

RECURSO GRATIS • NIVEL PRINCIPIANTE

Sábado en el mercado

A practical A1 story about food, prices, making choices, and using English at a neighborhood market.

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ANTES DE LEER

Get ready

Elena and her daughter Sara have a shopping list and twenty dollars. Read to discover what they buy and how they stay on budget.

Before you begin

Write three foods you like to buy at a market.

Meet Elena and Sara

E + S

Elena lives in Oregon with her ten-year-old daughter, Sara. On Saturday mornings, they shop at the neighborhood market and practice English together.

Reading goal

Notice the questions Elena uses to ask about prices and amounts.

A list and twenty dollars

It is Saturday morning. Elena and Sara walk to the outdoor **market**.

They have a shopping **list**: tomatoes, apples, eggs, bread, and cheese.

Elena opens her wallet. 'We have twenty dollars. We need to stay on **budget**.'

The market is busy. Colorful signs show prices. People carry flowers, fruit, and warm bread.

At the first **stall**, a farmer has red tomatoes.

'Good morning. How much are the tomatoes?' Elena asks.

'Three dollars a **pound**,' the farmer says.

Elena looks at Sara. 'We need one pound.'

The farmer puts four tomatoes on a **scale**. 'That is one pound exactly.'

Elena pays three dollars. The farmer puts the tomatoes in a paper **bag**.

'What is next?' Sara asks.

'Apples,' Elena says.

They find green and red apples at the next table. A sign says: Two dollars per pound.

'Which apples should we **choose**?' Sara asks.

'Let us get the red ones. They look fresh.'

How much is a dozen?

Elena buys two pounds of apples. They **cost** four dollars.

Sara writes the numbers on the list: tomatoes, \$3; apples, \$4.

'We spent seven dollars. We have thirteen dollars left,' she says.

At the egg stand, Elena sees brown and white eggs.

'How much is a **dozen** eggs?' she asks.

'Five dollars,' the seller answers.

Sara whispers, 'A dozen is twelve eggs.'

'Correct,' Elena says. 'We will take one dozen, please.'

The seller gives Elena the eggs. 'Would you like a receipt?'

'Yes, please.' Elena puts the **receipt** in her wallet.

Now they have eight dollars left. The bread is four dollars, but the cheese is six dollars.

'We cannot buy both,' Sara says.

Elena smells the warm bread. 'The bread is **fresh**, and we need it for lunch.'

They buy one loaf. Four dollars remain.

'Maybe we can find a smaller piece of cheese,' Elena says.

THE STORY · PART 3

Exactly twenty dollars

At the last table, pieces of cheese have different prices.

Sara sees a small piece for three dollars and fifty cents.

'How much is this one?' she asks to practice.

'It is three fifty,' the seller says.

'We will take it,' Elena answers.

The seller asks, 'Are you paying with **cash** or a card?'

'Cash.' Elena gives her four dollars.

The seller gives her fifty cents in **change**.

Sara checks the list. 'What is our **total**?'

They add the prices: three dollars for tomatoes, four for apples, five for eggs, four for bread, and three fifty for cheese.

'Nineteen dollars and fifty cents,' Sara says.

'And we have fifty cents left. Perfect!' Elena answers.

Before they leave, a fruit seller offers Sara a strawberry.

'Would you like to **try** one?'

'Yes, please. Thank you.' The strawberry is sweet.

Elena and Sara walk home with full bags, a complete list, and fifty cents. They asked clear questions, compared prices, and made good choices.

Good English helps every dollar go further.

Words for the market

Find each bold word in the story. Read its sentence again, then check the Spanish meaning.

market	mercado
list	lista
budget	presupuesto
stall	puesto
pound	libra
scale	báscula
bag	bolsa
choose	elegir
cost	costar
dozen	docena
receipt	recibo
fresh	fresco/a
cash	efectivo
change	cambio
total	total
try	probar

COMPREHENSION

Check your understanding

A. Choose the best answer

1. How much money do Elena and Sara have?

a) \$13 b) \$20 c) \$25

2. How much is one pound of tomatoes?

a) \$2 b) \$3 c) \$4

3. How many eggs are in a dozen?

a) 6 b) 10 c) 12

4. Why do they choose bread before cheese?

a) It is fresh and needed for lunch b) It is cheaper than apples c) Sara does not like cheese

5. How much money is left?

a) 25 cents b) 50 cents c) One dollar

B. True or false

1. The shopping list has five items. **TRUE / FALSE**

2. The apples cost three dollars. **TRUE / FALSE**

3. Elena asks for a receipt. **TRUE / FALSE**

4. They buy six dollars of cheese. **TRUE / FALSE**

5. The fruit seller gives Sara a strawberry. **TRUE / FALSE**

C. Market English

Complete with: **much · take · cash · total**

1. How _____ are the tomatoes?

2. We will _____ one dozen, please.

3. Are you paying with _____ or a card?

4. What is our _____?

COMPREHENSION

Think and use English

D. Answer in a complete sentence

1. Why does Sara write the prices on the list?

2. How much do two pounds of apples cost?

3. Why can they not buy the first cheese they see?

4. What skills help them stay under budget?

5. Which market question is most useful to you?

E. Make your shopping list

Choose four foods. Write each item, its price, and your total. Your budget is \$15.

ANSWER KEY

Review your work

A. Multiple choice

1. b 2. b 3. c 4. a 5. b

B. True or false

1. True 2. False 3. True 4. False 5. True

C. Market English

1. much 2. take 3. cash 4. total

D. Suggested answers

1. She tracks their spending and remaining money.
2. They cost four dollars.
3. It costs six dollars, but they have only four left.
4. They ask prices, add costs, compare options, and choose smaller amounts.
5. Answers will vary.

KEEP GOING

Practice aloud: How much is this? I will take one, please. What is the total?

ENGLISH MADE CLEAR. PROGRESS MADE REAL.