

# ESL Tutoring Session 3: Shopping

## Tutor Guide

This 40-minute Zoom tutoring session is designed to help develop clear English communication skills. Remember to:

- Speak clearly at a moderate pace
- Face the camera directly when speaking
- Use visual cues and gestures alongside verbal instructions
- Provide immediate, supportive feedback
- Use the icons for visual reinforcement

## How to Use This Guide

1. Review the entire worksheet before the session
  2. Follow the section order, spending about 5-7 minutes per section
  3. Use the icons for visual cues:
    - 🎧 = Listening activity
    - 💋 = Speaking activity
    - 👁️ = Visual observation
    - ✓ = Practice task
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## Section 1: Conversation Practice (7 minutes)

### 💋 Shopping for Clothes

**Instructions:** Practice these shopping phrases. Tutor demonstrates first, then student repeats.


**Pattern 1:** "How much is this \_\_\_\_\_?"

**Pattern 2:** "Excuse me, how much does this \_\_\_\_\_ cost?"

**Examples:**

- "How much is this shirt?"
- "Excuse me, how much does this jacket cost?"
- "What's the price of these shoes?"

✓ **Student Practice:** \_\_\_\_\_

 **Tutor's Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_

## **Asking About Sizes**

**Instructions:** Practice asking about available sizes.

**Pattern 1:** "Do you have this in size \_\_\_\_\_?"

**Pattern 2:** "Is this available in \_\_\_\_\_?"

**Examples:**

- "Do you have this in size medium?"
- "Is this available in large?"
- "Can I try a smaller size, please?"

✓ **Student Practice:** \_\_\_\_\_

 **Tutor's Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_

## **Comparing Items**

**Instructions:** Practice comparing two items using comparative adjectives.

**Pattern 1:** "This \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_ than that one."

**Pattern 2:** "The \_\_\_\_\_ is more \_\_\_\_\_ than the \_\_\_\_\_."

**Examples:**

- "This one is cheaper than that one."
- "The red sweater is more expensive than the blue one."
- "These pants are longer than those ones."

✓ **Student Practice:** \_\_\_\_\_

 **Tutor's Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_

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## **Section 2: Minimal Pairs & Phonological Awareness (8 minutes)**


### **Listening for Different Sounds**

**Instructions:** Today we'll focus on four minimal pairs that are especially challenging when shopping. Say each word pair clearly with emphasis on the different sounds.

### Today's Focus Pairs:

#### 1. /s/ vs. /z/ (Consonant Pair)

- **price** (cost of an item) vs. **prize** (reward for winning)
- **sell** (to offer for sale) vs. **zeal** (enthusiasm)
- **sip** (drink a little) vs. **zip** (fastener on clothing)


 **Visual Cue:** For /s/, air passes through teeth with no voice. For /z/, air passes through teeth with voice (feel vibration).

#### ✓ Practice Sentences:

- "What's the **price** of this **prize**-winning jacket?"
- "They **sell** products with great **zeal**."
- "Take a **sip** of water while I **zip** up my coat."

#### 2. /f/ vs. /tʃ/ (Consonant Pair)

- **shop** (store) vs. **chop** (to cut)
- **share** (to give part of) vs. **chair** (seat)
- **shoe** (footwear) vs. **chew** (to bite and grind food)


 **Visual Cue:** For /f/ (sh), lips are rounded with continuous air flow. For /tʃ/ (ch), lips are rounded but air stops briefly before releasing.

#### ✓ Practice Sentences:

- "I went to the **shop** to **chop** the price in half."
- "Please **share** that **chair** with your friend."
- "My new **shoe** is tough to **chew**."

#### 3. /k/ vs. /g/ (Consonant Pair)

- **coat** (outerwear) vs. **goat** (animal)
- **class** (group of students) vs. **glass** (transparent material)
- **card** (paper rectangle) vs. **guard** (security person)


 **Visual Cue:** For /k/, back of tongue touches roof of mouth without voice. For /g/, same position but with voice (feel vibration).

✓ **Practice Sentences:**

- "I need a new **coat** but not a **goat**."
- "The **class** is looking at the **glass** display."
- "I'll pay by **card** and the **guard** will check my receipt."

