

Sunday trading laws in England and Wales set to be relaxed

Today, let's talk about Sunday trading in the UK. Currently smaller shops are allowed to open all day on a Sunday. Shops over 280m² are allowed to open for up to six hours.

British Chancellor of the Exchequer, George Osborne, is set to unveil plans to allow shops in England and Wales to open for longer on Sundays. The proposal comes after larger shops were allowed to open for longer during the Olympic and Paralympic Games in London in 2012.

Mr Osborne thinks the law should be made at local level as to whether shops should be allowed to open for longer. Currently larger shops may open for up to six hours between 10am and 6pm on a Sunday. He said there was "a growing appetite" for shopping on Sundays.

If such a move occurred it could generate more than £200m a year in additional sales alone in London. It would also create 3,000 new jobs in the capital. Spread that out across the country and that's a lot of jobs and money that could be earned. It could also counter the online threat that shops are facing today. Online retailers now account for 11% of UK retail sales overall.

Immediate criticism has come from The Association of Small Convenience Stores who said the move would force small shops to close. The Church of England is dead against changing Sunday trading laws, as it would hit already diminishing church attendances.

Sunday shopping in Europe varies. For example in Austria, the shops remain closed, while in Slovakia, the shopping malls open from 10am to 9pm seven days a week. On Sunday afternoons and evenings the malls are mostly packed.

SPEAKING – WARM UP

Where is Wales? Does your country allow shops to open on a Sunday? If yes, explain more. Go round the room swapping details with others.

LISTENING – WRITING - DICTATION

The teacher will read some lines of the article slowly to the class.

READING

Students should now read the article aloud, swapping readers every paragraph.

SPEAKING - UNDERSTANDING

1) The article – Students check any unknown vocabulary or phrases with the teacher.

2) The article - Students should look through the article with the teacher.

- 1) What is the article about?
- 2) What do you think about the article?
- 3) Was this an easy or difficult article to understand?
- 4) Was this a boring or interesting article?
- 5) Discuss the article.

3) Article quiz - Students quiz each other in pairs. Score a point for each correct answer. Score half a point each time you have to look at the article for help. See who can get the highest score!

Student A questions

- 1) Who is the Chancellor of the Exchequer?
- 2) Name the church.
- 3) What are the trading hours currently in England and Wales?
- 4) What is now 11%?
- 5) Name the association.

Student B questions

- 1) How many new jobs could be created in London if trading hours were extended on a Sunday?
- 2) Name the countries.
- 3) What is the Chancellor proposing?
- 4) What are traditional shops fighting?
- 5) Why is the church criticising this proposal by the Chancellor?

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WRITING / SPEAKING

In pairs. On the board write as many words as you can about '**Sunday trading**'. *One-two minutes.* Compare with other teams. Using your words compile a short dialogue together.

WRITING / SPEAKING

In pairs - Think of three reasons to go shopping on a Sunday. Write them below. Talk about them!

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____

Add three reasons not to go shopping on a Sunday. Discuss together.

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____

The teacher will choose some pairs to discuss their findings in front of the class.

WRITING / SPEAKING

In pairs – **Shopping Malls** – Write down your top three shopping Malls. Why do you like them? How often do you go there? Think of three more questions of your own to ask your partner.

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____

DISCUSSION

Student A questions

- 1) What do you think about what you've read?
- 2) When do you go shopping?
- 3) When is the best time to go shopping?
- 4) Where do you go shopping? Why?
- 5) Which are your favourite shopping malls?
- 6) Why is it that some countries still don't allow Sunday shopping?
- 7) Should shopping be allowed in all countries on a Sunday? Explain.
- 8) Surely, Sunday should remain a day of rest and the shops should be shut?
- 9) Will small convenience shops close in England and Wales if Sunday trading laws are extended to the bigger shops?
- 10) Have you learnt anything in today's English lesson?

SPEAKING – ROLEPLAY 1

In groups. One of you is the interviewer. The others are one of the following people. You are in the *Discussion FM* radio studio in London. Today's interview is about: *Sunday trading laws in England and Wales set to be relaxed.*

- 1) A Church of England spokesperson.
- 2) A manager of a large retail chain of shops.
- 3) A shopaholic.
- 4) Someone with a family but who has little time to shop due to work.

The teacher will choose some groups to roleplay their interview in front of the class.

SPEAKING - ROLEPLAY 2

In pairs - *Student A* is a reporter. *Student B* is the Chancellor of the Exchequer. You are talking about the proposed increase in shopping trading hours in England and Wales on a Sunday. 3 mins.

SPEAKING - DISCUSSION

Allow 10 minutes – As a class.

Discuss the following...

Sunday trading laws in England and Wales set to be relaxed

The teacher can moderate the session.

DISCUSSION

Student B questions

- 1) Did the headline make you want to read the article?
- 2) Do you agree with the British Chancellor's proposals to extend opening times for shops in England and Wales on a Sunday? Explain.
- 3) Why is online shopping becoming so popular?
- 4) Do you shop online? If yes, give some examples of what you buy.
- 5) Are business rates killing traditional shops?
- 6) Would you like to work on a Sunday?
- 7) What do you think of Slovakia's opening hours of 10am to 9pm on a Sunday in shopping malls?
- 8) Why does the church control people's shopping habits in some countries?
- 9) Did you like this discussion?

GAP FILL: READING

Sunday trading laws in England and Wales set to be relaxed

Today, let's talk about Sunday (1)___ in the UK. Currently smaller shops are allowed to open all day on a Sunday. Shops over 280m² are allowed to open for up to six hours.

