

# 8

# Things

## VOCABULARY

### Buying things



#### 1 Match the two parts of the sentences.

- |                        |                           |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 No, thanks. I'm just | a is it?                  |
| 2 Can I have           | b a look at that jacket?  |
| 3 Can I see            | c you a hundred.          |
| 4 I could give         | d on?                     |
| 5 OK, I'll             | e leave it.               |
| 6 Would you take       | f have any other colours? |
| 7 Thanks, but I'll     | g take it.                |
| 8 How much do you      | h the one at the top?     |
| 9 What size            | i want for it?            |
| 10 Can I try it        | j 25?                     |
| 11 Do you              | k looking.                |

#### 2 Complete the conversation with sentences from Exercise 1. You will not need all of the sentences.

**STALLHOLDER** Hello. Do you need any help?  
**CUSTOMER** Yes, <sup>1</sup>can I have a look at that jacket? The red one with the green buttons.  
**STALLHOLDER** This one?  
**CUSTOMER** Yes, that's the one. <sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_?  
**STALLHOLDER** It's a large.  
**CUSTOMER** <sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_?  
**STALLHOLDER** Yes, of course.  
**CUSTOMER** Mm. <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_?  
**STALLHOLDER** I'm afraid not, no. Only red.  
**CUSTOMER** OK. <sup>5</sup> \_\_\_\_\_?  
**STALLHOLDER** It's 35.  
**CUSTOMER** <sup>6</sup> \_\_\_\_\_?  
**STALLHOLDER** I can take 30.  
**CUSTOMER** <sup>7</sup> \_\_\_\_\_. Can I pay by credit card?  
**STALLHOLDER** Sorry, cash only.  
**CUSTOMER** Oh, OK. Well, in that case <sup>8</sup> \_\_\_\_\_.  
**STALLHOLDER** OK. Bye then.

## GRAMMAR

### some, any

#### 3 Are these words countable or uncountable? Write C or U.

- |          |                                     |        |                          |               |                          |
|----------|-------------------------------------|--------|--------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|
| 1 colour | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 3 rice | <input type="checkbox"/> | 5 information | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2 help   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | 4 meat | <input type="checkbox"/> | 6 CD          | <input type="checkbox"/> |

#### 4 Complete the sentences with the correct form of the words from Exercise 3 plus some or any.

- 1 A Are you OK there? Can I help with anything?  
 B Actually, erm, I do need some help. Can you tell me where the milk is, please?
- 2 A Do you have this in \_\_\_\_ other \_\_\_\_ ?  
 B Yes, I think we have it in green and blue. I'll just check.
- 3 A Excuse me?  
 B Yes, hi.  
 A Do you have \_\_\_\_ Mozart \_\_\_\_ ?  
 B Sure. Just over here.
- 4 A I'll cook tonight.  
 B Great. There's \_\_\_\_ in the cupboard.  
 A OK. And do you have \_\_\_\_ ? Chicken or something?  
 B I'll just look in the fridge.
- 5 A Hello, can you give me \_\_\_\_ about the market?  
 B Of course. Well, it's open from ...

**VOCABULARY**Describing  
objects**5** Complete the items for sale on this website using the words in the box.

by dark light made of weighs with wood



Rare 1970s Apple mirror. It's 36  
<sup>1</sup> by 29.5 centimetres, and it  
<sup>2</sup> about 10 kilograms.



1960s coat rack, <sup>3</sup>          <sup>4</sup>           
 and metal.



1950s wardrobe <sup>5</sup>          two  
 doors and six drawers. The large  
 door is <sup>6</sup>          blue and the  
 small one is <sup>7</sup>          blue.

**GRAMMAR**

The passive

**6** Some customers call the shop in Exercise 5 to find out more information about the objects above. Complete the conversations with the passive form of the verbs in brackets.

**CUSTOMER 1** Hi, I'm calling about an item that <sup>1</sup> is advertised (advertise) on your website – the Apple mirror.

