

Going to the Supermarket

In this lesson, you will learn English words and expressions to use when grocery shopping. You'll learn words for the main sections in a supermarket and the different products that are available. After this lesson, you will find it easier to grocery shop in an English-speaking country.



Pre-Reading

A. Warm-Up Questions

1. Do you like grocery shopping? Why or why not?
2. What is your favorite supermarket? What do you like about it?
3. Name one product that is always difficult to find in a supermarket.

B. Vocabulary Preview

Match the words on the left with the correct meanings on the right.

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| ___ 1. groceries | a) soap that you use to wash your hair |
| ___ 2. dairy | b) a long lane that you walk down in a store |
| ___ 3. shampoo | c) the place where you buy freshly sliced meat |
| ___ 4. beauty supplies | d) milk products, such as cheese and yogurt |
| ___ 5. aisle | e) a place where you buy baked goods, such as bread and muffins |
| ___ 6. produce | f) soap for washing clothing |
| ___ 7. ground beef | g) fresh fruits and vegetables |
| ___ 8. deli | h) items that you use to take care of your appearance, such as makeup |
| ___ 9. bakery | i) products that you buy at a supermarket (mainly food items) |
| ___ 10. laundry detergent | j) meat from a cow that is ground up (used to make hamburgers) |

Dialogue Reading

Read the dialogue with your partner a few times. Take turns being each character. Practice your intonation and pronunciation. Circle any new words or phrases that you need to practice.

Customer: Excuse me. **Where can I find the butter?**

Clerk: **It's in the dairy section at the back of the store. I can show you.**

Customer: **That's okay. I can find it myself now.**

Clerk: **Is there anything else you're looking for today?**

Customer: **Can you also tell me where to find the shampoo?**

Clerk: Sure. **It's with the health and beauty supplies in aisle 4.**

Customer: Thanks a lot.

Clerk: **You're welcome. Have a good day.**

Practice

Work with your partner. Role-play the dialogue on page 2, substituting the different expressions below. Then switch roles.

1. **Where can I find the butter?**

- Where are the potatoes?
- Can you point me toward the ground beef?
- Do you carry muffins?
- Where would the sliced ham be?
- Can you direct me to the frozen peas?

2. **It's in the dairy section at the back of the store.**

- They're in the produce section against the far wall.
- It's in the meat department on the opposite wall.
- They're in the bakery at the front of the store.
- It's in the deli near the front entrance.
- They're in the frozen food section in the middle aisle.

3. **I can show you.**

- I'll show you.
- I can take you there.

4. **That's okay. I can find it myself now.**

- That's all right. I'll find it.

5. **Is there anything else you're looking for today?**

- Can I help you find anything else?
- Do you need anything else?

6. **Can you also tell me where to find the shampoo?**

- Where is the laundry detergent?
- Where can I find toilet paper?

7. **It's with the health and beauty supplies in aisle 4.**

- It's with the household and cleaning products.
- It's with the paper products.

8. **You're welcome. Have a good day.**

- Sure. Enjoy your day.
- No problem.

Listening Practice

Two student volunteers will go to the front of the class and read the dialogue from page 2. Fill in the missing words as you listen. Listen again with two new speakers. Now look back at page 2 and check your work. Did you fill in the correct words? Did you spell everything correctly?

Customer: _____ me. Where can I find the _____ ?

Clerk: It's in the _____ section at the back of the store. I can show you.

Customer: That's okay. I can find it _____ now.

Clerk: Is there _____ you're looking for today?

Customer: Can you also tell me where to find the _____ ?

Clerk: Sure. It's with the health and _____ in _____ 4.

Customer: Thanks a lot.

Clerk: You're _____. Have a good day.

Vocabulary Building

Work with your partner. List several food items or other products for each section of the grocery store.

1. Produce

4. Fish

7. Bakery

10. Health &
Beauty Supplies

2. Dairy

5. Poultry

8. Frozen Foods

11. Household
Cleaning Products

3. Meat

6. Deli

9. Canned Goods

12. Paper Products

Write Your Own Dialogue

Write a dialogue with a partner using phrases from page 3.
One of you will be a customer in a supermarket and one of you
will be a clerk. Practice and present the dialogue to your class.

Answer Key

LESSON DESCRIPTION:

In this lesson, a customer asks a clerk for help in finding some items at a supermarket. Students learn vocabulary and expressions to use when grocery shopping.

LEVEL: Beginner – Intermediate

TIME: 1.5 hours

TAGS: everyday dialogues, supermarket, grocery store, shopping, groceries, food, products, grocer

Pre-Reading

A. WARM-UP QUESTIONS

Discuss as a class or in small groups. Answers will vary.

B. VOCABULARY PREVIEW

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

Dialogue Reading

Give your students time to read the dialogue in pairs.

Practice

Have your students read the dialogue again and practice subbing in some of the different expressions.

Listening Practice

Have students complete the dialogue by listening to two students read the completed dialogue from page 2. Choose a new pair to read it a second time.

Vocabulary Building

Individual answers.

Write Your Own Dialogue

Encourage your students to use vocabulary from the model.

SPELLING NOTE:

This lesson shows the American spelling of the words *Favorite*, *Toward*, and *Practice*. Most other English-speaking countries spell these words this way: *Favourite*, *Towards*, and *Practise* (when used as a verb; *Practice* when used as a noun). Make it a challenge for your students to find these words in the lesson and see if they know the alternate spellings.