Unit 14

♦ Returning an Item to a Store

♦ Reading Traffic Signs

♦ Comparatives – Part 1
HOW TO EXCHANGE AN ITEM

Marta and Rosalba went to the supermarket. Marta wanted to return a box of stale crackers that she bought last week. She took the box of crackers out of her shopping bag and gave it to the clerk. The clerk tasted a cracker and agreed that it was stale. Marta showed the receipt to the clerk. Marta needed to decide if she wanted a new box of crackers or her money back. She decided she wanted another box of crackers. Rosalba said that she had a headache again. She went to the Health Products section to look for a bottle of aspirin.

1. What did Marta carry in her shopping bag?

_____________________________________________________________________

2. Did Marta want to return them?

_____________________________________________________________________

3. Did Marta show her receipt to the clerk?

_____________________________________________________________________

4. Did Marta ask for money back?

_____________________________________________________________________

5. Did Marta exchange the crackers for another box?

_____________________________________________________________________
WARNING LABELS ON FOOD

Marta saw the same clerk at the check-out line. She showed her a new box of crackers because she was making an exchange. On the top of the box, there was a warning label. It said, “Best if used by December 12th.” Marta didn’t understand these words. The clerk explained that the crackers were better to eat before December 12th. After that, they will be stale.

Marta saw a label on the milk. It said, “Use by December 6th.” This means nobody should drink this milk after December 6th. Marta was happy to learn something new and important. Rosalba found some aspirin and came to the check-out counter to buy it. Marta was surprised to see Rosalba buy more aspirin. She just bought a bottle last week.

1. What did Rosalba want to buy?
_____________________________________________________________________

2. Should Marta eat the crackers before December 12th?
_____________________________________________________________________

3. Should Marta drink the milk after December 6th?
_____________________________________________________________________

4. Who did Marta ask about the warning labels?
_____________________________________________________________________

5. Did that person help Marta?
_____________________________________________________________________
RETURNING MERCHANDISE

Study these dialogues.

At the Supermarket
Customer: Excuse me. I bought this bread yesterday, but it isn’t fresh. It’s stale and moldy.
Cashier: Do you have your receipt?
Customer: Yes, I do. Here it is.
Cashier: Would you like to exchange this loaf of bread for another loaf of bread, or would you like a refund?
Customer: I’d like a refund, please.
Cashier: OK. I’ll call the manager. He’ll give you your money back.

At the Electronics Store
Customer: Excuse me. I bought this telephone last week, but it doesn’t work.
Cashier: Do you have your receipt?
Customer: Yes, here it is.
Cashier: Would you like to exchange this for another phone?
Customer: Yes, I would.
Cashier: Ok. Here you are.

At the Clothing Store
Customer: Excuse me. I bought this shirt for my husband yesterday, but it doesn’t fit him. It’s too small.
Salesperson: Do you have your receipt?
Customer: Yes, here it is.
Salesperson: Would you like to exchange it for a larger shirt?
Customer: Yes, I would.
Salesperson: OK. No problem!
**Dialogue 1**

Customer: Excuse me. I bought this dress yesterday, but it doesn’t ______________.  
It’s too ______________.  

Salesperson: Do you have your ______________________?  
Customer: Yes, I do. Here it is.  
Salesperson: Would you like to ______________ this dress for a larger dress?  
Customer: No. I’d like a ______________, please.  
Salesperson: OK. I’ll call the manager. He’ll give you your money back.

**Dialogue 2**

Customer: Excuse me. I bought this cake yesterday, but it’s ______________.  
Cashier: Do you have your ______________________?  
Customer: Yes, here it is.  
Cashier: Would you like a ____________________, or would you like to ______________ this cake for another one?  
Customer: I’d like a ____________________, please
Study the following vocabulary.

- aisle: the walkway for shoppers in the supermarket
- attorney: lawyer
- exchange: to change one thing for another
- fresh: (about food) new, not stale
- increase: to make more or larger
- lay off: an employer tells an employee there’s no work because business is bad
- mention: to say, talk about
- moldy: the green and black color of food that is spoiled
- section: a special area of a place
- small claims court: the court where you can sue somebody for a small amount of money
- speeding ticket: a fine you have to pay for driving too fast
- stale: (about food) old and hard, not fresh
- stress: mental and physical strain
- sue: to take court action against somebody because they owe you money
- traffic court: the court where you can fight your traffic tickets
Fill in the blanks in the sentences below with the new vocabulary.

