

The Weekend - Buying Jewellery (C0290)

Shop assistant: Good afternoon, sir, is there anything I can help you with to-day?

Mark: umm... yeah!! I'm looking for a nice gift to give my girlfriend. Our fifth anniversary's next Friday.

Shop assistant: Well, I would be happy to assist you in choosing the perfect gift for her. Is there anything particular that you have in mind?

Mark: No, not really... I'm completely at a loss.

Shop assistant: Well, you can give her a set of pearl earrings, or this beautiful heart-shaped pendant. What is her favorite gemstone?

Mark: That purple one. I'm sorry... I've never bought jewelry for anyone and I'm kind of nervous.

Shop assistant:

Don't worry, we specialize in providing our customers a relaxed, pressure-free shopping environment. That stone is an amethyst. We have a range of beautiful amethyst pieces. Take a look at this bracelet. It's 18K rose-gold, studded with amethyst and blue topaz. It's a great statement piece.

Mark:

Oh...wow. That's really pretty. Jess would love that. But... I was thinking of something a little more delicate, perhaps a necklace?

Shop assistant:

We have this beautiful platinum pendant, or you could also get her a locket. You could also get her a timepiece—it's both glamorous yet functional. If you tell me a little more about your girlfriend, maybe I can help you find something for her.

Mark: Jess? Well, she's very smart, and has a great sense of humor. She's very feminine...

Shop assistant: Perhaps you could give her a ring?

Mark: Well...actually...I was thinking about asking Jess to marry me...I've just been so nervous.

Shop assistant: Well sir, I believe your fifth anniversary is a great time to propose!

Mark: Okay, I've decided. I'm going to pop the question!

Shop assistant: Fabulous! We should look at engagement rings then! Now that's a whole other section.

Key Vocabulary

anniversary *N*

The date on which a romance began

have in mind	<i>P</i>	to be thinking of something
heart-shaped	<i>A</i>	something in the shape of a heart
pendant	<i>N</i>	a piece of jewelry that hangs on a chain
gemstone	<i>N</i>	a stone that can be used in jewelry
amethyst	<i>N</i>	a clear purple or bluish-purple stone
bracelet	<i>N</i>	a piece of jewelry worn on the wrist
18K	<i>A</i>	contain 75% gold
blue topaz	<i>N</i>	a blue precious stone
platinum	<i>N</i>	a heavy, silver-colored metal
locket	<i>N</i>	A small ornamental case

pop the question	<i>P</i>	ask a big question (proposal)
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Supplementary Vocabulary

bling-bling	<i>N</i>	slang: a term used to describe shiny jewelry, usually with a lot of diamonds
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carat	<i>N</i>	a unit of weight in gemstones
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flashy	<i>A</i>	eye-catching, shiny and brilliant; ostentatious, attention-grabbing but not classy
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show-stopper	<i>N</i>	something that is so interesting as to figuratively "stop the show"
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gold-digger	<i>N</i>	someone who marries for money
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