

Diploma-Style Comprehensive Practice Exam — Unit 3: Shop Till You Drop

Subject: English Language 'Core' | Time: 2 Hours | Total Marks: 55 Marks

Section	Marks	Score
Vocabulary	2.5	
Grammar	2.5	
Grammar / Vocabulary	5	
Reading 1	7	
Reading 2	8	
Reading 3	10	
Writing 1	10	
Writing 2	10	

VOCABULARY (ITEMS 1–5)

(2½ marks)

For each item, choose the correct answer from A, B, C or D.

1. Vanessa works as a _____ lawyer for a large international company in the city			
A) corporate	B) compulsive	C) traditional	D) fragrant

2. He borrowed too much money from the bank and now he is struggling to pay his _____			
A) degrees	B) drafts	C) directions	D) debts

3. Shoppers who buy items uncontrollably to lift their mood are known as _____ buyers			
A) compulsive	B) reasonable	C) responsible	D) positive

4. Buying a small gift for herself after a hard day at work served as a temporary _____ for her stress

- | | | | |
|----------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|
| A) consolation | B) bankruptcy | C) architecture | D) navigation |
|----------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|

5. Shopping addiction is a serious psychological condition that _____ many people worldwide

- | | | | |
|-------------|------------|---------------|------------|
| A) afflicts | B) exports | C) proofreads | D) abseils |
|-------------|------------|---------------|------------|

GRAMMAR (ITEMS 6–10)

(2½ marks)

Read the dialogue. For each numbered item, choose the correct option.

Amal: Hi Mariam! You look tired. What (6) have / had you been doing all morning?

Mariam: I've been at the new shopping mall! I met Katy, (7) who / which works as a corporate accountant.

Amal: Really? I (8) have been / was trying to manage my budget better recently.

Mariam: That's wise. Overspending on credit cards can (9) do / make serious harm to your finances.

Amal: Exactly. I haven't bought any unnecessary items (10) since / for last month!

GRAMMAR / VOCABULARY (ITEMS 11–15)

(5 marks)

Complete each numbered blank with the correct word.

For many people, shopping is a pleasant leisure activity. However, for some individuals, it becomes a severe obsession to which they are (11) _____. These 'shopaholics' fill their free time by (12) _____ unnecessary purchases whenever they feel stressed or depressed. Psychologists explain that spending (13) _____ amounts of money gives them a temporary emotional high. Unfortunately, this behavior often leads to unpaid credit card (14) _____ and severe financial crises. In extreme cases, people who cannot control their compulsive habits may end up facing total (15) _____.

READING 1 (ITEMS 16–22)

(7 marks)

Read each short text. Is the statement that follows True or False?

Katy and Vanessa are career women with high-paying jobs in the city. Because their work is long and stressful, they spend their limited free time going on massive shopping sprees.

Statement	True	False
16. Katy and Vanessa go shopping because they have no job commitments		

Buying goods on credit cards allows consumers to get products immediately without paying cash upfront. However, financial advisors warn that failing to clear monthly balances creates high interest rates and heavy debts.

Statement	True	False
17. Using credit cards carelessly can result in serious financial debt		

Modern shopping malls offer a wide range of facilities under one roof, including coffee bars, restaurants, and international retail stores. They provide a comfortable, climate-controlled environment for shoppers.

Statement	True	False
18. Shopping malls only contain clothing stores		

Researchers have done extensive studies on consumer psychology. Findings show that retail therapy triggers a short-term release of chemicals in the brain that temporarily improves a person's mood.

موقع اختبارات بصمة

Statement	True	False
19. Research proves that shopping therapy provides a permanent cure for depression		

After failing her driving test, Fatma went to the market and bought a luxury handbag. She admitted that buying something expensive was just a consolation to make her feel better.

Statement	True	False
20. Fatma bought the handbag because she needed it for work		

Retail stores use bright lights, attractive displays, and background music to encourage customers to stay longer. Studies indicate that these factors increase impulse buying among shoppers.

Statement	True	False
21. Store environments are designed to influence customer buying decisions		

When individuals spend far more than their income, they risk falling into bankruptcy. Legal bankruptcy means a court officially declares that a person cannot repay their creditors.

Statement	True	False
22. Bankruptcy occurs when a person has plenty of savings in the bank		

READING 2 (ITEMS 23–30)

(8 marks)

Read the letter. Then choose the correct answer for each item.

Dear Amna,

I hope you are doing well. I am writing to share some good news about my elder sister, Hind. As you know, for the past two years, Hind was struggling with severe compulsive shopping. Whenever she felt overwhelmed by her job as a hospital manager, she would spend hours online buying expensive designer clothes and shoes that she never even wore.

Things got really bad six months ago when she realized she had accumulated over 4, Omani Rials in credit card debts. She received warning letters from her bank, and the stress was affecting her health. She was on the verge of facing bankruptcy.

Luckily, Hind decided to seek professional help. She started attending weekly therapy sessions with a financial counselor who specializes in shopping addiction. The counselor helped her understand that her spending was just an emotional reaction to work stress. Together, they created a strict monthly financial plan. Hind handed her credit cards over to our father and started using cash only for essential expenses like food and fuel. She also took up gardening and jogging as healthier ways to release stress.

Last week, Hind cleared her very last bank payment! To celebrate her recovery, we organized a small family dinner at home. She is now planning to give talks to university students about smart money management.