1. This bread is green. It’s ____________________________.
2. Gustavo talked to an __________________ about the money Mr. Calderon owes him.
3. A police officer gave Jose a ______________________________ for driving too fast.
4. If Jose wants to fight the speeding ticket, he can go to ________________________.
5. Marvin has to ____________________ one of his employees because business is bad.
6. You need ______________ vegetables, not canned vegetables to make a good salad.
7. Marta’s cookies weren’t fresh. They were ________________________.
8. Marta took the cookies back to the supermarket. She wanted to ________________ them for fresh ones.
9. Marvin hopes to ______________________ business in his shop with reduced prices.
10. Rosalba is worried that Marvin might lay her off. She has a lot of ________________.
11. With the attorney’s advice, Gustavo is going to __________________ Mr. Calderon in __________________________________.
12. When you talked to Mrs. Martinez, did she ________________ that she wants to hire a new manager?
13. The chicken and beef are in the meat _______________________ of the supermarket.
14. In every supermarket, shoppers push their carts down the __________________________ and select food from the shelves to the right and left.
VOCABULARY CHECK WORKSHEET

Circle the answers with similar meanings.

1. exchange
   a. change
   b. shop
   c. change one for another
   d. return

2. stress
   a. physical or mental strain
   b. a vegetable
   c. a box of crackers
   d. press

3. increase
   a. take away
   b. deliver
   c. oil
   d. add more

4. stale
   a. a fish
   b. sweet
   c. wet
   d. not fresh

5. fresh
   a. old
   b. to exchange
   c. not stale
   d. to eat
ROSALBA EXPLAINS HER PROBLEM

Marta was curious why Rosalba was buying so much aspirin. Rosalba was under a lot of stress. She was worried about her job at the beauty shop because business was terrible. Marvin, her boss, tried many things to get more business. He opened the shop earlier, closed it later, and cut his prices. Business was still bad. Rosalba was afraid that Marvin might lay her off.

Marta explained to Rosalba that it’s better to get laid off than to get fired. People who get laid off can go back to work when business gets better. People who get fired can never return to that job. Marta wanted Rosalba to see a doctor about her stress and headaches. Rosalba agreed to go.

1. What was Marta curious about?
______________________________________________________________________

2. Did Rosalba have a cold?
______________________________________________________________________

3. What was Rosalba worried about?
______________________________________________________________________

4. Is it better to get laid off or to get fired?
______________________________________________________________________

5. Who did Rosalba agree to visit?
______________________________________________________________________
JOSE GOES TO TRAFFIC COURT

When Jose was driving to traffic court, he saw a traffic sign that he didn’t understand. It was the shape of a diamond and it was yellow. When he arrived at court, he asked the court clerk about the sign. The clerk explained that the sign was a warning: “Be careful.” Jose also saw a sign with a black cross in the middle. That was an intersection sign that told him that another road would cross his road.

The clerk asked Jose about past speeding tickets. Jose said this was his first ticket. Because he didn’t have another ticket in the past eighteen months, Jose had the possibility of going to traffic school. If you go to traffic school, the ticket doesn’t go on your driving record. Jose signed up for traffic school, of course.

1. Where was Jose driving when he saw the signs?

________________________________________________________________________

2. What did the sign with the black cross mean?

________________________________________________________________________

3. Did Jose have any speeding tickets in the past?

________________________________________________________________________

4. What did Jose sign up for at court?

________________________________________________________________________

5. Was his ticket going to go on his driving record?

________________________________________________________________________
TRAFFIC SIGNS

If you drive in the United States, you should know what the following signs mean.

A STOP sign means you must make a complete stop before entering an intersection.

A YIELD sign means you must slow down and go only when it is safe.

A DO NOT ENTER sign tells you there is danger ahead. Vehicles are coming in your direction.

Often, there is a WRONG WAY sign with a DO NOT ENTER sign. If you see one or both of these signs, drive to the side and stop. When it is safe, you can back out or turn around and go back to the road you were on.
A red circle with a line through it means NO.

This sign means NO RIGHT TURN.

This sign means NO LEFT TURN.

This sign means NO U TURN.
WARNING SIGNS

Most warning signs are yellow and have a diamond shape. They tell you to slow down or be careful of dangers ahead.

This is a CROSSROAD sign. Another road crosses your road up ahead.

This sign means there is a traffic signal ahead.

This sign means that another lane will come into your lane ahead.

This sign means there is a pedestrian crosswalk ahead. The pedestrian has the right of way. That means he/she can go before you go.

This sign means the right lane ends ahead.
Circle true or false.

1. If you see this sign, you can turn around in the middle of the street. T F

2. This sign means NO LEFT TURN. T F

3. If you see this sign, you can enter an intersection if you slow down. T F

4. This sign means there is traffic coming in your direction. T F

5. This sign means you must stop now. T F
6. This sign means you can take a right turn. T  F

7. This sign means you must slow down in front of a church. T  F

8. This sign means watch out for pedestrians. They might be crossing ahead. T  F

9. This sign means that traffic is coming in your direction. You must turn around and go the other way. T  F

10. This sign means there will be more lanes ahead. T  F
GUSTAVO, MIN AND THE LAWYER

In a large office building downtown, Min and Gustavo met Mr. Jackson, the lawyer. Gustavo did some construction work for Luis Calderon, who is a contractor, but Mr. Calderon never paid Gustavo. Gustavo then had back pains because of the hard work. He wanted the money that Luis Calderon owed him.

