

## SHOPPING IN ENGLAND

English people love to shop! It is number one free time activity.

The main shopping street in many towns is called the High Street, where you go if you want to do the shopping. A few small shops are owned by local people but most are owned by national 'chains' of stores like H&M. This makes many town centres look the same. Some towns also have street markets where you can buy fresh food and cheap goods. Away from the town centre, small 'corner' shops provide groceries to local customers.



In England, most shops are usually open 6 or 7 days a week. They are open from 9 am to 5.30 pm. Some shopping centers stay open until 8 pm or later. Some large town supermarkets now open 24 hours.

Bank holidays are a great time to shop as there are many sales, especially at Easter and Christmas. On public holidays (called "bank holidays") some shops open and some shops do not. As a general rule, banks and other business are closed, but most supermarkets and large stores are open (but not on Christmas Day).

In villages, some shops still follow the tradition of an early closing day (usually a Wednesday) when the shops close at 1.00 pm.

(adapted from <http://www.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/>)

1. Decide whether these sentences are true or false.

- |   | T                        | F                        |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. The English like selling and buying.     | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Few shops are owned by national chains.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. You can buy fresh products at the market | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. All the shops close on public holidays.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

2. Find in the last two paragraphs of the text words that mean the **opposite** of:

1. few \_\_\_\_\_
2. closed \_\_\_\_\_
3. private \_\_\_\_\_
4. late \_\_\_\_\_

3. Answer the questions.

1. Do English people like shopping?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Where can you usually go shopping in many towns?

\_\_\_\_\_

3. What are usual opening times?

\_\_\_\_\_

4. What is the tradition in most villages?

\_\_\_\_\_