**SALES ASSISTANT** Yes, I know the one. What would you like to know?

**CUSTOMER 1** Can you tell me who designed it?

**SALES ASSISTANT** Yes, it <sup>2</sup>              (design) by Ringo Starr and Robin Cruikshank in the 1970s.

**CUSTOMER 1** Ringo Starr? From The Beatles?

**SALES ASSISTANT** Yes, that's right.

**CUSTOMER 2** Hello there. I'm interested in the 1960s coat rack on your website.  
**SALES ASSISTANT** Erm, which one?

**CUSTOMER 2** It <sup>3</sup>              (made of) wood and metal.

**SALES ASSISTANT** Ah, yes. I know the one. Do you need any more information about it?

**CUSTOMER 2** Yes, actually. <sup>4</sup>              (design) in Britain?

**SALES ASSISTANT** No, it wasn't. It <sup>5</sup>              (design) in Germany, in the 1960s.

**CUSTOMER 3** Hello. I'm calling about the 1950s wardrobe on your website – the one with the blue doors.

**SALES ASSISTANT** Yes, how can I help?

**CUSTOMER 3** Where <sup>6</sup>              (make)?

**SALES ASSISTANT** It <sup>7</sup>              (make) in the UK by a company called Lebetkin Furniture.

**VOCABULARY**Talking about a  
possession**7** Match the sentence parts to make phrases for talking about a possession.

- 1 (It) helps
- 2 My favourite
- 3 It was
- 4 It's
- 5 I've had it
- 6 I need it
- 7 I absolutely
- 8 It reminds me

- a since/for ...
- b love it because ...
- c given to me by ...
- d made of ...
- e of ...
- f me to ...
- g for ...
- h thing is ...

- 8** Branko is talking about his favourite possession.  
Complete the text with the expressions from Exercise 7.

I think <sup>1</sup>my favourite thing is my 1970s record player.  
 2 \_\_\_\_\_ beautiful old wood, and  
 3 \_\_\_\_\_ I was 15. <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_  
 my father, and <sup>5</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ him.  
 Some of my friends think that I'm crazy to still play records,  
 but <sup>6</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ I think records sound better than  
 MP3s. I have an MP3 player, too, of course –  
 7 \_\_\_\_\_ when I go to work or on holiday –  
 but playing records <sup>8</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ relax, especially  
 after a stressful day at the office.



Branko, Serbia



## Over to you

Write about your favourite possession. Use the expressions in Exercise 7.

# MYEnglish

- 9** Ainhoa, from Spain, is studying at a summer school in England. Read her conversation with her teacher, Matt, and answer the questions.

- 1 What did Ainhoa want to buy from the market?
- 2 What mistake did Ainhoa make?

**AINHOA** Can I ask you about something strange that happened to me this morning?

**MATT** Yes, of course.

**AINHOA** Well, I was in the market and I wanted to buy a T-shirt. The stallholder gave me a blue one, so I said 'No, I want the red *one*'.

**MATT** OK.

**AINHOA** But the man didn't understand me. Did I say the wrong thing?

**MATT** Well, you said the right thing, but you used the wrong stress. You said 'No, I want the red *one*', with the stress on *one*.

**AINHOA** Is that not correct? In Spanish, it sounds correct.

**MATT** No, you should stress the word that's important.

**AINHOA** So I should say 'No, I want the *red one*'?

**MATT** Yes, that's right!



# Your English

- 10** Think about these questions.

- 1 Do you think Ainhoa's mistake was serious?
- 2 Have you ever made a mistake like Ainhoa's? What happened?

- 11** Contrastive stress can help to emphasise what's important. Underline the words in these sentences that have contrastive stress. Then practise saying the sentences.

- 1 No, I want the green one. (*Not the red one.*)
- 2 Jan's wearing the blue T-shirt. (*Not the blue jumper.*)
- 3 Can I see the smaller one? (*Not the larger one.*)
- 4 Carlos is sitting next to Adam. (*Not sitting next to Ben.*)
- 5 Carlos is sitting next to Adam. (*Not standing next to Adam.*)

# EXPLORE Writing

**12** Read the advert from an online auction website. Are these sentences true or false?

- 1 The seller found the vase in his grandmother's house in 1956. TRUE / FALSE
- 2 The company who made the vase aren't in business any more. TRUE / FALSE
- 3 The seller is happy to sell the vase. TRUE / FALSE
- 4 The seller is selling the vase because he needs the money. TRUE / FALSE
- 5 The seller will pay the costs of posting the vase to the buyer. TRUE / FALSE

