

**Let's think!**

1. What factors would you consider when buying fruit?
2. How do you usually store fruit?

PLAYLIST



READ ALONG



Three Popular Fruit Shops in the Neighbourhood

Freshie Fruits—Mystery boxes of fruits in season

G 1 Freshie Fruits strives to bring all consumers in Hong Kong a wide selection of succulent fruits by sourcing them from various parts of the world. They offer mystery fruit boxes on a monthly subscription basis, each containing a selection of fruits harvested at their ripest. They pride themselves on their responsive and reliable customer service staff, who always go above and beyond to enhance your shopping experience.



5

Customer reviews

**Gigilee:**

Our kids were eager to try some exotic fruits, so we ordered a mystery box from Freshie Fruits. The moment we opened the box, we could smell a very pleasant tangy fragrance! The passion fruits and mangosteens from Thailand were fresh and juicy.

10

**Jamesaha:**

The cantaloupes and peaches are great! This shop truly doesn't disappoint! Delivery was on time and customer service was friendly and helpful! I also appreciate the absence of plastic packaging.

15



Fruity 'Wan-derland'—Real farm-to-door fruit options

2 They offer an amazing assortment of fruits grown in Taiwan—the 'Kingdom of Fruit'. You must try their golden diamond pineapple, which has a delicate taste and is proven to taste less sour than other varieties of pineapple. They also carry various snacks made from the golden diamond. In addition, their fruits are farm fresh—all are delivered within 48 hours of harvest. This ensures that the products still retain many of their nutrients and can stay fresh for a longer duration. Most importantly, they fulfil their social responsibility by purchasing fruits from small independent farmers instead of through middlemen.



20

25

Customer reviews



Harry404:

Their pineapples taste great to me, but what bothered me was the attitude of the courier. Not only was he late, but he was also disrespectful. I suggest that the shop change its delivery partner.



Yuchen:

I grew up in Tainan, and savouring these fruits has surely made me less homesick. Also, I'm delighted to be able to support small independent farmers every time I order from Fruity 'Wan-derland'!



30

Tropical Oasis—Fresh and chemical-free fruits delivered to your doorstep

3 Save yourself the hassle of going to the wet market for fresh fruits and purchase them from Tropical Oasis instead! Get the best-quality fruits delivered to your doorstep for 10% to 30% less than buying them at the market. Their express delivery service means that you can receive your orders within 24 hours. They also adopt a 'zero-chemicals' approach: natural organic chemical fertilisers and pesticides are used to grow the fruits. They claim that this makes their produce more delicious.



35



40

Customer reviews



TiffanyAu:

When my order arrived, I found that one item was missing and two were substituted by something else without prior notice! I complained to them, but it took them a really long time to address my issue. It's absurd that I still haven't received my refund after two months!



RayC:

The fruits I ordered were unsecured inside the box and arrived all squashed and smashed! There's a complete lack of care when it comes to packaging perishable goods. What's more, I emailed the company but their customer service staff was non-existent. I'll NEVER shop there again!

45

~500 words

Looking into Grammar

Gerunds are verbs in the **-ing** form. We use gerunds after certain verbs, e.g. **deny, enjoy and mind**, and after prepositions, e.g. **for, before and by**.

✓ *Freshie Fruits strives to bring all consumers in Hong Kong a wide selection of succulent fruits **by sourcing** (✗ by source) them from various parts of the world.*

To-infinitives are the base form of verbs after **to**. We use **to-infinitives** after adjectives.

✓ *Our kids were **eager to try** some exotic fruits ...*

? In lines 17–32, circle a preposition that is followed by a gerund and underline an adjective that is followed by a **to-infinitive**.

Read the text and answer questions 1–12. For multiple-choice questions, choose the best answer and blacken ONE circle only. (25 marks)

1. Where does Freshie Fruits find the supply of its products?

2. Find a word or phrase in paragraph 1 which means ‘do more than expected or required’.

3. Read paragraph 1. Determine whether the following statements are True (T), False (F) or Not Given (NG).

	T	F	NG
(i) Customers can subscribe and get a fruit box every month.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
(ii) The fruits in the fruit box are picked when they are still green.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
(iii) The shop aims to reply to customers in a timely manner.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
(iv) The fruit boxes are sold at a reasonable price.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

4. Which definition of ‘review’ is closest to the meaning used in line 9?
- A. a thorough check of past events or actions
 B. to study something again to prepare for a test or exam
 C. an opinion of a product or experience
 D. an overview or summary

A B C D

5. What does Gigilee like about the fruit box from Freshie Fruits?
- (i) _____
 (ii) _____

5 Look for adjectives that Gigilee used in her comment.

6. What are the advantages of fruits that are ‘farm fresh’ (line 20)?

7. What does Fruity ‘Wan-derland’ do in order to be a socially responsible company?

- A. It has set up a fund to help poor farmers.
 B. It sources its products from a middleman.
 C. It buys its fruits from individual farmers.
 D. It asks farmers to send out fruits within 48 hours of harvest.

