

# Shopping at River Street Market

COMPREHENSION • VOCABULARY • DISCUSSION

## INTERACTIVE ONLINE TEST

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## Reading Passage

Read the passage carefully. Each paragraph is labelled with a letter for easy reference.

**A** Every Saturday morning the wide road beside the river changes into River Street Market. Bright tents stand in long rows, and the air smells of fresh bread and roasted coffee. Last week Anna and her cousin Mark went there to buy food and small gifts. They arrived at 9 a.m. and started at the fruit stall. Red apples cost one euro a kilo, so Anna chose two kilos for her family. Next to the apples were green olives and soft white cheese from a nearby village. Mark bought a small box of olives because his mother loves salty snacks. After fruit and cheese, the cousins walked to a clothes stall. A colourful wool scarf caught Anna's eye. The sign said €8, but street-market prices are often flexible. Anna smiled at the seller and asked politely, "Can I pay seven euros?" The woman laughed and agreed, so Anna saved one euro. Music played from a portable speaker, and children danced between the tents. Anna and Mark felt thirsty, so they stopped at a corner café table and shared a large orange juice with ice. They rested for ten minutes and watched other shoppers bargain for handmade soap and wooden toys. Before leaving, the cousins visited the bakery stall. The baker was pulling warm flatbread from a metal oven. The smell was too good to resist, so Mark bought two pieces for lunch. At 11 a.m. their cotton shopping bag was full, and their pockets were almost empty of coins. River Street Market is special because people talk, laugh, and taste food together. By bringing a reusable bag and friendly attitude, Anna and Mark enjoyed a cheap and lively morning of shopping.

## Vocabulary Glossary

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Key words and phrases from the passage. Study them before attempting the exercise below.

WORD / PHRASE	DEFINITION	EXAMPLE SENTENCE
<b>stall</b>	a small shop or stand in a market selling goods	<i>The fruit stall at the market had fresh bananas.</i>
<b>flexible</b>	able to change; not fixed	<i>The schedule is flexible, so you can start work anytime between 8 and 10 a.m.</i>
<b>bargain</b>	to discuss and agree on a price that is lower than the original	<i>She tried to bargain with the seller to get a lower price on the dress.</i>
<b>portable</b>	easy to carry or move around	<i>He used a portable radio to listen to music in the park.</i>
<b>reusable</b>	able to be used more than once	<i>She brought a reusable water bottle to reduce plastic waste.</i>
<b>lively</b>	full of energy and activity	<i>The festival was lively, with music and dancing all day.</i>
<b>roasted</b>	cooked by dry heat, usually in an oven	<i>We had roasted chicken for dinner last night.</i>
<b>flatbread</b>	a type of bread that is thin and flat	<i>They served flatbread with the soup.</i>

### Vocabulary Exercise — Fill in the Blank

Use one word or phrase from the glossary above to complete each sentence. Each item is used only once. Answers are on the final page.

1. The market has a fruit \_\_\_\_\_ where you can buy apples and oranges.
2. The schedule is not \_\_\_\_\_, so you must arrive at the exact time.
3. We tried to \_\_\_\_\_ with the vendor to get a better deal on the painting.
4. She listens to music on her \_\_\_\_\_ speaker when she goes to the beach.
5. Using a \_\_\_\_\_ bag is better for the environment than plastic bags.
6. The concert was really \_\_\_\_\_, with everyone dancing and singing along.

## Comprehension Questions

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These questions are different from the online practice test. Choose the best answer (A, B, C, or D). Answers and explanations are on the final page.

### Question 1

**What time did Anna and Mark arrive at the market?**

- A. 8 a.m.
- B. 9 a.m.
- C. 10 a.m.
- D. 11 a.m.

### Question 2

**Why does Anna prefer to bring her own shopping bag?**

- A. It's fashionable.
- B. It's cheaper than buying bags.
- C. It's reusable.
- D. It's easy to carry.

**answer.**

**why?** The passage mentions that Anna brings a reusable bag.

**why 'A'?** The passage does not mention fashion as a reason.', 'B': 'The passage does not mention cost as a reason.', 'D': 'The passage highlights reuse, not ease of carrying.'}

### Question 3

**What does Anna do to save money on the scarf?**

- A. She buys it on sale.
- B. She asks for a discount.
- C. She trades it with another item.
- D. She pays with coins only.

### Question 4

**What kind of music is playing at the market?**

- A. Live band music
- B. Classical music
- C. Music from a speaker
- D. Traditional music

### Question 5

#### What is special about River Street Market?

- A. It has the cheapest prices in town.
- B. People share food and talk together.
- C. It opens every day.
- D. It offers only local products.

### Discussion & Writing Prompts

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*Each prompt references a specific detail from the passage above. Use for classroom discussion or a short written response (150–200 words).*

1. Paragraph 3 describes how Anna negotiated the price of a scarf. Have you ever bargained for a lower price? What was your experience like?

2. The passage mentions that River Street Market is special because of the social interactions. How important is the social aspect of shopping to you, and why?

3. At the end of the passage, it says that Anna and Mark's pockets were almost empty of coins. Do you think shopping at a market is cheaper or more expensive than shopping at a supermarket, and why?

# Answer Key

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

Q1 B

Q2

Q3 B

Q4 C

Q5 B

## VOCABULARY EXERCISE

FIB1 stall

FIB2 flexible

FIB3 bargain

FIB4 portable

FIB5 reusable

FIB6 lively

## Comprehension Question Explanations

Why the correct answer is right — and why each wrong option is incorrect.

### 1. What time did Anna and Mark arrive at the market?

✓ B — 9 a.m. The passage states Anna and Mark arrived at 9 a.m.

✗ A — 8 a.m. 8 a.m. is incorrect because the passage says they arrived at 9 a.m.

✗ C — 10 a.m. 10 a.m. is incorrect; they arrived earlier at 9 a.m.

✗ D — 11 a.m. 11 a.m. is when they were leaving, not arriving.

### 2. Why does Anna prefer to bring her own shopping bag?

✓

✗ A — It's fashionable.

✗ B — It's cheaper than buying bags.

✗ C — It's reusable.

✗ D — It's easy to carry.

### 3. What does Anna do to save money on the scarf?

✓ B — She asks for a discount. Anna smiles and asks for a lower price, which is bargaining.

✗ A — She buys it on sale. The passage does not mention a sale.

✗ C — She trades it with another item. She does not trade; she bargains.

✗ D — She pays with coins only. The payment method isn't related to saving money.

### 4. What kind of music is playing at the market?

✓ C — Music from a speaker The passage mentions music played from a portable speaker.

✗ A — Live band music There is no mention of a live band.

✗ B — Classical music Classical music is not mentioned.

✗ D — Traditional music Traditional music is not specified.

## 5. What is special about River Street Market?

✓ **B — People share food and talk together.**

The passage says the market is special because people talk, laugh, and taste food together.

✗ **A — It has the cheapest prices in town.**

*The passage does not claim it has the cheapest prices.*

✗ **C — It opens every day.**

*The market is open every Saturday, not every day.*

✗ **D — It offers only local products.**

*The passage mentions local products but not exclusively.*

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