

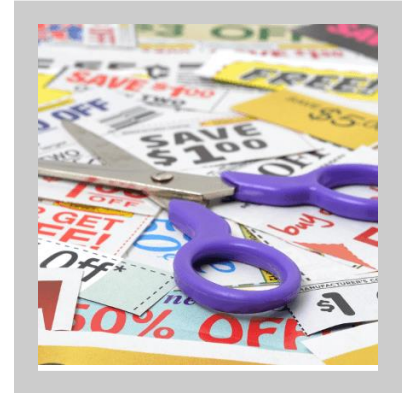
Name _____

Date _____

The Truth About Coupons

Lots of people use coupons when they shop. Coupons are tickets that give people discounts on different items. For example, if a carton of eggs costs \$3, it might cost \$2 with a coupon. You can get coupons in the mail, from the newspaper, or even from a website. Many people use coupons because they think they will save a lot of money.

The truth is that coupons do not always save you money. People often buy something just because they have a coupon for it. They might not need it or even want it. Also, it takes time to find the coupons you want, cut them out, and organize them. Then you have to make sure you have the correct ones when you go to different stores. Spending hours cutting out coupons may not be the best use of your time.



Stores take the time and money to print coupons because they know a coupon can make a person come into a store. And once people are inside a store, they usually buy something. This means that coupons may help a store earn money without helping you save any.

- 1) The author of this passage argues that coupons
 - A. are an unfair trick stores use
 - B. never save people money
 - C. may not be worth using
 - D. take too much time to organize

- 2) Based on its use in paragraph 1, it can be understood that **discounts** belongs to which of the following word groups?
 - A. payments, money, cash
 - B. chances, breaks, opportunities
 - C. sales, transactions, purchases
 - D. decreases, reductions, subtractions

- 3) In paragraph 2, the author writes, “The truth is that coupons do not always save you money.” The purpose of this sentence is to
 - A. provide an example
 - B. introduce an idea
 - C. answer a question
 - D. solve a problem

4) In paragraph 2, the author writes, "People often buy something just because they have a coupon for it. They might not need it or even want it." An example of this is if a person

- A. has a coupon for strawberry yogurt but really wants blueberry yogurt
- B. gets a coupon for a box of crackers that is buy one, get one free
- C. buys bread with a coupon even though he or she did not plan to buy bread
- D. plans to buy apples but once at the store decides to buy bananas and grapes, too

5) Based on information in the passage, it can be understood that the disadvantages of using coupons include

- I. buying things that you do not need because you have a coupon
- II. having to spend a lot of time to find and organize your coupons
- III. not getting coupons for the things you really want

- A. I only
- B. I and II only
- C. II and III only
- D. I, II, III

6) According to the author, stores take the time and money to print coupons in order to

- A. help people save money
- B. force people to buy things they do not want
- C. advertise the stores and the things they sell
- D. make people come into a store

7) The passage suggests that coupons may not be as beneficial as they seem. However, there are ways that coupons can save you money. When do you think coupons actually are beneficial?

Explain your ideas.