A B C D

8. Why was Harry404 dissatisfied with ‘the attitude of the courier’ (lines 27–28)?

9. According to paragraph 3, what are the selling points of Tropical Oasis? Fill in each blank with ONE word. Note that the suitable word may not appear in the text. Make sure your answers are grammatically correct.

- They sell fruits at (i) _____ prices.
- They (ii) _____ their products using an express service so that customers can get them in one (iii) _____ or less.
- All fruits they sell are grown without using (iv) _____.

10. What does TiffanyAu mean by 'two were substituted by something else without prior notice' (lines 42–43)? Put a tick (✓) next to each correct statement. Tick TWO boxes only.

The two items had already gone bad when she got them.

10 What does 'prior' mean?

Tropical Oasis switched the two items she ordered with other kinds of fruit.

She was not told about the changes beforehand.

The delivery took longer than 24 hours.

11. Based on the information in paragraphs 1–3 and in the comments, determine whether each of the following statements is a fact or an opinion.

	Fact	Opinion
(i) Freshie Fruits always responds to its customers.	○	○
(ii) Golden diamond pineapples generally taste less sour.	○	○
(iii) Fruits that are grown without using chemicals tend to be tastier.	○	○
(iv) Tropical Oasis has not returned money to TiffanyAu yet.	○	○

12. Read the statements on the right and match them with ONE of the customers on the left. Write the letters A–F in the blanks below. TWO of the customers are not used.

Customers		Statements
A. Gigilee	(i) _____	The shop needs to switch to a different delivery company.
B. Jameshaha	(ii) _____	The shop's careless packaging ruined my order!
C. Harry404	(iii) _____	I like the fact that this shop is environmentally friendly.
D. Yuchen	(iv) _____	We love to try fruits that are not usually found in Hong Kong.
E. TiffanyAu		
F. RayC		

Vocabulary

GLOSSARY



A. Complete the article below with the given words. Make sure your answers are grammatically correct.

Adjective: delicate perishable ripe succulent

Noun: nutrient produce **Phrase:** in season

Verb: retain savour squash

Interesting fruit festivals

Fruits are a healthy food choice as they contain lots of (1) _____ that are essential for our health. However, they are also highly (2) _____ and cannot be kept for a long time. They always taste best when they are (3) _____, which means the fruits are (4) _____. This also means that they (5) _____ most of their freshness. Let's take a look at two festivals that are centred around fruits.

La Tomatina

In Spain, every August, the town of Buñol hosts the La Tomatina festival. Truckloads of tomatoes are provided to the participants, but instead of (6) _____ the (7) _____ red (8) _____, participants throw them at each other for an hour. After the intense battle, it is advisable to have a dry and clean towel to wipe yourself with.

Ludwigsburg Pumpkin Festival

In Germany, the pumpkin is celebrated at the Ludwigsburg Pumpkin Festival. At the festival, you will see the world's largest pumpkin, sculptures made from pumpkins, and even a pumpkin boat race. Unlike the (9) _____ tomatoes, pumpkins have a hard skin and firm flesh that does not break easily. Race participants take advantage of this by carving a giant hole in the middle of the pumpkins, making them into little boats. When the race is over, the winning pumpkin boat is (10) _____ with a huge hammer until nothing is left but its juice.

B. Complete sentences below with the given words or phrases. Make sure your answers are grammatically correct.

Words related to shopping

checkout

discounted price

hot item

payment method

purchase

quality

scale

shopping trolley

THEME



The (1) _____ of the apples at this market is exceptional.

Let's grab a (2) _____ to make it easier to carry our fruit.



Don't forget to go to the (3) _____ counter to pay for your (4) _____.

You can buy the strawberries at a (5) _____.



Weigh the apples on the (6) _____. I want to know how much they cost in total.



Watermelons are always (7) _____ during summer.

Which (8) _____ do you prefer to pay for your fruits?



Writing

How can poor service lead to negative comments and harm a business's reputation?

Write an article in about 180 words to talk about a negative shopping experience and offer suggestions to the shop owner on how to improve.