

Be a Smart Shopper

An extension of "Is that ivory?"

Read "**Is that ivory?**" (page 17, *What's Up* September 2020). The story shows us how crooks have tried to get around the ivory ban by falsely advertising their products. However, there are ways to distinguish authentic elephant and mammoth ivory from imitation products.

1. Work in pairs. Pretend the two of you are tourists shopping around for trinkets. A shopkeeper invites you into his shop to look at what he has for sale. Fill in the space provided with how you think the conversation would go. How would you respond to him?
2. Before you start writing, consider the following:
 - a) What are the two ways you can use to tell if something is made of real ivory?
 - b) The shopkeeper is responding to what you are saying, so what kind of statements should you be making? (*Hint: If there is an answer, there must first be a question.*)

Shopkeeper: Hello there, come and check out my shop!

You: _____

Shopkeeper: Oh, that? That's a vintage bone bracelet. I can give you a very good price for it if you're interested!

You: _____

Shopkeeper: Sure, of course you can. Here you go. (The shopkeeper hands you the bracelet.)

You: _____

Shopkeeper: Well, what do you think? It's a nice colour isn't it?

You: Yes, but this looks suspiciously like ivory. _____

Shopkeeper: Oh, this is bone! Very old bone. I know it looks like ivory but I promise it is not.

You: _____

Shopkeeper: Oh those? They are just patterns so that the bone looks nicer and less plain.

You: Are you sure this is bone and not ivory?

Shopkeeper: Okay okay, you caught me. This is not bone, but it is not ivory either. This is actually just made from plastic. Here, you can see it for yourself!

You: _____

3. **Whole class:** Have each pair of students perform their dialogue for the class. Share what you learnt from imagining this scene. How can such an activity help you to do your part in protecting wild animals?