SPECIAL OFFERS

Smart shopping: Using math to unlock the best deals

Each time we go shopping, we look for ways to save money by finding the best deals. With so many types of offers, discounts, and promotions available, it can be challenging to figure out which one provides the greatest value. This is where mathematics comes in handy, helping us compare prices, calculate discounts, and assess which deals are truly the most cost-effective. By applying some basic calculations, we can make more informed choices and ensure we're getting the best bang for our buck.

Overview "SPECIAL OFFERS"

Context
Finances

How to compare diffe-rent offers to find the most convenient

Cognitive processes
Analyzing situations
Mathematizing

Content
Quantity and number

Target group (incl. necessary prior skills and competences)

Adults and young adults;

knowledge of basic concepts of mathematics

Dispositions
Math anxiety

Outcomes and results

Learners are able to compare different offers using simple mathematical calculations

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Main information

Content	Natural numbers; Decimal numbers: Multiplication, division, addition and subtraction.
Target group	Adults and young adults; Learners have knowledge of basic concepts of mathematics.
Learning intention	Numeracy for personal and private purposes
Duration	2UE+
Material and resources	Examples of offers found online or in some shop's magazines
Group size	Range from 4 to learners
Problem statement	Online or in stores when we shop we often find different kind of offers: discounts, 2x1, 3x2.. If it comes to saving you have to choose well by evaluating the proposals. To do this correctly we need simple mathematical calculations. Let's see together how to do it.
Working questions	- When you shop, do you pay attention to offers/promotions? - What types of promotions do you know? - How do you find the most convenient one in case you can choose? - What mathematical operations do you have to do?
Learning outcomes and results	The learners are able to find the most convenient offer using mathematics.

Working plan

Time (lessons)	Description of content/activities	Material	Methodical and didactic information[1]
45'+	**1.Discover** The teacher, guided by the questions included in the "*working questions*", addresses with the students the theme of offers and promotions that can be found in stores and online.	Examples of offers found online or in some shop's magazines	Questioning Explicit teaching
60'+	**2. Exercises on offers** This activity it could be divided into two parts (*2.1 and 2.2*).		
	2.1 Create the offer The learners, divided into two groups, create offers using all the types addressed in *phase 1*. These proposals will constitute the exercise on which the other group will be tested.	Paper and pen	Metacognitive strategies; Collaborative learning; Cooperation
	2.2 Find the best offer In this part the learners work on the material created by the other group. The aim is to find the most convenient offer among those proposed.	Exercises created in phase 2.1	Collaborative learning; Hand on learning
30'	**3. Discussion** All together, teacher and learners , discuss the methods used and the usefulness of some simple calculations in daily activities that concerne our finances.		Feedback

[1] for description and explanation of kinds of tasks, HITS and other background information please consult the teacher's/user's guide

Appendix

Some Examples of types of offers found online:

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