

Functional Skills English

Entry 3 Reading

Sample assessment

Candidate Paper

Buying Online

Time allowed: 45 minutes

Marks: 16

Candidate's name: _____

City & Guilds enrolment number: _____

Date of registration: _____

Date of assessment: _____

You will need

- a pen with black or blue ink
- a dictionary.

Instructions

- Read each question carefully.
- Answer **all** the questions.
- You do not need to write full sentences.
- There are no marks for spelling, punctuation or grammar.

Candidate's declaration:

I confirm that this assessment is my own work.

Candidate's signature _____

Date _____

Activity 1

Read the text.

Uxbridge Dictionary of English

Online shopping

Online shopping is a way to shop using the internet. Shoppers visit a website to find something they want to buy or use a search engine to compare prices. They can use desktop computers, laptops, tablets or smartphones to shop at any time and from anywhere.

Stores

Most online stores have photos or images of all their products or services, with descriptions, **features** and prices. In addition, their websites allow customers to search for particular brands, models or items. Competition is strong and this keeps prices down.

Delivery

Sellers use postal services to deliver products, like clothes, gifts and mobile phones. For songs, films or computer software, the customer downloads the files directly from the internet.

Customers

Regular use of technology makes people more likely to search the internet to find bargains. To make a purchase, customers need internet access and a suitable method of payment, usually a credit card or an online payment service.

Facts

Online shopping is very popular around the world. Recent studies have found that internet sales continue to increase, especially in Asia.

The table below shows the countries which spend the most money online.

| Country | Position |
|----------------|----------|
| China | 1st |
| United States | 2nd |
| India | 3rd |
| United Kingdom | 4th |
| Japan | 5th |

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Answer the questions about the text.

1. What is the purpose of the text?
(Tick **one**)

- To describe online bargains.
- To explain internet shopping.
- To sell products on the internet.
- To give instructions for delivery.

2. In the text, the word **features** has the same meaning as

- films
- faces
- details
- articles

(Tick **one**)

3. According to the text, what do people use to check prices across different online shops?

4. Name **two** products that customers order **and** receive online.

- _____
- _____

5. Name **two** ways shoppers can pay for things online.

- _____
- _____

6. Which country spends the **most** online?

8 marks

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Activity 2

Read the text.

Daily News

[Home](#) [UK](#) [World](#) [Science & Technology](#) [More](#) ↓

Search

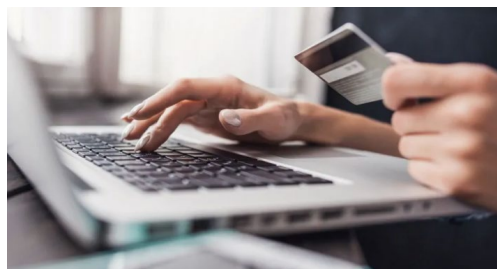


Watch Live

Want it tomorrow? Online shopping may be bad for the environment

Wednesday 20 August

Online shopping is a common experience these days but the large number of items sent back is becoming a problem.



Most people agree that buying things from a high street shop is likely to harm the environment more than shopping online. That's because many people driving to and from shops use more petrol than one van delivering parcels.

However, a recent study **shows** that buying online might not help the planet as much as we think. Because customers know they can return items free of charge, they often order more than they plan to keep, such as different sizes or colours. Therefore, vans travel many extra miles to collect unwanted items.

Last year, Global Post broke the record for the most deliveries in a day. The money earned by companies like Global Post is growing each year. This may be good for them, but not so good for the planet.

What can customers do?

Customers can make a difference by ordering less frequently and sending fewer items back. Buying less is best. The advice to those who want to help the planet is to think carefully about what you buy and plan ahead if possible. It's better to sign up for repeat purchases, so that sellers and delivery companies can plan delivery routes that save on petrol.

About The Writer

Emily Jones – Science & Technology reporter

Emily has a PhD in chemistry. She previously worked for The Business Times newspaper.

Read other articles by Emily –

[Doubts about recycling](#)

[Time to blow the whistle on petrol](#)

Answer the questions about the text.

1. What is the **main** purpose of the text?

(Tick **one**)

- To describe different types of shopping.
- To explain the effects of online shopping.
- To instruct people to use parcel companies.
- To tell readers to buy from high street shops.

2. Why could having your shopping delivered be better for the environment?

3. Which company has done well because of the increase in online sales?

4. In the first column, which word could replace **shows**?

(Tick **one**)

- demonstrates
- appears
- displays
- allows

5. Give **three** actions that shoppers can take to help the planet.

- _____
- _____
- _____

6. Name **one** other topic the reporter has written about.

8 marks

Check your work.

End of assessment