

6 Culture Page

Unwanted items



A Read the text quickly and complete the table.

	Location in city	Who runs/organises it	Items sold	Where the money goes
CHARITY SHOP				
GARAGE SALE				

One person's junk is another man's treasure

That pair of jeans doesn't suit you, those boots are too small, your childhood toys are taking up space in the back of your wardrobe. What do you do with these items?



UK

If you live in the UK, you will most probably donate them to a **charity shop**. Shops like these can be found on every high street, and they are usually quite small, so they mostly sell clothes, accessories, books, CDs and DVDs. The shop manager is paid, but the people working there are volunteers, many of them teenagers. The reason? After the shop's costs are covered, the profit from what is sold goes to charitable organisations, such as the British Red Cross, Oxfam or the British Heart Foundation. This is a win-win situation: people who donate their things instead of throwing them away are recycling and being environmentally friendly; people who buy from these second-hand shops are getting great value for money and, at the same time, they are raising money for charity. Charity shops also attract shoppers who are interested in vintage clothing and are looking for items with unique style that were worn long ago. Although, in the past, charity shops were visited mostly by people with little money, today they are becoming more and more popular and are spreading not only in physical locations but online as well, with many of them developing their own websites.

USA



If you live in the US, you might donate them to a charity or organise a **yard or garage sale**. This is typical when someone is doing a bit of spring cleaning, is planning on moving or is looking for some extra money. Garage sales take place in somebody's garage or driveway or in their front yard. The house owner who organises it puts their unwanted clothes, toys, sports equipment, furniture, house accessories or even appliances on tables, in boxes and on clothes racks, or spreads them on the front lawn. Prices are usually written on the items, although buyers may ask for a better deal, and sellers might be willing to accept less to avoid getting stuck with the stuff. With most shoppers in the US today using credit cards, this is probably one of the very few situations where only cash is used. Garage sales are advertised online or around the neighbourhood with signs and flyers, and they most often happen during a weekend with good weather. Garage sales are visited not only by people looking for cheap everyday items to buy, but also by more professional buyers, who are looking for items to buy, fix up and resell. It's not unusual to find more than what you are looking for at a garage sale. Some years ago, a little girl paid \$2 for some pieces of paper that turned out to be stolen artboards for the first ever Avengers comic book – they were actually worth \$48,000!

B Read the text again and find evidence to prove the following.

1. Charitable organisations don't get the whole amount from the sale of the items.
2. Shoppers who buy from charity shops benefit in two ways.
3. Charity shops don't sell only modern clothing.
4. More and more people are shopping from charity shops nowadays.
5. At garage sales, sellers may decide to reduce prices.
6. Buyers cannot pay by credit card at a garage sale.
7. People sometimes buy things at garage sales in order to sell them again.
8. You might find something valuable at a garage sale.

PROJECT

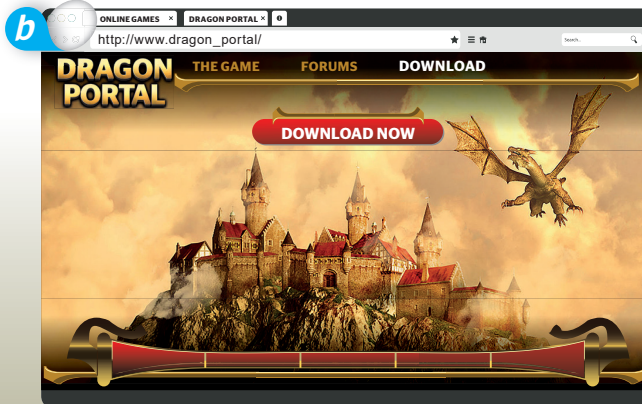
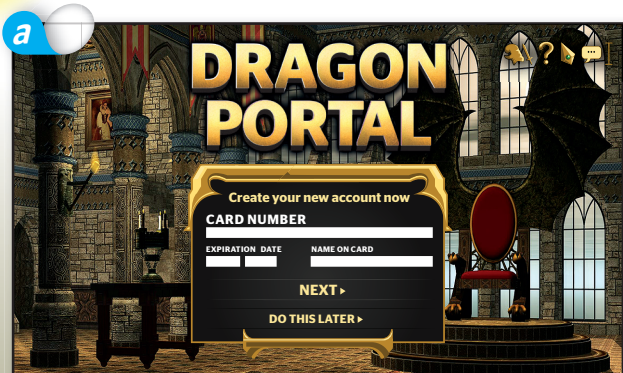
Write about something you bought!

Imagine you went to a charity shop or a garage sale and bought something. Describe what it is, what it is used for, who you think owned it, why this person gave it away, etc.

7 Task

Following and giving instructions

A Listen to a tutorial on how to install a new video game, and put the screenshots below in the correct order. Write 1-8.



B Discuss.

- Do you think the instructions were clear? Could you have improved them? How?
- What other kinds of things do you think people make online tutorials for?

C Work in pairs and come up with instructions on how to do something. Use an idea of your own or one of the ideas in the box.

- connect your phone to a new Wi-Fi network
- save a video from a social media site
- run an antivirus check on your computer
- uninstall an app from your phone

D Present your instructions to the class.