

## B1.3 Shopping and Money - Handout

**1** These discussion questions are designed to introduce the topic of shopping and money. Obviously, they are of a general nature so that the discussion does not become too personal or intrusive. Be aware though, that there may be cultural differences regarding what financial details it is acceptable to ask about (e.g. in certain cultures it is fine to ask how much somebody earns upon first acquaintance, whereas this would probably be considered impolite by most British people).

Useful vocabulary, which your partner can look up in a dictionary, but which your explanation could also consolidate includes: *second hand, to save up for sth., on credit, gamble, lottery, homeless, charity and recession*. You might like to watch out to see that the adjective of *economy* is used correctly, as *economic* (= connected to the economy) and *economical* (= cheap) are often confused by learners of English.

**2** These role-played situations should encourage the learner to use a variety of vocabulary according to the different contexts. This will include: *dye, greasy, rude, hamster, vet, refund, smart, alter and tailor*. You can, if there is enough interest, take turns acting out the roles of aggrieved customer and defensive service provider. It will greatly improve the learner's 'performance' if they have experienced a native speaker's as a model.

**3** This activity is designed to stimulate creativity in the learner and will naturally lead to the use of a lot of modal verbs (e.g. *could, may, might*) as you speculate together over possible advertising slogans, headlines and titles for stories.

**4** As with all of these short writing tasks, if you could briefly discuss with your partner what he or she will write about before they begin then the task will be greatly facilitated.