



1. market stall
[ˈmɑːkɪt stɔːl]
2. vendor [ˈvɛndə]
3. second-hand clothes
[ˌsɛkənd hænd ˈkləʊðz]
4. tailcoat
[ˈteɪlkəʊt]
5. grandfather clock
[ˌgrændfɑːðə ˈklɒk]
6. rocking horse
[ˈrɒkɪŋ hɔːs]
7. crockery
[ˈkrɒkəri]
8. pram [præm] UK, baby carriage
[ˈbeɪbi ˌkerɪdʒ] N. Am.
9. vintage handbag
[ˌvɪntɪdʒ ˈhændbæg]
10. vinyl records
[ˌvaɪnəl ˈrekɔːdz]
11. second-hand books
[ˌsɛkənd hænd ˈbʊks]
12. tea cosy
[ˈtiː ˌkəʊzi]
13. medals [ˈmedəlz]
14. costume jewellery [ˈkɒstjuːm ˌdʒuːələri]
15. bust [bʌst]
16. used furniture
[juːzd ˈfɜːnɪtʃə]

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VOCABULARY

At the flea market

Do you enjoy rummaging through old junk in the hope of stumbling on a treasure? ANNA HOCHSIEDER presents language to talk about flea markets.

MEDIUM PLUS

Bargain-hunting

My sister and I are **flea-market** fiends. We'll spend hours happily **rummaging** through boxes of old **junk**. More often than not, we'll just pick up a few **worthless trinkets**, but every now and then, we'll **unearth** a real find: a **rare** first edition, a **valuable** antique brooch, or a **vintage** Gucci handbag. My sister **has an eye for a bargain** and will always find some item or other to add to her collection of **curios** and **bric-a-brac**. Someone tried to sell her a **knock-off** Louis Vuitton bag for £200 the other day, but she spotted the fake a mile away.

Both of us love haggling. We usually end up paying only a fraction of the asking price. Last year at an antiques market in the south of France, we **stumbled on** a **treasure trove** of **collector's items**, including a **priceless** Lalique vase.

Once a year, we set up our own **stall** at a flea market in our neighbourhood. That's when we get rid of all the useless **knick-knacks** that we've collected over the past year to make room for new acquisitions. After all, we have only so much storage space.

PRACTICE

Now try the following exercises to practise talking about a visit to a flea market.



Exercise 1	E
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Study the illustration on the opposite page and find the words defined below.

- A man's formal jacket that is short at the front and has two longer pointed parts at the back is a .
- Plates, cups, bowls and dishes are .
- Necklaces, brooches, etc. that look expensive, but are made with cheap materials, are .
- A model of a person's or animal's head made out of stone, metal, etc. is a .
- A small vehicle on wheels in which one pushes a baby around is a .
- A person who sells something, especially in the street or at a market, is a .

Exercise 3	M
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Underline the correct option in bold in each of the sentences below.

- These earrings are **priceless** / **worthless**. I'll give you €1 for them.
- Look at this iPhone. Is it real, or is it a **bargain** / **knock-off**?
- This rare art deco table lamp is a **collector's item** / **treasure trove**.

Exercise 2	M
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Match the verbs and verb phrases in bold below (A–F), taken from the text, to their definitions (1–6).

A. If you rummage through something, you...	1. discover something by chance and unexpectedly.
B. If you unearth something, you...	2. create space for something by moving other things.
C. If you have an eye for something, you...	3. have only a limited quantity of something.
D. If you stumble (up) on something, you...	4. discover something by chance or after searching for it.
E. If you make room for something, you...	5. move a lot of things around in order to search for something.
F. If you have only so much of something, you...	6. can judge whether something is valuable or of high quality.

Exercise 4	A
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The words in the list can all be used to describe things people typically buy and sell at flea markets. Complete the paragraph below with the correct words.

bric-a-brac | curio | junk | knick-knacks | trinkets

(A) are small, cheap objects used as decoration. The uncountable noun (B) has the same meaning. Objects of this kind can also be called (C) . This term is used for pieces of jewellery as well. While all these expressions describe things that are pretty but of little value, the word (D) has a more negative meaning: things that are broken, useless and unwanted. A (E) , on the other hand, is a small object that is interesting because it is rare or unusual.

brooch [brəʊtʃ] **necklace** ['neɪkləs]
 • Brosche • Halskette



Answers

- A. tailcoat
B. crockery
C. costume jewellery
D. bust
E. pram
F. vendor
- A-5; B-4; C-6; D-1; E-2; F-3
- A. worthless
B. knock-off
C. collector's item
- A. Knick-knacks
B. bric-a-brac
C. trinkets
D. junk
E. curio