The Classified Advertising section of your local newspaper lists everything from jobs, accommodation and lost pets, to Council Notices and things for sale. If you are searching for second hand goods, the FOR SALE section is the place to start. You will find almost anything from pre-loved books and toys to washing machines and furniture.

Lots of people buy and sell this way. It’s a great way to find bargains, or get rid of things you don’t need any more. Second-hand things are almost always cheap, or at least not as expensive as brand new items. So if you are looking for a fridge freezer, or school uniforms for your children, it’s a good idea to look in the newspaper. You might get a really good deal!

When you have found something that interests you, and the price is right, phone the seller to arrange to see the goods. Remember to check the quality and condition of the goods before you buy, as you do not have the same guarantees as you do with new goods bought in a shop.

If you have something to sell you can advertise it in the newspaper too. Find out how much it costs to advertise in the FOR SALE section by phoning or visiting the advertising department of your local newspaper. Usually you pay for the size of the advertisement, and for every word you use. Happy bargain hunting!

Match the word to the meaning. The first one has been done for you

- **pre-loved** a promise that something works properly, and is well made
- **get rid of** how something works or looks
- **a good deal** never used before
- **condition** owned and used by someone, but cared for
- **guarantee** value for money
- **brand new** owned and used by someone before
- **second-hand** throw away, dispose of

Now answer these questions

- What can you buy through the For Sale section of the newspaper?
- Are second-hand things usually cheap or expensive?
- Who do you talk to if you want to buy something from the For Sale section of the newspaper?
- How can you find out how much it costs to advertise something this way?

Happy bargain hunting!

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Mr Jay: Hello, I'm calling about the three piece suite you advertised in the paper today.

Seller: Yes. How can I help?

Mr Jay: Is it still for sale?

Seller: Yes, but I've had a few calls about it though.

Mr Jay: Oh. Could you tell me a few things about it? How old is it and what is it made from?

Seller: It's about 10 years old, but still in good condition, and it's light brown velvet.

Mr Jay: Right. Mmm, could I have a look at it today?

Seller: Yeah, sure. When do you want to come?

Mr Jay: Oh, about 3 this afternoon would suit me. Is that OK for you?

Seller: Yes, that's good.

Mr Jay: Well, what’s your address?

Seller: 33 Baker Street, Medlington. D’you know where that is?

Mr Jay: Yes, just off Harrison Avenue isn’t it?

Seller: That’s right. I’ll see you later then.

Mr Jay: Thanks very much. See you at 3. Oh by the way, my name’s Mr Jay. Bye.

Now answer these questions

$ What does Mr Jay want to buy?
$ What colour is it?
$ What time will Mr Jay visit the seller?
$ Where does the seller live?

Talk to your tutor
Have you ever bought second-hand things?
Have you ever bought something from the For Sale section of the newspaper?
Why is it a good idea to do this?
Why could it be a bad idea to buy second-hand things this way?
Ana's washing _______ has broken down again and can't be repaired, so she has to ___ another one.
Instead of buying a brand ___ machine, she is going to look for a _______ one in the For Sale section of the newspaper. The Saturday paper has the most adverts for _____ goods, so she reads through the adverts until she ______ what she wants. It is very _____! Ana loves a ________, but she can't be _____ that the machine will work, so she asks the seller as many_________ as she can before going to look at the washing machine.

Now make up some questions to ask the seller. Use these words to get started.

how old? ______________________________________
make? ______________________________________
look at? ______________________________________
time? ______________________________________
address? ______________________________________

questions
machine
used
finds
new
bargain
second-hand
cheap
buy
sure

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Buying and selling

Read through these adverts and discuss any unfamiliar vocabulary.

Talk about the shorthand style of writing for advertisements like this.

Ask your learner to choose one advert and make up a phone call to the seller.

Write out the dialogue then take turns to be the buyer and the seller.

FOR SALE
Fridge freezer.
Fisher & Paykel.
Only one year old. Excellent condition. $150.
Ph: 685 9768 after 5 pm.

FOR SALE
Bedroom suite. Rimu.
Double bed, wardrobe and dressing table. Needs some repairs. $225 o.n.o.

FOR SALE
Child’s bicycle.
Unwanted gift. Used once.
$60.
Ph: 474 9027.

FOR SALE
Box of baby clothes and toys. $50 the lot. To view call 664 5714.

FOR SALE
Girl’s Hillside High School Uniform.
Size 10. Very good condition. Worn for only one term.
Ph: 856 4765.

FOR SALE
Bargain!
Box of baby clothes and toys. $50 the lot. To view call 664 5714.

Now think of some things you might want to sell one day. Make up your own advert to put in the For Sale section of the Classified Advertisements.

WORD SEARCH

b a r g a i n r o e w a g e a
r g i o g p e o a g i n a x p
o e f o i r w o r u n d r p i
w s e d l e a s t a d e a e l
f i n s e l l e r r f o g n e
a c l e r o t c h a o i e s t
d h d q u v e o d n r n s i z
s e b u y e r n o t s i e v u
w a a a n d r d i e a c p e l
s p i l u t e h n e l i v w p
r e n i d e l a d v e r t o r
n o u t t g e n i o a u s e d
s e r y c o n d i t i o n d m
c r a i l o o k i n g o r v e
b l p i c e r g w a s d o t

The words go down, across and diagonally down.
Work alone or with someone else.

buyer condition
bargain quality
expensive deal
second hand item
guarantee cheap
seller looking
pre-loved advert
used for sale
goods price

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