



Garage Sale

Conversation > Advanced 7



Exercise 1 – Vocabulary

attic	A room or space immediately below the roof, often used for storage.
[noun]	<i>Ex: I have many boxes full of old comic books in the attic.</i>

miscellaneous	Many and different.
[adjective]	<i>Ex: She does miscellaneous jobs around the office.</i>

presentable	Being in a good condition, so as to be able to be presented to others.
[adjective]	<i>Ex: Make sure to look presentable for the meeting.</i>

rack	A piece of equipment, usually made of metal or wooden bars, used for holding things or for hanging things on.
[noun]	<i>Ex: All the dresses on this rack are 30% off.</i>



occupy	To take up a person's time or keep them busy.
[verb]	<i>Ex: Studying occupies most of my time.</i>

tag	A small piece of paper, cloth, metal, etc., on which information is written.
[noun]	<i>Ex: Please wear your name tag at the conference.</i>

assignment	A task or piece of work someone must do as part of their job or studies.
[noun]	<i>Ex: His assignment was to present the company's sales figures.</i>

appreciate	To recognize or understand the value or worth of someone or something.
[verb]	<i>Ex: She appreciated her boyfriend's thoughtful gift.</i>



Exercise 2 – Dialogue

Choose one character and read the dialogue aloud with your tutor.

Joe: I really appreciate you helping me out with this garage sale, David.

David: It's always fun to look through all the weird miscellaneous stuff people keep in their attics.

Joe: If I can make the attic look presentable, maybe I can use it for something other than storage.

David: This is going to be a lot of work. What's my assignment going to be?

Joe: First we should take down all the racks and tables, and set them up in the garage.

David: Alright, that shouldn't take long.

Joe: Now that we have somewhere to put everything, I'll start bringing stuff down from the attic.



David: What about me, Joe?

Joe: As I bring down new items to sell, you try to guess how much they're worth and put a price tag on them.

David: That's no fun! I wanted to look through all the junk in your attic, you know how nosy I am.

Joe: That's exactly why I don't want you up there. This is a way to occupy your time that actually helps me.

David: Damn it. I was hoping to find an embarrassing childhood photo of you.

Joe: That's what I figured.

David: You know me too well, Joe.



Exercise 3 – Fill in the Blanks

Choose the correct answers from the answer pool below and fill in the blanks.

Answer Pool

attic
occupied
miscellaneous
tags
presentable
assignments
rack
appreciates

1. Our manager always tells us how much she _____ our work.
2. He placed his jacket on the _____.
3. He does his homework _____ in the library.
4. He's not very _____. He needs some new clothes.
5. We must wear legible name _____ at all times while in the factory.
6. There might be a screwdriver in that drawer of _____ items.
7. I usually ask my kids to help me, just to keep them _____.
8. I live in the _____. It's really cold during the winter.



Exercise 4 – Role Play

Take turns with your tutor and act out the scene described below.

Scene: You're having a garage sale, ask your friend Sam to help you organize it. The teacher can be Sam.



Exercise 5 – Discussion

Discuss the following questions with your tutor.

1. Have you ever been to a garage sale? If so, what was it like?
2. Do people often have garage sales in your country?
3. Do you ever donate the things you don't use anymore?
4. Do you prefer to buy new items or second-hand items? Why?
5. What items do you think are better to buy second-hand? Why?