British Chancellor of the Exchequer, George Osborne, is set to (2)___ plans to allow shops in England and Wales to open for (3)___ on Sundays. The (4)___ comes after larger shops were allowed to open for longer (5)___ the Olympic and Paralympic Games in London in 2012.

Mr Osborne thinks the (6)___ should be made at local level as to (7)___ shops should be allowed to open for longer. Currently larger shops may open for up to six hours between 10am and 6pm on a Sunday. He said there was "a growing (8)___" for shopping on Sundays.

appetite / longer / unveil / whether / law / proposal / during / trading

If such a move occurred it could (1)___ more than £200m a year in additional sales alone in London. It would also (2)___ 3,000 new jobs in the capital. (3)___ that out across the country and that's a lot of jobs and money that could be earned. It could also (4)___ the online threat that shops are facing today. Online retailers now account for 11% of UK retail sales (5)___.

Immediate criticism has come from The Association of Small Convenience Stores who said the move would (6)___ small shops to close. The Church of England is dead against changing Sunday trading laws, as it would hit already diminishing church attendances.

Sunday shopping in Europe (7)___. For example in Austria, the shops remain closed, while in Slovakia, the shopping malls open from 10am to 9pm seven days a week. On Sunday afternoons and evenings the (8)___ are mostly packed.

malls / varies / force / counter / create / generate / spread / overall

GAP FILL: GRAMMAR

Sunday trading laws in England and Wales set to be relaxed

Today, let's talk about Sunday trading in (1)___ UK. Currently smaller shops are allowed to open all day (2)___ a Sunday. Shops over 280m² are allowed to open for (3)___ to six hours.

British Chancellor (4)___ the Exchequer, George Osborne, is set to unveil plans to allow shops (5)___ England and Wales to open for longer on Sundays. The proposal comes after larger shops were allowed to open for longer during the Olympic and Paralympic Games in London in 2012.

Mr Osborne thinks the law should be made (6)___ local level (7)___ to whether shops should be allowed to open for longer. Currently larger shops may open for up to six hours between 10am and 6pm on a Sunday. He said there was "a growing appetite" (8)___ shopping on Sundays.

for / of / as / in / on / at / up / the

If (1)___ a move occurred it (2)___ generate (3)___ than £200m a year in additional sales alone in London. It would also create 3,000 new jobs in the capital. Spread that out across the country and that's a lot of jobs and money that could be earned. It could (4)___ counter the online threat (5)___ shops are facing today. Online retailers now account for 11% of UK retail sales overall.

Immediate criticism has come from The Association of Small Convenience Stores who said the move (6)___ force small shops to close. The Church of England is dead against changing Sunday trading laws, as it would hit already diminishing church attendances.

Sunday shopping in Europe varies. For example in Austria, the shops remain closed, (7)___ in Slovakia, the shopping malls open from 10am to 9pm seven days a week. On Sunday afternoons and evenings the malls are (8)___ packed.

while / that / mostly / could / would / more / such / also

GAP FILL: LISTENING

Sunday trading laws in England and Wales set to be relaxed

Today, let's talk about Sunday trading in the UK. _____ are allowed to open all day on a Sunday. Shops over 280m² are allowed to open for up to six hours.

British _____, George Osborne, is set to unveil plans to allow shops in England and Wales to open for longer on Sundays. The proposal comes after larger shops were allowed to open for longer during the Olympic and _____ London in 2012.

Mr Osborne thinks the law should be made at local level as to _____ be allowed to open for longer. Currently larger shops may open for up to six hours between 10am and 6pm on a Sunday. He said there was " _____ " for shopping on Sundays.

If such a move occurred it could generate more than £200m a year _____ alone in London. It would also create 3,000 new jobs in the capital. Spread that out across the country and that's _____ that could be earned. It could also counter the online threat that shops are facing today. Online retailers now account for 11% of UK retail sales overall.

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Sunday shopping in Europe varies. For example in Austria, the shops remain closed, while in Slovakia, the shopping malls open from 10am to 9pm seven days a week. _____ and evenings the malls are mostly packed.

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WRITING/SPELLING

WRITING / SPEAKING

1) On the board – As a class / In pairs - List 10 things you know about Shopping Malls. *Five minutes. Discuss together.*

2) Sentence starters - Finish these sentence starters. Correct your mistakes. Compare what other people have written.

- 1) Sunday shopping _____
- 2) On a Sunday _____
- 3) Shopping Malls _____

3) In class - Write 50 words about: **Sunday trading laws in my country and other countries.** Your writing can be read out in class.

4) Homework - Write and send a 200 word email to your teacher about: **Sunday trading laws in my country and other countries.** Your email can be read out in class.

GAP FILL READING

- 1) trading
- 2) unveil
- 3) longer
- 4) proposal
- 5) during
- 6) law
- 7) whether
- 8) appetite

ANSWERS

- 1) generate
- 2) create
- 3) spread
- 4) counter
- 5) overall
- 6) force
- 7) varies
- 8) malls

SPELLING

The teacher will ask the class individually to spell the following words that are in the article. Afterwards check your answers.

- 1) diminishing
- 2) currently
- 3) chancellor
- 4) exchequer
- 5) proposal
- 6) unveil
- 7) Wales
- 8) during
- 9) convenience
- 10) whether

SPELLING

Use the following ratings:

Pass = 12

Good = 15

Very good = 18

Excellent = 20

- 11) such
- 12) between
- 13) appetite
- 14) generate
- 15) additional
- 16) spread
- 17) earned
- 18) threat
- 19) immediate
- 20) criticism

Sunday trading laws in England and Wales set to be... – *15th July 2015*