



SHOPPING

Shop till you drop

Buying and selling literally everything has been always in our veins. Now is shopping a lot easier than in history and it is still progressing. It all started with bartering. People trade things with each other. You wanted something who the other person had and you had something what the other person wanted, so you exchanged it. After invention of monetary system you exchange your money with something you want and it's called shopping.

1 marketplace

You can usually buy some type of food in this place. Mainly fruit and vegetable. In many parts of the world, from Asia to the Middle East, customers haggled with the shopkeeper. In other words, the two people negotiated the price.



2 flea market

It's an open shopping places where you can find a bargain or collector's item.



3 specialised shops

Shops that sell only one type of goods. For example if you want bread you can go to baker or to a butcher's if you want their meat, the greengrocer's for vegetables, the fishmonger's for fish, a tailor if you need a new suit and a cobbler for shoes.



4 supermarket

"Shopping under the roof"

The first supermarket is dated back to 1916, but their growth is linked to the spread of suburbs and the increased use of the automobile.

Advantages: People can drive there and do a big shopping trip for the whole week or even month.

With the introduction of trolleys, shopping became even more convenient. It's cheaper than smaller stores.

Disadvantages: Supermarkets lack the individual service offered by a smaller shop.



5 department stores

You can find all kinds of goods in there. Clothes, furniture, gardening stuffs, stationery....though in the US and Australia, you will have a hard time finding food. For that you will have to return to the supermarket.

Department stores are for example Bloomingdales in New York, or cheap stores such as Wal-Mart and Tesco.



shopping centres/shopping malls

These large buildings contain almost every type of shop include bookstores, pharmacy (drugstore), shoe shops, sporting wear stores, camping goods stores and fashion boutiques.

Most of shopping centres are open 24 hours a day.

In Austria and parts of Germany shopping centres don't open on Sundays and closed at noon on Saturdays. This was called half-day trading.



second hand shop/op shop/thrift shop/Oxfam

You can find very cheap things in there. Most of these things can be old and used, but you can find a pretty cool stuff too.

There are also specialised antique stores, second hand bookstores, furniture stores or record stores.



online shopping

Advantages: no people, all you need is a computer and a credit card, no queues, no impolite staff, no parking problems and usually most things are cheaper than in usual stores, even with postage. Websites like eBay are the internet equivalent of second hand stores.

Disadvantages: you can't touch the products and look at them in more depth

