

Teacher notes & checked answers

PLAY3 · A2-B1 · Adults and teens · Flexible lesson length

Set up the information gap

Share Student 1. Give Student 2 only to the buyer and Student 3 only to the shopkeeper. Keep the answer key separate. Learners ask rather than exchange sheets. Student 4 is shared after the first transaction. Online, send role sheets privately. One-to-one, take the shopkeeper role first. Calculators are welcome; assess the explanation as well as the total.

Four-person round: minimum £14

One sandwich box (£9), one apple bag (£3), one water bottle (£2). Contents: 6 sandwiches, 6 apples, 1 litre water. £6 remains, including £3 bus money; up to £3 can go on extras. Valid examples: crisps, total £16 / £4 left; crisps + napkins, £17 / £3 left; juice, £17 / £3 left. Cakes cost £4 and do not fit. Two extra sandwiches/apples are leftovers, not automatically “too many”. The crunchy preference is optional.

Eight-person round: minimum £28

Reset all stock, swap roles and allow both learners to see the price list. Two sandwich boxes (£18), two apple bags (£6), two water bottles (£4) give 12 sandwiches, 12 apples and 2 litres water. From £35, £7 remains; up to £4 can go on extras. Cakes are one option. Two bags of crisps are another. Follow the stated minimum amounts; they are game targets, not nutrition advice.

£25 twist: impossible until a rule changes

The required food costs £28. With £3 bus money, the minimum total budget is £31. A £25 budget leaves only £22 for shopping. Ask for a stated change and a revised check. Examples: increase total money by £6 to £31; or a friend brings at least 8 sandwiches, so buy two apple bags + two water bottles for £10 and keep £15. Do not accept unannounced smaller portions, discounts or spending the bus money. This is a negotiation task, not a trick arithmetic race.

Language answers and feedback

Student 4: a a few; b £3; c not enough; d twelve. Countable: sandwiches, apples, packs, bottles, litres, pounds. Uncountable here: water, juice, food, money. Use many/few with plurals and much/little with uncountable nouns. Some is natural in offers and requests; any is not compulsory in every question. Notice one useful phrase and repair one recurring error after the sale, then replay an exchange.

Support, stretch and finish

Support: model “How many are in a pack?” and show how one pack differs from its contents without revealing the shop’s quantities. Stretch: compare two valid baskets, give reasons and manage leftovers. Larger groups: work in pairs; a third learner can check the report, then rotate. Finish with selected questions on Teacher 2. Exit check: ask for one how much question and one how many question. Optional homework has a separate self-check key; no recording is needed.

Keep talking about food

PLAY3 · Final speaking · Choose a few questions and follow the answers

Take turns. Ask: Why? Can you give an example? What about you?
Use real or invented examples. Learners can pass on a personal question.

- 1 What do you usually take on a picnic or a day out? What do you often forget?
- 2 How much food do you buy for visitors? Do you often have leftovers?
- 3 What food is there plenty of at home now? What is there not much of?
- 4 How many shops do you usually visit for food? Why those shops?
- 5 Tell me about a time you bought too much of something. What happened to the extra?
- 6 What do people bring too many of to a party? What do they not bring enough of?
- 7 Would you prefer a few good dishes or lots of choice? Why?
- 8 How could you make a cheap picnic special without buying lots of extras?
- 9 You have £10 for a shared class snack. What will you buy, and how much?
- 10 Four extra people arrive at your picnic. What do you have enough of? What do you need?
- 11 A friend dislikes apples; another dislikes sandwiches. What food could you take instead?
- 12 Invent a picnic with too much of one thing and not enough of another. Can your partner fix it?

Make it useful beyond the game

Plan snacks for a class break or an outing. Agree three quantities and one limit. Your partner checks for a shortage or an extra you do not need.