

Food Sales



● Warm-up Questions

1. When do you like to go grocery shopping?

2. What don't you like about grocery shopping?

3. What does this expression mean: "You get what you pay for"?

4. Do you ever buy things that you regret (後悔) buying?

VOCABULARY

● WRITE THE CORRECT WORD IN THE SENTENCES BELOW

pre-made, shut, perishable, a nightmare, side dishes, spring rolls, beggars, rude, aggressive, slapped her butt, causing worries, overcrowded, avoids, close contact

1. There are many young _____ in Vancouver, Canada.
2. Please _____ the window. It's cold in here.
3. My sister _____ parties because she is shy.
4. Global Warming is still _____ around the world.
5. Monkeys can be very _____, so don't have a monkey as a pet.

Food Sales

One of the good things about working late in Japan is that grocery stores sell meals for a lower price at the end of the day.

Before closing, stores put 20% off stickers on their pre-made dinners. Next, stores will put 50% off stickers on these meals 1 hour to 30 minutes before the stores shut.

Stores give these discounts because the meals are perishable. This means that the food must be eaten that day. If not, the food goes into the garbage, and the store loses money.

For customers, this is great. We can eat delicious food at a lower price. But for some stores, the discount stickers are a nightmare.

One woman who works at a grocery store outside Tokyo explained her stress in a post on a website for people with work trouble.

At 6pm, she begins putting the 20% off stickers on side dishes such as fried chicken or spring rolls. Around an hour later, she puts the 50% off stickers on top of the 20% off stickers.

"I always see the same customers waiting around for me. Most of them are really nice, and I have no problem with them. Some wait over an hour, but they don't bother anyone."

However, there is another group of shoppers

she calls "supermarket beggars", and they can be rude and aggressive to her. These shoppers want her to put the half-off stickers onto their meals before the right time.

When she explains that it would not be fair to the others, they say things like "I'm a regular, so hurry up." One customer slapped her butt to get her attention. When she turned around, the man held out a *bento* and said, "Stick it on!"

"When it's time to put on the stickers, crowds of people start following me. They come close to me, demanding that I put a sticker on their meals. I'm not sure I want to work here anymore," she wrote.

Crowded grocery stores are also causing worries about the spread of COVID-19. To solve this problem, the mayor of Osaka has a solution. He suggested it was better for men to go grocery shopping because women take too long. This makes supermarkets overcrowded.

In April (2020), Osaka mayor Ichiro Matsui said men shoppers spend less time in stores. "Women take longer because they worry about price and choosing the best product," Matsui told reporters at a coronavirus press conference in Osaka. "Men buy what they are told, so that avoids close contact with others." Maybe he is friends with Yoshiro Mori.

Talking Ideas

1. Which seasonal food do you like the most?
2. Should grocery stores stop giving discounts on these meals?
3. Did you ever have a bad experience while shopping for food?
4. Which food stores do you trust the most?
5. What kinds of things don't you buy on sale?
6. Do you agree that women take longer to shop than men?
7. What is good and bad about working late?
8. Which do you like the least: shopping for food, cooking, washing dishes or eating too much?

Grammar Practice

Fix the sentences below. All of them have around 3 mistakes.

1. People need to eat the foods for survive.

2. I searched a nice restaurant, but I can't find them, so I went back to home.

3. I regret to eat that the last piece of cakes.

PREPOSITION PRACTICE

Fill in the blanks using: up, on, in, with, of, to, like, about, for

Write a proper preposition for each sentence. Sometimes, there is more than one answer.

1. I don't like to buy food _____ sale. I've had bad experiences _____ cheap food.
2. I am crazy _____ expiration dates. They are very important _____ me.
3. To make fried rice, first, chop _____ some vegetables and cook them _____ oil.
4. I never warm _____ food _____ a microwave.
5. Do you want to come to my home _____ dinner? I'm talented _____ cooking.
6. Are you allergic _____ any food? It's dangerous _____ some people to eat peanuts.
7. I'm not fond _____ mushrooms because I think they look _____ trees.
8. Cake is made _____ flour, salt, butter and should be made _____ love.
9. When customers are rude _____ workers, I want to tell them to shut _____.
10. It must be a challenge _____ some workers to put _____ bad customers.

WRITING SENTENCES

1. meal: _____
2. sticker: _____
3. discount: _____
4. fair: _____
5. demand: _____
6. anymore: _____