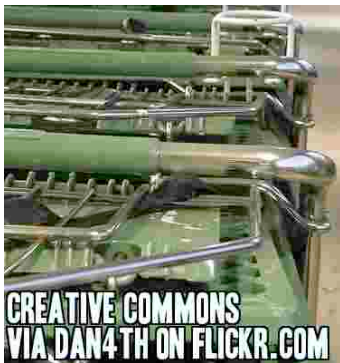


Black Friday brings out bargain hunters

29th November, 2014



One of the biggest shopping days of the year has brought out millions of bargain hunters across the world. The day is called Black Friday. Real and online stores offer discounts of up to 70 per cent on thousands of items. It is traditionally a big

shopping day in the USA, but four years ago it crossed the Atlantic and is now huge in the U.K. It has become so popular in Britain that police had to be called to four supermarkets just after midnight on Friday (the bargains went on sale at one minute past midnight). Police were worried about shoppers getting crushed in the crowds. A police spokesman said: "Officers have worked with store staff to ensure that sale-goers were able to enter and exit the stores safely."

While shoppers in the U.K. were happy to head to the shops, many store workers in the USA were angry. Many stores decided to start Black Friday a day early, which was on the US celebration of Thanksgiving. Store employees and shoppers thought it was wrong for stores to ask employees to work on Thanksgiving, which is traditionally a time for people to spend with their family. A 'Boycott Black Thursday' Facebook page has more than 114,000 likes. Many big stores, such as Costco and IKEA did not open. CNN reports that there are over 60 petitions on the website Change.org trying to get stores and customers to change Black Friday. They want a bigger focus on family instead of profits.

Sources: *DailyMail* / *BBC*

Writing

There should be one day a week when all stores close. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

shopping / online stores / traditionally / huge / popular / supermarkets / worried / exit / workers / celebration / employees / boycott / petitions / focus / family / profits

True / False

- One billion people went shopping on Black Friday. T / F
- Stores offer discounts of up to 70% off thousands of products. T / F
- Police went to supermarkets in England to stop people being crushed. T / F
- Police said store staff refused to help them. T / F
- Shoppers in England and staff in the USA were not happy. T / F
- The US holiday of Thanksgiving is the day before Black Friday. T / F
- An anti-Black Thursday Facebook page has over 100,000 likes. T / F
- There are more than 600 online for Black Friday to change. T / F

Synonym Match

- | | |
|------------------|-----------------|
| 1. offer | a. set out for |
| 2. items | b. normally |
| 3. huge | c. products |
| 4. crushed | d. use |
| 5. ensure | e. squashed |
| 6. head to | f. concentrate |
| 7. workers | g. give |
| 8. traditionally | h. employees |
| 9. spend | i. enormous |
| 10. focus | j. make certain |

Discussion – Student A

- Should there be days on which stores do not open?
- Are we all becoming too focused on buying things?
- Should there be "no shopping" days?
- Do women like shopping more than men like it? Why?
- What do you think of boycotting stores?
- What is consumerism? Is it good or bad?
- Have profits become more important than family?
- What questions would you like to ask a store owner?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------|
| 1. One of the biggest shopping | a. one minute past midnight |
| 2. offer discounts of | b. on the website |
| 3. the bargains went on sale at | c. exit the stores safely |
| 4. worried about shoppers getting | d. 114,000 likes |
| 5. enter and | e. days of the year |
| 6. shoppers in the U.K. were happy | f. instead of profits |
| 7. traditionally a time for people to spend | g. crushed in the crowds |
| 8. more than | h. with their family |
| 9. there are over 60 petitions | i. up to 70 per cent |
| 10. a bigger focus on family | j. to head to the shops |

Discussion – Student B

- How important is shopping to you?
- What do you think of discounts and sales?
- What's the biggest bargain you've found?
- What do you think of shopping days like Black Friday?
- What are the good and bad things about shopping malls?
- How long would you wait in line for a store to open?
- What do you think of going shopping when it's crowded?
- When's the best time to go shopping?

Spelling

- millions of ibgnara hunters
- cstundsio of up to 70 per cent
- It is llatdniaryto a big shopping day
- after ithnigdm on Friday
- getting hsurdec in the crowds
- enter and exit the stores slayef
- the US btnaoeecrl of Thanksgiving
- ask seymopele to work
- A 'otoBtyc Black Thursday' Facebook page
- over 60 istoetpin
- a bigger ufocs on family
- instead of tiporsf

Answers – Synonym Match

1. g	2. c	3. i	4. e	5. j
6. a	7. h	8. b	9. d	10. f

Role Play

Role A – Furniture

You think furniture is the best thing to buy in a sale. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't so good. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): jewellery, clothes or flowers.

Role B – Jewellery

You think jewellery is the best thing to buy in a sale. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't so good. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): furniture, clothes or flowers.

Role C – Clothes

You think clothes are the best thing to buy in a sale. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't so good. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): jewellery, furniture or flowers.

Role D – Flowers

You think flowers are the best thing to buy in a sale. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't so good. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): jewellery, clothes or furniture.

Speaking – Sales

Rank these with your partner. Put the best things to buy in a sale at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|-------------|----------------|
| • clothes | • TV |
| • computer | • mobile phone |
| • games | • jewellery |
| • furniture | • flowers |

Answers – True False

a	F	b	T	c	T	d	F	e	F	f	T	g	T	h	F
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.