

46 – Shopping and buying credit for a mobile phone

Aims: - Inform refugees about shops in the host country.
- Enable refugees to communicate in shopping situations.

Communicative situations

- Understand the signs indicating where the different sections or departments of a store are.
- Ask for an item that they want to buy.
- Ask about prices and quantities.
- Buy credit for a mobile phone (example).

Materials

Pictures of supermarkets, markets and shops.

Language activities

Activity 1

Ask refugees to describe a market in their country using questions like the following: How do you say “market” in your language? What time does the market start? What can you buy there?

Activity 2

Use pictures of shops etc. to:

- familiarize refugees with the most important signs in a supermarket, shop or market in the host country.

Elicit what refugees know about where to buy certain products.

Invite refugees to:

- Write the key-expressions from the discussion on cards.
- Note down the words on the signs.

Check comprehension by asking refugees to match words with pictures and signs.

Activity 3

Play a recording of an announcement that the supermarket is about to close, e.g.: This is a customer announcement: *the supermarket will be closing at 7:30. Please bring your shopping to the checkout now. Thank you!* Play the recording again if necessary. Then check understanding by asking questions, e.g.: *What time will the supermarket close?*

Activity 4

Show refugees the pictures again.

- Ask them to point to a place where it is possible to buy credit for a mobile phone in their country, and to compare these with the places in the host country where this can be done.

- Introduce a dialogue like the following:
 - A. *Good morning, can I buy credit for my phone here?*
 - B. *Yes, you can.*
 - A. *How much does it cost?*
 - B. *You can pay 5, 10, 20 or 50 Euros.*
 - A. *Can I have 10 euros, please?*
 - B. *OK here you are.*
 - A. *Thanks.*
- Check understanding focusing in particular on key expressions like *Can I buy ...? Do you sell ...? How much is it?* etc.
- Refugees do a role play following the example given (allow time for preparation).

Activity 5

Show pictures of banknotes (or use realia) for 5, 10, 20, 50 Euro.

- Show some examples of receipts. Ask refugees: If you pay with a 20 euro note and what you buy costs 5 euro, how much change will you get? Continue with similar examples.

Ideas for learners with low literacy

Invite refugees with low literacy to copy a short shopping list. Then:

- Ask them to find easy words on the cards, in signs etc.
- Ask them to write a new shopping list for themselves.

Sample materials

