

Bassmaah – Oman Grade 12 English

Theme 1: Retail Therapy | Unit 3: Shop Till You Drop | Lesson 3

Name: _____

Time: 20 minutes Marks: 20

Part 1 — Reading Comprehension (10 marks)

Read the text below, then answer the questions that follow.

Vanessa Williams and her friend Katy Barnes are career women with top city jobs and huge salaries. Their working hours are long and stressful, and their free time is very limited. So they fill it with their greatest passion – shopping. Vanessa and Katy are 'shopaholics.' In other words, they are compulsive buyers who are addicted to shopping.

This passion for over-shopping afflicts men as well as women. One reason is that modern companies aiming to make a profit are very clever at marketing their products, so consumers feel they need to buy more and more things.

People often buy things they don't need when they are in need of consolation. Perhaps something bad has happened, or they are feeling lonely or depressed. But although shopping can improve our mood, it can make us feel bad for months afterwards when our credit card debts increase.

As spending habits get more out of control, the lack of financial self-restraint can sometimes result in bankruptcy and even divorce.

1. What is a 'shopaholic', according to the text?

(A) A person who sells clothes	(B) A compulsive buyer addicted to shopping	(C) A career woman with a high salary	(D) A company that markets products
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2. Why do consumers feel they need to buy more and more things?

(A) Products have become cheaper	(B) Companies are clever at marketing	(C) Shops have longer opening hours	(D) Salaries have increased
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3. According to the text, people often shop when they need:

(A) exercise	(B) consolation	(C) new clothes only	(D) a job
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4. What can happen if spending habits get out of control?

(A) Better mental health	(B) Bankruptcy and even divorce	(C) Higher salaries	(D) More free time
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5. Find a word in paragraph 2 that means "too much": _____

Part 2 — Vocabulary (5 marks)

Match each word (6–10) with its correct meaning. Write the matching letter in the brackets.

6. corporate	()
7. passion	()
8. compulsive	()
9. afflicts	()
10. consumers	()

A. enthusiasm for something B. relating to a large company C. people who buy goods D. affects negatively E. unable to control an urge

Part 3 — Grammar (5 marks)

Choose the correct option to complete each sentence.

11. Vanessa and Katy ____ shopping addicts.

(A) is	(B) are	(C) was	(D) being
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12. Modern companies ____ very clever at marketing their products.

(A) is	(B) are	(C) was	(D) been
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13. Shopping can make people feel bad when their debts ____.

(A) increase

(B) increased

(C) increasing

(D) has increased

14. Katy ____ just bought her fourth pair of shoes this week.

(A) is

(B) has

(C) have

(D) was

15. Much research ____ (do) into this feature of modern life. (Use the correct passive form.)

Part 4 — Writing Practice (5 marks)

Write 4-5 sentences about your own shopping habits. Are you a careful spender or do you sometimes buy things you don't need?

Marking guide:

Relevant content, on topic	2
Correct grammar and spelling	2
Clear, complete sentences	1

Answer Key

Q#	Answer	Reason
1	B	<i>"they are compulsive buyers who are addicted to shopping."</i>
2	B	<i>"modern companies ... are very clever at marketing their products."</i>
3	B	<i>"People often buy things they don't need when they are in need of consolation."</i>
4	B	<i>"can sometimes result in bankruptcy and even divorce."</i>
5	excessive	<i>Matches the meaning "too much."</i>
6	B	<i>Corporate = relating to a large company.</i>
7	A	<i>Passion = enthusiasm for something.</i>
8	E	<i>Compulsive = unable to control an urge.</i>
9	D	<i>Afflicts = affects negatively.</i>
10	C	<i>Consumers = people who buy goods.</i>
11	B	<i>Plural subject "Vanessa and Katy" takes "are."</i>
12	B	<i>Plural subject "companies" takes "are."</i>
13	A	<i>Present simple in a conditional-style clause: increase.</i>
14	B	<i>Present perfect: has → "has just bought."</i>
15	has been done	<i>Present perfect passive: research has been done.</i>