



UNED: Septiembre 2003
MATERIA: Inglés

Coming from the United States, the land of Super Sunday Sales, Stupendous Saturday Sales and Preview Friday Sales, it came as a big surprise to discover that Paris is the land of Twice Yearly Sale. The government has mandated two sales periods each year, winter and mid – summer, lasting six weeks each. During that time, all of the famous French shops most of us only dream about visiting have incredible reductions. You may object that very frequently the bargain means a suit that once was the price of a continent and now the price of a small country. If this is the case, I agree that the sales do not really help. However, sometime the sales are truly noteworthy, raving around 40-50 percent off during the first two weeks of each period and another 20 percent off for the last two weeks. These sales are definitely worth planning your trip around. I recommend you to time your holidays to meet those deadlines whenever possible. However, for those of us whose calendars are controlled by things beyond our control – like jobs, paychecks and things like that – there is another way. Do what so many of the French do: plan ahead. Learn in advance where the right shops, shopping malls, markets and flea markets are that offer great sales like really believable reductions on the type of products you want. Do not forget to find out about the back street hideaways that the French try very hard to keep to themselves.

1. Indicate whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F), and write down the part of the text that supports your answer.

- Before going sale – shopping in Paris, it is advisable to make a selection of shops with great discounts.
- Price reductions in Paris can reach 70 percent of the original price.
- The prices can in some cases remain too high during the sales.

2. Answer these questions in your own words:

- What is the main difference between American and Parisian sales?
- Are the sales in Paris as good as their reputation?
- What is the writer's suggestion for the American tourist who is thinking of travelling to Paris?

3. Choose the correct form from those given below:

- Paris is good London for sales.
soas so so as so asas
-ten of them went shopping together.
Each All Both Every
- I spent all my money on the sales; I have nothing left.
However nevertheless furthermore therefore

4. Finish each sentence so that it has exactly the same meaning as the one printed before it e.g. Eating fruit is healthy. >>> It is healthy to eat fruit.

- When going shopping in Paris do not forget to take your credit card with you. A credit card.....
- If you shop in the wrong places you will overpay. Unless
- "Will I have enough cash to pay for this garment?", she wondered. She wondered.....

5. In 60 – 100 words, describe one of your favourite cities and justify your selection.