**4. /ʌ/ vs. /ɑ/ (Vowel Pair)**

- **cup** (drinking vessel) vs. **cop** (police officer)
- **money** (currency) vs. **Mani** (a name)
- **bun** (bread roll) vs. **barn** (farm building)

 **Visual Cue:** For /ʌ/ (cup), your mouth is slightly open. For /ɑ/ (cop), your mouth is more open and relaxed.

✓ **Practice Sentences:**

- "Put the **cup** down when you see the **cop**."
- "I need **money** to pay **Mani** for the shirt."
- "The **bun** costs less than driving to the **barn**."

✓ **Student accuracy:** ☐ Got it! ☐ Needs more practice

 **Tutor's Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_

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## Section 3: Numbers and Prices (7 minutes)

### **Saying Prices Clearly**

**Instructions:** Practice saying these prices with the correct pronunciation and stress.

- **\$5.99**
  - Say it like: "Five dollars and ninety-nine cents"
  - Or: "Five ninety-nine"
- **\$23.50**
  - Say it like: "Twenty-three dollars and fifty cents"
  - Or: "Twenty-three fifty"

- **\$100.00**
  - Say it like: "One hundred dollars"
  - Or: "A hundred dollars"
- **\$12.25**
  - Say it like: "Twelve dollars and twenty-five cents"
  - Or: "Twelve twenty-five"
- **\$49.99**
  - Say it like: "Forty-nine dollars and ninety-nine cents"
  - Or: "Forty-nine ninety-nine"

✓ **Practice saying these prices in sentences:**

- "This shirt costs \$23.50."
- "The shoes are on sale for \$49.99."
- "I spent \$100.00 on groceries."
- "The book is only \$12.25."
- "These gloves are \$5.99."

 **Tutor's Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_

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## Section 4: Comparing with Adjectives (6 minutes)

### **Using Comparative Forms**

**Instructions:** Learn how to compare items when shopping. For one-syllable adjectives, add -er. For longer adjectives, use "more".

#### **One-Syllable Adjectives: Add -er**

- cheap → cheaper
  - "This bag is cheaper than that one."
- big → bigger (double the final consonant)
  - "The black jacket is bigger than the blue one."
- small → smaller
  - "My phone is smaller than yours."

#### **Two-Syllable and Longer Adjectives: Use "more"**

- expensive → more expensive
  - "Designer clothes are more expensive than regular clothes."
- beautiful → more beautiful
  - "These flowers are more beautiful than those ones."
- comfortable → more comfortable
  - "These shoes are more comfortable than my old ones."

### Irregular Comparatives

- good → better
  - "The quality of this shirt is better than I expected."
- bad → worse
  - "The traffic today is worse than yesterday."

✓ **Create your own comparisons using these forms:**

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_



**Tutor's Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_

## Section 5: Shopping Vocabulary (6 minutes)




### Essential Shopping Terms

**Instructions:** Match each shopping term with its definition, then practice using it in a sentence.

Term	Definition
Sale	A lower price for a limited time
Discount	A reduction in the original price
Size	How big or small something is
Receipt	A piece of paper showing what you bought
Cashier	A person who takes your payment at a store
Aisle	A walkway between shelves in a store
Shopping cart	A wheeled basket used to collect items in a store
Price tag	A label that shows how much something costs
Fitting room	A place where you can try on clothes
Bargain	A good deal; something inexpensive

✓ **Practice sentences:**

- "This jacket is on sale for 50% off the original price."
- "May I have a receipt for my purchase, please?"
- "I need to find the correct size for these pants."
- "The cashier gave me a discount because the item was damaged."
- "I found a real bargain at the department store today."

 **Tutor's Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_

## Section 6: Reading Practice (6 minutes)

### Shopping for Groceries - Reading Practice

**Tutor Instructions:**

1. First, ask the student to read the entire paragraph out loud
2. Next, you (the tutor) model-read the entire paragraph with proper pronunciation, stress and intonation
3. Then, read one sentence at a time and have the student repeat after you, correcting any pronunciation errors
4. Finally, ask the student to read the entire paragraph again on their own

**Reading Passage:**

Shopping for Groceries

Maria needs to go grocery shopping. She makes a list of everything she needs: milk, bread, eggs, fruit, and vegetables.

