

Black Friday Shopping!

Story By: Andrew Frinkle

Joan couldn't resist a sale. The better the sale, the more she wanted to buy. Words like *Buy One Get One*, *50% Off*, or *Clearance*, were music to her ears. Therefore, there was no bigger day of the year for her habit than Black Friday.

Black Friday was the day after Thanksgiving, when many businesses started selling really well. When businesses were 'in the black,' they were making money. That was fine by Joan, so long as she was spending her money wisely and getting great deals!



Joan set her alarm for 4 A.M., having laid out her clothes and sensible shoes the night before. Her purse and everything were ready, so when that alarm rang, she sprang out of bed and was out the door in less than 10 minutes. She drove quickly, following a route she'd mapped out to avoid traffic. Her parking spot was strategically located between her favorite stores.

She hit the mall like a hurricane, a force of nature in the realm of shopping. She dodged slow-moving zombie shoppers who'd been out all night waiting for one special item. She darted between carts and made acrobatic moves to snag just the items she wanted. She made people watch in awe as she found the shortest lines, magically seeming to whiz through store after store.

With arms loaded up with bags, she returned to her car to offload. She pounded an energy drink, took a couple minutes to focus on her shopping list, and then it was once more into the fray! She returned to the stores, dancing around people who didn't know the art of the shopping game. She weaved between crowds of people like a ghost, unseen by those of lesser shopping talents than her.

When she was finally done, she returned to her car with another armload of bags. Her work done, she retreated home for some rest for herself and for her credit card. Until next year, that is...

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Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. What does Joan liked doing?
 - A. eating
 - B. shopping
 - C. reading
 - D. planning

2. What day is Joan going shopping on?
 - A. Thanksgiving
 - B. Christmas Eve
 - C. New Year's
 - D. Black Friday

3. How would you BEST describe Joan's shopping technique?
 - A. careless and free
 - B. measured and patient
 - C. planned and coordinated
 - D. hectic and wild

4. How would you BEST describe Joan's personality?
 - A. She is direct and forceful to the point of being rude.
 - B. She is organized and focuses on what she wants.
 - C. She is really easy-going and happy.
 - D. She is careless and silly.

5. TRUE OR FALSE: Joan seems like the kind of person that works hard to get what she wants?
 - A. True
 - B. False

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