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL [www.sellingbay.com/egyptianvaseitem65742367123](http://www.sellingbay.com/egyptianvaseitem65742367123). The page title is "Egyptian vase" and the item number is 65742367123. A message says "You are signed in" and there is a link to "Watch this item". On the left is a large image of a dark blue Egyptian vase with white hieroglyphic and eye-of-Horus decorations. To the right is a "Description" section containing the following text:

An Egyptian vase in excellent condition, bought in Cairo in 1956. It is 8.6cm tall and 5cm wide, and weighs approximately 500g. The vase is dark blue and decorated with a white pattern. It was manufactured by a Cairo-based vase maker which closed in 1957. This vase is one of the last ones that they ever produced. This style of vase was popular in Egyptian homes in the 1950s and 1960s, but very few examples of the design remain; it is now considered to be rare and collectable. This example was found in my grandmother's house in Cairo last year. Reluctant to sell, but need to for financial reasons.

**Buyer pays postage.**

Thank you, please see my other auctions!

**13** Find words or expressions in the advert with the following meanings.

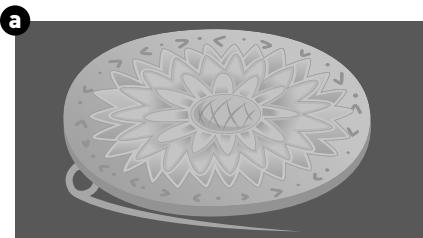
- 1 in a very good state; not damaged = *in excellent condition*
- 2 8.6 by 5 centimetres = \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 about; more or less = \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 not pale = \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 the design of lines, shapes, colours, etc. = \_\_\_\_\_
- 6 made by = \_\_\_\_\_
- 7 not common; very unusual = \_\_\_\_\_
- 8 something that people want to collect = \_\_\_\_\_
- 9 not wanting to do something = \_\_\_\_\_
- 10 money that you pay to send a letter or parcel = \_\_\_\_\_

**14** Tick (✓) the information which is included in the advert.

- |  |                                     |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| 1 What condition the item is in                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2 Where and when the seller bought or found it | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| 3 How much the seller paid for the item        | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| 4 How big it is                                | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| 5 How much it weighs                           | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| 6 What it looks like                           | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| 7 Who made it                                  | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| 8 If it is rare or collectable, and why        | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| 9 Why the seller likes the item                | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| 10 Why the seller is selling it                | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| 11 When the seller decided to sell it          | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| 12 Who pays for the postage                    | <input type="checkbox"/>            |

**15** Think of an item that you could sell on an online auction site. Write a description of the item, using some or all of the information in Exercise 14.

- 1 Before you watch, think about this question: do you have a favourite possession? What is it?
- 2 Watch the video. Match the favourite possessions (a–c) with the speakers (1–3).



- 3 Write AL (Anna Laura), J (Justyna) or L (Laura). Watch again to check.

Whose favourite possession ...

- 1 ... belonged to her grandmother? J
- 2 ... was an anniversary present? \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 ... was bought in Italy? \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 ... has been in the family for many years? \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 ... has helped her to have many wonderful experiences? \_\_\_\_\_
- 6 ... makes her think of a happy time? \_\_\_\_\_
- 7 ... makes her think of things she will do in the future? \_\_\_\_\_

- 4 Complete the sentences from the video using a word from each box.

allowed    been    brings    made    shape    back    in    of    of    to

- 1 I think it's made of enamel and the design is called Klimt Design.
- 2 I think it's really pretty, but perhaps more importantly it brings back all the memories of being there.
- 3 It's a little brooch in the shape of a sunflower.
- 4 It has been in my family for many years.
- 5 It's allowed me to see so many wonderful places and meet so many wonderful people.

- 5 Write about your favourite possession. Use these questions to help you.

- 1 Where or who did you get it from?  
 2 What is it made of?  
 3 Is it in the shape of anything?  
 4 Does it bring back any memories?  
 5 Has it been in your family for a long time?  
 6 Has it allowed you to do anything special or interesting?

## GLOSSARY

**enamel** (noun): shiny, hard paint for decorating metal

**possession** (noun): something you own, that is yours

**pin** (verb): to attach something with a pin (a thin piece of metal with a sharp point)

**wedding anniversary** (noun): the date you remember or celebrate the day you got married

**wonderful** (adjective): very good, excellent