She takes her shopping bag and walks to the supermarket. When she arrives, she gets a shopping cart.

First, Maria goes to the produce section. She looks at the apples. "These red ones are \$2.99 per pound," she thinks. "But the green ones are on sale for \$1.99. I'll get the green apples."

Next, she needs bread. There are many kinds to choose from. Some are more expensive than others. Maria chooses a whole wheat loaf for \$3.50.

In the dairy section, she finds milk and eggs. The eggs cost \$4.25 for a dozen. "That's more expensive than last week," she says to herself.

After getting everything on her list, Maria goes to the checkout. "Did you find everything okay?" asks the cashier.

"Yes, thank you," Maria replies. "How much is my total?"

"Your total is \$24.73," says the cashier. "Will you pay with cash or card?"

"Cash, please," says Maria. She pays and takes her receipt. "Have a nice day!"

Maria walks home with her groceries. She is happy because she saved money by buying things on sale.

### Reading Questions:

1. What items were on Maria's shopping list? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Which apples did Maria buy and why? \_\_\_\_\_
3. How much was the bread Maria chose? \_\_\_\_\_
4. What did Maria think about the price of eggs? \_\_\_\_\_
5. How much was Maria's total at checkout? \_\_\_\_\_

✓ **Student Reading:** \_\_\_\_\_

 **Tutor's Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_

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## Section 7: Practice Conversation (Remaining time)

### **At a Clothing Store**

**Instructions:** Practice this dialogue with your tutor. Pay attention to pronunciation and intonation.

**Customer:** Excuse me, can you help me find a jacket?



**Salesperson:** Of course! What size are you looking for?

**Customer:** I usually wear a medium. Do you have any in blue?

**Salesperson:** Yes, we have several blue jackets. This one is \$45.99.

**Customer:** That's a bit expensive. Do you have anything cheaper?

**Salesperson:** This one is on sale for \$29.99. It's less expensive but still good quality.

**Customer:** I like it! Can I try it on?

**Salesperson:** Sure, the fitting room is over there.


**Customer:** It fits perfectly. I'll take it!

**Salesperson:** Great! Will you be paying with cash or card?

**Customer:** Credit card, please.

**Salesperson:** Thank you for shopping with us today!

✓ **Practice Dialog:** \_\_\_\_\_

 **Tutor's Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_

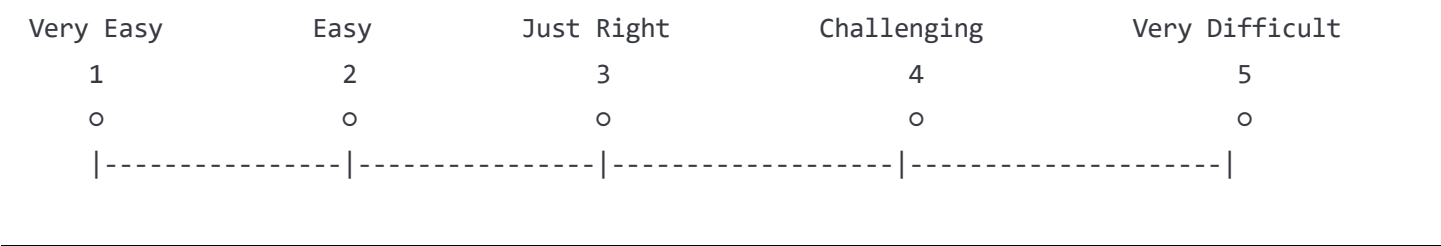
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## Wrap-Up

### Areas That Need More Practice:

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_

### Overall Difficulty Rating:



*Note for the tutor: The minimal pairs in this session are particularly relevant to shopping contexts. The /s/ vs. /z/ distinction is important for distinguishing "price" vs. "prize", and the /f/ vs. /tʃ/ distinction is crucial for*

*words like "shop" and "chop". Focus on these distinctions to help the student communicate clearly in shopping situations.*