

The Market Stall

In this dialogue, Bruce is at a market looking for some **antiques**. He finds a **stall** with lots of interesting things and he starts **bartering** with the **stall holder**. Will he get what he wants? Listen to the dialogue and answer these two questions.

1. What is Bruce interested in buying?
2. Why do you think Bruce **threatens** to go away from the stall?

Stall holder: (shouting) Come on, ladies. Lovely set of antique cups.

Bruce: Nice **jugs** you got there.

Stall holder: Thanks. You looking for anything in particular?

Bruce: No, just looking. This **spoon** made of real silver?

Stall holder: As real as you and me, **guy**. Queen Victoria ate with that

Bruce: Oh yeah, and I'm the **Pope**.

Stall holder: I'll tell you what, 50 **quid** and I'll **throw in** a couple of

Bruce: **Silver Jubilee** cups.

Stall holder: They're not worth anything these days.

Stall holder: Bit of an expert, are you?

Bruce: No, I just know how to **spot a bargain** when I see one.

Stall holder: Then, you'll be interested in seeing this vase, *he shows*

Bruce: *(a vase)* 17th-century it is, and it's French.

Stall holder: It's a bit **chipped**, isn't it?

Stall holder: Nothing a bit of paint couldn't **sort out**.

Stall holder: 20 quid! **Do you think I was born yesterday?**

Bruce: All right, 30. And that's my final offer.

Stall holder: **Get out of here** and stop wasting my time. **It cost me**

Bruce: **an arm and a leg** that one did. **I can't let it go for**

Stall holder: How do I know it's genuine?

Stall holder: Just **check out** the mark on the bottom. It's got the

Bruce: **date printed on it**.

Stall holder: **These things come two a penny**. There's no

Bruce: demand for them. Look, I'll give you 35 and that's my

Stall holder: final offer.

Stall holder: Not interested.

Bruce: **Fair enough**. I'll take my money somewhere else then...

Stall holder: Fine with me.

Bruce: Good, I'll just go over to that stall over there...

Stall holder: Very well.

Bruce: Oh, all right. 50 quid, and that's my absolute limit.

Stall holder: Look, that's half as much as I paid for it. And it's worth

Bruce: **four times that**. Here, feel it, touch it, hold it...

Stall holder: **You blithering idiot!**

Bruce: Who are you calling an idiot, **butter fingers**? You were

Stall holder: the one holding it.

Bruce: I was not. I gave it to you. You'll have to pay for that.

Stall holder: **Oh! Come back here!** (The stall holder grabs Bruce and

Bruce: **there is some physical violence**)

Stall holder: Now, now, just calm down. How much did you say I

Bruce: owed you?

Stall holder: 200 quid - in cash.

Bruce: 2001

Extra exercise
Now listen to some extracts from the conversation again. You will notice there are some missing words and a beeping sound. See if you can write the missing word. The answers are on the CD.

1. Are you looking for anything **real silver?** particular?
2. Is this spoon made **that one**?
3. Queen Victoria ate **a couple of Silver Jubilee cups**.
4. I'll throw **seeing this vase**.
5. Then, you'll be interested **it**.
6. I'll give you 20 quid **it**.

Answers - Did you hear the answers?
1. Bruce is interested in buying a vase.
2. It's a tactic to try to make the stall holder lower his price.

an antique *n*
an object that has value because it is old and rare

a stall *n*
a table in a market where people sell things

to barter *vb*
to negotiate the price of an object with someone

a stall holder *n*
a person who sells things in a market from a stall (a table)

to threaten *vb*
to promise to do something bad

a deal *n*
a cheap price

a jug *n*
a large container for liquid - often water

a spoon *n*
an object you use for eating soup

guy *n inform*
this word can be used to refer to someone, usually a man

and I'm the Pope *exp inform*
people use this expression when they hear something they think is untrue or ridiculous

quid *n inform*
a pound (the form of money in Britain)

to throw in *phr vb*
to include

the Silver Jubilee *n*
friend; man
make *exp inform*
who drop things easily
use this expression to refer to people
butter fingers *exp*
a real idiot; a really stupid person
OK
a blithering idiot *n*
are very cheap
fair enough *exp*
there are many of these things and they

these things come two a penny *exp*
to look at
I can't let it go *exp*
it cost me a lot of money
it cost me an arm and a leg *exp*
I can't sell it
to check out *phr vb*
are very cheap
fair enough *exp*
there are many of these things and they

get out of here *exp inform*
do you think I'm stupid?
do you think I was born yesterday? *exp*
to order; to solve
to sort out *phr vb*
broken and a piece of the ceramic is missing
if a vase or plate is "chipped", it is a bit
chipped *adj*
value that is being sold at a low price
to spot a bargain *n*
to have the ability to notice something of
Queen Elizabeth II
the celebrations for the 25th anniversary of