Mr. Jackson explained to Gustavo how people sue, or take court action against other people in small claims court. Min and Gustavo were happy to hear about this. Maybe Gustavo had a chance to get his money. When Min asked Mr. Jackson to be Gustavo’s lawyer, Mr. Jackson said, “No, I won’t.” In small claims court, lawyers don’t represent clients. People represent themselves, and the judge decides who wins. That is the reason Mr. Jackson can’t be Gustavo’s lawyer. However, Mr. Jackson will help Gustavo prepare for court and help him practice what he should say and do.

1. Who did Gustavo and Min meet downtown?

__________________________________________________________________________

2. Did Luis Calderon owe money to Gustavo?

__________________________________________________________________________

3. What kind of court did Mr. Jackson tell Gustavo about?

__________________________________________________________________________

4. Can Gustavo represent himself in small claims court?

__________________________________________________________________________

5. Can Mr. Calderon have a lawyer in small claims court?

__________________________________________________________________________
COMPARATIVES

We use the comparative form of an adjective to compare two things. Usually, when an adjective has only one or two syllables, we make the comparative form by adding \textit{–er}.

Examples:

- warm > \textit{warmer}
- hot > \textit{hotter}\
- large > \textit{larger}**
- pretty > \textit{prettier}***

Note:  * When a word ends in a \textit{consonant-vowel-consonant}, the final consonant is doubled.
   ** When a word ends in an \textit{e}, only an \textit{r} is added.
   *** When a word ends in a \textit{y}, the \textit{y} is changed to \textit{i} and \textit{er} is added.

\textit{Study these examples.}

This cat is \textit{bigger} than that cat.

This boat is \textit{faster} than that boat.
Write the comparative forms of the following adjectives.

1. This house is ___________________ (big) than that one.

2. This dog is ____________________ (happy) than that one.

3. This man is _____________________ (tall) than that one.

4. This dress is _____________________ (old) than that one.
5. This shirt is __________________ (large) than that one.

6. This bed is __________________ (soft) than that one.

7. This radio is __________________ (loud) than that one.

8. This watch is __________________ (cheap) than that one.
UNIT 14 TEST

*Circle the correct answer.*

1. When you return something to a store, you must have ___________________.
   a. money
   b. a receipt
   c. an exchange

2. When you return something to a store, the money you get back is called ____________.
   a. a refund
   b. an exchange
   c. receipt

3. When you return an item to a store, you can ________________ it for another item.
   a. refund
   b. exchange
   c. receipt

4. If a shirt is too big or too small, it doesn’t _________________.
   a. wear
   b. work
   c. fit

5. If a radio is broken, we can say it doesn’t _________________.
   a. fix
   b. work
   c. fit

6. Carol is _______________ than Rosalia.
   a. prettiest
   b. prettyer
   c. prettier

7. My house is _______________ than your house.
   a. larger
   b. largeer
   c. largger

8. My dog is _______________ than your cat.
   a. fatter
   b. fater
   c. fattier
UNIT 14 TEST

9. This girl is _______________ than that girl.
   a. tall
   b. more tall
   c. taller

10. Jon’s radio is _______________ than Sam’s radio.
    a. louder
    b. loud
    c. loudier

11. John’s dog is big, but Lisa’s dog is _______________ because it eats all the time.
    a. big
    b. bigger
    c. bigger

12. Mary is happy, but Tom is _______________ because he’s getting married today.
    a. happy
    b. happier
    c. happyer

13. Bill and Melinda are smart, but we’re _______________ because we study a lot.
    a. smart
    b. smarter
    c. smarter

14. This sign means you must stop completely before entering an intersection.
    a. stop sign
    b. yield sign
    c. do not enter sign

15. This sign means you must turn around and go back.
    a. stop sign
    b. yield sign
    c. wrong way sign

16. In a crosswalk, the pedestrian has the right of way. This means that _______________.
    a. the pedestrian can go first
    b. the pedestrian must yield
    c. the car must go first
UNIT 14 TEST

17. This bread is very old. It’s _______________________.
   a. fresh  
   b. stale  
   c. delicious

18. Mr. Calderon owes Gustavo money. Gustavo wants to go to court to ____________ Mr. Calderon.
   a. sue  
   b. lay off 
   c. stress

19. Please don’t ________________________ to Min that I think her food is terrible.
   a. worry  
   b. sue  
   c. mention

20. How can I ________________________ my salary? I need to make more money.
   a. increase  
   b. spend  
   c. exchange
**UNIT 14**
**STUDENT ANSWER KEY**

### RETURNING MERCHANDISE (page 29)

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### TRAFFIC SIGNS/WARNING SIGNS (pages 38 & 39)

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### VOCABULARY (page 31)

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### COMPARATIVES (pages 42 & 43)

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### VOCABULARY CHECK WORKSHEET (page 32)

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