Warm regards, Maha

23. Hind works as a manager in a _____		
A) bank	B) hospital	C) school

موقع اختبارات بصمة

24. Hind used to go shopping compulsively whenever she felt _____

A) stressed

B) energetic

C) bored

25. Six months ago, Hind discovered that her bank debt had reached _____
Omani Rials

A) 400

B) 2,

C) 4,

26. To overcome her problem, Hind received guidance from a _____
counselor

A) financial

B) legal

C) career

27. As part of her recovery plan, Hind gave her credit cards to her _____

A) sister

B) father

C) therapist

28. To manage her stress in a healthier way, Hind started _____

A) online shopping

B) travelling abroad

C) jogging and gardening

29. The family celebrated at home because Hind _____

A) bought a new car

B) paid off all her debt

C) got a promotion

30. In the future, Hind intends to talk to university students about _____

A) money management

B) medical research

C) fashion design

READING 3 (ITEMS 31–40)

(10 marks)

Read the text. Then complete the tasks below.

Understanding Compulsive Buying Disorder

In modern society, shopping has evolved from a simple necessity into a major recreational activity. While most people shop responsibly within their financial limits, a growing percentage of the global population suffers from Compulsive Buying Disorder (CBD), commonly known as shopping addiction.

People who suffer from CBD are often referred to as 'shopaholics'. They experience an uncontrollable urge to purchase goods, regardless of their actual need or financial capacity. Psychologists note that the act of buying produces a temporary feeling of euphoria or a 'buzz'. However, this positive feeling is quickly followed by intense feelings of guilt, regret, and anxiety once the shopping spree ends.

There are several factors that contribute to compulsive shopping. High-stress careers, emotional isolation, and low self-esteem are key psychological triggers. Additionally, modern commercial tactics worsen the problem. The widespread availability of credit cards, continuous online marketing campaigns, and easy 24-hour e-commerce platforms make impulse spending easier than ever before.

The consequences of untreated shopping addiction can be devastating. Financially, it leads to massive credit debts, loan defaults, and eventually personal bankruptcy. Emotionally, it damages relationships with family members and friends due to secrecy and lies regarding money.

To tackle this disorder, experts recommend financial rehabilitation. This includes destroying credit cards, establishing strict budget limits, and replacing shopping habits with healthy physical or creative activities.

Task One: Answer in no more than FOUR WORDS or a NUMBER.

31. What is the common term used for Compulsive Buying Disorder?

32. What emotion do shopaholics feel immediately after a shopping spree ends?

33. Mention ONE psychological trigger for compulsive shopping.

34. How many hours a day are e-commerce platforms accessible?

35. What is the main financial danger of untreated shopping addiction?

36. What should compulsive buyers destroy to help manage their spending?

Task Two: Choose the correct answer for each item.

37. The act of buying gives shopaholics a temporary feeling of _____		
A) sadness	B) excitement	C) tiredness

38. Modern online advertising campaigns make impulse buying _____		
A) harder	B) easier	C) impossible

39. Compulsive shopping damages family relationships mainly because of financial _____		
A) secrecy	B) generosity	C) security

40. Financial experts advise people with shopping addiction to set strict limits on their _____		
A) working hours	B) budgets	C) physical exercise

WRITING 1

(10 marks)

Write at least 100 words on the following topic:

"Banks should limit the usage of credit cards for online shopping." Do you agree or not?

Give your reasons.

Your writing should be clear, convincing, and well-organised.

WRITING 2

(10 marks)

Complete the following narrative writing task. Write at least 100 words.

Write a story about a time you or someone you know bought an expensive item on impulse and regretted it later. Include in your story:

- **What was the item and where did you buy it?**
- **Why did you feel the urge to buy it?**
- **What happened afterwards and what lesson did you learn?**

Your writing should be clear, interesting, and well-organised.



بصمة
نلهمك لتبدع ...!

Official Answer Key

VOCABULARY (2½ marks)

#	Correct Answer	Marks
1	corporate (0. mark)	
2	debts (0. mark)	
3	compulsive (0. mark)	
4	consolation (0. mark)	
5	afflicts (0. mark)	

GRAMMAR (2½ marks)

#	Correct Answer	Marks
6	have (0. mark)	
7	who (0. mark)	
8	have been (0. mark)	
9	do (0. mark)	
10	since (0. mark)	

GRAMMAR / VOCABULARY (5 marks)

#	Correct Answer	Marks
11	addicted	1 mark
12	making	1 mark
13	excessive	1 mark
14	debts	1 mark
15	bankruptcy	1 mark

READING 1 (7 marks)

#	Correct Answer	Marks
16	False	1 mark
17	True	1 mark
18	False	1 mark
19	False	1 mark

موقع اختبارات بصمة

20	False	1 mark
21	True	1 mark
22	False	1 mark

READING 2 (8 marks)

#	Correct Answer	Marks
23	hospital	1 mark
24	stressed	1 mark
25	4,	1 mark
26	financial	1 mark
27	father	1 mark
28	jogging and gardening	1 mark
29	paid off all her debt	1 mark
30	money management	1 mark

READING 3 (10 marks)

#	Correct Answer	Marks
31	Shopping addiction / Shopaholic	1 mark
32	Guilt / Regret / Anxiety (Any ONE)	1 mark
33	High-stress / Stress / Isolation / Low self-esteem (Any ONE)	1 mark
34	24 hours / 24	1 mark
35	Bankruptcy / Massive debts	1 mark
36	Credit cards / Their credit cards	1 mark
37	excitement	1 mark
38	easier	1 mark
39	secrecy	1 mark

موقع اختبارات بصمة

40	budgets	1 mark
----	---------	--------

Writing 1 & 2 (20 marks total) — Evaluated per Ministry of Education Criteria

Criterion	Marks
Task Achievement & Relevance	4 marks
Grammar, Vocabulary & Cohesion	3 marks
Organization & Mechanics	3 marks

