language focus: vocabulary associated with presents

Materials: one copy of the worksheet per student; two photos of your best and worst Christmas presents to show students, along with a pre-prepared story for each

Procedure

1. Show students two photos – one of the best Christmas present you've received, and one of the worst – but don't tell them what the photos show. Ask students to identify what the pictures show (helping with vocabulary, if necessary) and to guess why you have shown them these two pictures. Tell students the short story behind each present (who gave it and why it was so good/bad). Put students in pairs and ask them to tell each other about their best and worst Christmas present, opening it up to group discussion after a few minutes.

 **TECH TIP:** If students don't know the English word for a present, you could ask them to look up the image on their device and show the photo to the group – see if their classmates can help them before providing them with the correct vocabulary.

2. Hand out the worksheet. Ask students to work in new pairs and look at Exercise 1 together. They write the names of the objects and tick the ones they would like to receive for Christmas. Check answers, and pronunciation, as a class.

Key:

Top row: a kitten/cat; flowers; socks; a guitar; clothes

Middle row: a box of chocolates; a lump of coal; a teddy bear; cash/money; a watch

Bottom row: a ring/jewellery; a bar of soap/toiletries; books; a lipstick/make-up; a holiday

3. Before students look at the first part of Exercise 2, ask them how many shopping days are left before Christmas. Have they decided who they're going to buy presents for? Which shops will they visit? (Examples of types of shops could be: bookshop, department store, supermarket, off-licence, record shop, clothes shop, shoe shop, patisserie, sweetshop, charity shop and online shop). Ask students to now look at Exercise 2 individually. They write the names of six people they are going to buy presents for in the left-hand column. Then they decide what presents to buy and write them in the centre. Finally, they write the type of shop where they could buy the present on the right (choosing a different type of shop for each present, if they can). Check some ideas by asking students what they have written for different numbers, e.g. What have you put for number three?
4. Ask students to then look at the second part of Exercise 2. Students should all stand up and mingle, asking three of their classmates to tell them about a present from the previous exercise. What is it? Who is it for? Where is it from? Students should take notes. Once they have finished, ask them to report back on what they have learned.
5. Ask students if they enjoy Christmas shopping. Tell them they're going to discuss attitudes towards Christmas. Students work in pairs or small groups and ask each other the questions in Exercise 3. When they have finished discussing them, open the questions up to group discussion. Were their answers similar or different? Why?

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Exercise 1: Christmas presents

What are these objects called in English? Are they good presents? Tick (✓) if you would like to receive them for Christmas.

 _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____

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Exercise 2: Going shopping

1. Imagine that you have to buy six different presents for six different people at six different shops. Make a list of six people you know (friends and family), and then think of a good present for each person. Finally, write down where you'd buy the presents. Try to name six different types of shop!

Person	Present	Shop
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		

2. Talk to three different classmates. Ask them each to tell you about one present. What is it? Who is it for? Where is it from?

- _____
- _____
- _____

Exercise 3: Talking about Christmas

Do you like Christmas? Answer the questions.

Do you ...

- do your Christmas shopping in September or on Christmas Eve?
- spend lots of money, spend some money, or spend no money on presents?
- put up Christmas decorations, or not?
- send Christmas cards, or not?
- go to church on Christmas day, or not?
- eat lots of Christmas food, then go on a diet in January?
- feel sad or happy when Christmas is over?