Bread Before Closing

B2 Upper-intermediate · Food · about 2 min of audio

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Name _____ Date _____

Part 1 — Fill the gaps while you listen

1. At a corner bakery, _____ loaves once waited untouched until closing.
2. Managers began lowering prices in small steps each afternoon, instead of _____ one final bargain.
3. By Friday, regulars arrived earlier, and one asked whether _____ bread was already stale.
4. The question sounded _____, yet staff noticed fewer loaves left behind at night.
5. After two weeks, late _____ bread sales nearly doubled, while fresh loaf sales dipped slightly.
6. _____, a shelter kitchen collected donated loaves early and turned some into toast for soup.
7. That second use _____ the bakers, who had assumed the kitchen wanted only untouched loaves.
8. Still, _____ may train customers to wait, while donations depend on drivers and careful handling.
9. Donated loaves must be _____ before the food becomes unsafe, which requires reliable timing.
10. Neither choice prevents _____, so the bakery now combines both with more careful ordering.
11. Regular _____ can cut waste, but a flexible mix of sales and timely donations seems wiser.

Part 2 — Write every sentence you hear

1. _____
2. _____

_____

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

9.

10.

11.

Answer key

Part 1 — the missing words

1. yesterday's 2. announcing 3. discounted 4. unflattering 5. discounted 6. Meanwhile 7. surprised 8. discounts 9. collected 10. overordering 11. markdowns

Part 2 — the full transcript

1. At a corner bakery, yesterday's loaves once waited untouched until closing.
2. Managers began lowering prices in small steps each afternoon, instead of announcing one final bargain.
3. By Friday, regulars arrived earlier, and one asked whether discounted bread was already stale.
4. The question sounded unflattering, yet staff noticed fewer loaves left behind at night.
5. After two weeks, late discounted bread sales nearly doubled, while fresh loaf sales dipped slightly.
6. Meanwhile, a shelter kitchen collected donated loaves early and turned some into toast for soup.
7. That second use surprised the bakers, who had assumed the kitchen wanted only untouched loaves.
8. Still, discounts may train customers to wait, while donations depend on drivers and careful handling.
9. Donated loaves must be collected before the food becomes unsafe, which requires reliable timing.
10. Neither choice prevents overordering, so the bakery now combines both with more careful ordering.
11. Regular markdowns can cut waste, but a flexible mix of sales and timely donations seems wiser.

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