**A15 Amy Lawrence**

**Unit 4: Do you prefer shopping online or on foot?**

My father, mother, and I have very different personalities, and we have different ways of shopping. My father shops online. My mother shops on foot to find what she wants and then buys it online, and I like to shop in person. For my father, shopping is a chore. For mom, it’s her job to get the best and pay the least, and me, I just like walking around and the experience.

First, my father is a discriminating consumer. He does extensive research online before buying anything. He searches Google and reads reviews, lots of reviews, especially for electronics. Some electronics are much cheaper on amazon, but the shipping to Asia is expensive. So, he buys from Amazon and has it shipped to his sister in California, and she mails it here. Also, he buys used books in America, for $2 or $3 and the shipping is $16. So, he gets a nearly-new book for less than $20. He much prefers a book he can put on the shelf more than an E-book.

Second, my mother is a champion shopper. She’ll go out and find the products she wants in a store and examines them carefully. And take pictures. Then, she’ll come home and buy them on the internet. She waits until she needs a lot of things and orders them at the same time, that way she gets free shipping. She’s also very picky. If some fruit or something is not fresh, she’ll call them and send them back.

Third, I like shopping on foot with my friends. It’s like a social experience. I like being out and about instead of cooped up at home in front of a computer screen. I like shopping downtown because it’s centrally located and easy to get there. Also, there are several universities nearby, and most stores cater to college kids. It’s crucial to me to get the right size and color. I hate it when I get something online that doesn’t fit and the color is off. Then, it’s a hassle to return it. No thanks.

Well, there it is. My father shops online. He likes the ability to research and to find the best item at the lowest price, and he’s not bothered if it takes a week or so to get. My mom is a professional shopper. She takes pride in getting the best for least. And if there were a contest for haggling, she would probably win. Me, I like being out and about and shopping on foot. I like the social experience. (424 words)

 Dad in shopping mode Mom researching Me socializing and shopping

  