

Buying a Winter Coat: Everyday Dialogues [B2]

Sei di fronte a una decisione difficile: scegliere tra due cappotti, uno pratico e impermeabile, l'altro elegante e classico. Quale ti offrirà la migliore via di mezzo adatta alla vita di tutti i giorni?

Sarah: Hello, do you need some help? Mario: Yes, please. I can't make up my mind between these two coats. Sarah: They're both lovely. Is it for general use or are you going somewhere in particular? Mario: No, it's just for here. I'm not going **hiking** in the snow or anything like that. Sarah: Right, then, the blue one is good for both, as it has a windproof lining. Mario: That's good. But is it rainproof, too? Sarah: Yes, the coat is completely waterproof. It'll keep you dry in the heaviest downpour. Mario: I like the look, too, though the other one is more stylish. Sarah: Well, puffer jackets are all the rage right now, but the brown coat has a more classic look. Mario: Yes, that one's timeless. I like that it's not **tied** to any **trend**; it'll be good for years. But is it **wind-and waterproof**, too? Sarah: Ah, no. It's fine for the city, but no good for **hiking** in freezing conditions. It'll keep you dry in a light shower, though. Mario: Hmm. I'll go for the brown one. I need a good everyday coat. Sarah: Excellent! Come this way and I'll ring it up at the till for you.

NOW LET'S REVIEW THE VOCABULARY!

To make up one's mind means 'to make a decision'. The coat is for general use, **i.e.**, to be used every day, for any occasion. Or anything like that is an informal idiom that shows that what you have said is just an example. A windproof coat will not allow wind to enter the **garment**. The lining of a coat is an interior **layer** of a different material. A rainproof coat will not allow rain (or water) to enter the **garment**. A waterproof coat will not allow water to enter the **garment**. The suffix '-proof' means 'protecting against'. A downpour is a heavy fall of rain. A puffer jacket (or simply a 'puffer') is a warm coat with insulated sections, which look like they are **puffed up**. When something is **trendy** or popular, it is (all) the rage. Timeless is the opposite of '**trendy**', being classic or **long-lasting** in terms of fashion. A light shower is a

gentle, brief rainfall. To go for means 'to choose'. Everyday literally means 'used every day'. To ring something up means to record an item a customer is paying for on the cash register. Till is the British word for 'cash register'.

Glossary

- **gentle** = leggera
- **rainfall** = precipitazione
- **hiking** = escursionismo
- **tied** = legare
- **garment** = indumento, capo
- **long-lasting** = duraturo
- **puffed up** = gonfio
- **trend** = tendenza
- **wind-and waterproof** = antivento e impermeabile
- **i.e.** = cioè, ovvero, ossia (id est)
- **layer** = strato