



Visiting a Bookshop

Conversation > Advanced 7



Exercise 1 – Vocabulary

browse through	To search through something (usually items at a store).
[phrasal verb]	<i>Ex: I find it very relaxing to browse through CDs at the music store.</i>

value	The worth of something compared to its price.
[noun]	<i>Ex: At only \$49.99, the book is great value.</i>

paperback	A book that has a thick paper cover.
[noun]	<i>Ex: Nothing beats the smell of a new paperback.</i>

hardback	A book that has a stiff, rigid cover.
[noun]	<i>Ex: The library contains over 10,000 hardbacks.</i>

box set	A collection of books, CDs, movies or TV shows, packaged together and sold as a unit.
[noun]	<i>Ex: The Game of Thrones DVD box set is on sale for \$99.99.</i>



(be) drawn to	To be really interested in or attracted to something.
[phrase]	<i>Ex: They were drawn to each other from the moment they met.</i>

unimaginable	Unthinkable, something that can't be imagined.
[adjective]	<i>Ex: The victim's mother told the jury of her unimaginable pain.</i>

hit the road	To depart; to begin one's journey.
[phrase]	<i>Ex: Let's hit the road, it's going to take us two hours to get home.</i>

second-hand	Having been previously owned or used by someone else.
[adjective]	<i>Ex: A number of second-hand products are on sale here.</i>



Exercise 2 – Dialogue

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

Laura: Coming here was a great idea. I'm mad about book shops.

Megan: Me too! I especially like second-hand book shops like this.

Laura: I like to just browse through the whole shop and see what I'm drawn to.

Megan: Yeah! Sometimes you can find some really unimaginably weird books.

Laura: I know what you mean. Like this box set of books about the history of wrestling.

Megan: You get ten books for \$5! That's pretty good value. They're all hardbacks as well!

Laura: Since when are people who like wrestling interested in history or reading?

Megan: That's a good question, Laura!



Laura: I'm looking for some good paperbacks to read on the beach.

Megan: Are you going on a trip with your boyfriend?

Laura: We're going on holiday soon, and I need to find some good reading material before we hit the road.

Megan: Why do they need to be paperbacks, though?

Laura: Because we have to travel light and hardbacks are far too heavy.

Megan: Just buy some books while you're on holiday then.

Laura: We're going to South America, I doubt they'll have books in English over there.

Megan: Good point! Let's look around the shop.



Exercise 3 – Fill in the Blanks

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

Answer Pool

Hardback
second-hand
box set
unimaginable
hit the road
value
paperbacks
drawn to
browse through

1. What are you _____? What do you like?
2. I don't have the contents list. You'll just have to _____ everything.
3. I don't mind using _____ furniture.
4. _____ books are always more expensive than paperback books.
5. Let's _____. The trip is really long.
6. Walking on the Moon was _____ in the past.
7. I want to buy the whole Breaking Bad _____.
8. He brings a lot of _____ to the team.
9. Do you like _____ or hardbacks?



Exercise 4 – Role Play

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

Scene: You are in a book store with your friend Rose. Talk about what kind of books you like. The teacher can be Rose.



Exercise 5 – Discussion

Discuss the following questions with your tutor.

1. Do you like reading? Why or why not?
2. Have you ever read a book and thought that it was very boring?
3. Do you prefer paperback or hardback books? What about electronic books (e-books)?
4. Do you like going to bookshops? Why? Why not?
5. What book would you recommend that everyone read? Why?