

Real World Graduation: Question 28

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Question 28

A woman is shopping at a mall, and has a small bag of with one purchase from one of the various stores she has visited. She enters into another store, and sees a sign saying "Please leave all bags at the desk for your convenience", and a store employee informs her that all her bags must be left at the front desk while shopping. All the other shoppers are doing likewise. In what ways is this convenient?

- a) She won't have to carry that other little bag around with her in the store
- b) She won't be running the risk of having someone steal from her bag while she is shopping
- c) She will have more room in her cart
- d) She will not run the risk of losing the small bag while shopping
- e) Some combination of the above.

Answer to Question 28

This is a trick question; none of the answers are correct.

Since the shopper only had one small bag, neither (a) nor (c) is true.

Clearly (b) is not true, because leaving it at the front desk is an easy way for the store's employees to steal from her.

Answer (d) is not true because the bag can be lost at the front desk as easily as any other place.

This has nothing to do with her convenience, and everything to do with the possibility that the store manager believes that she may be a shoplifter. Having her leave her bags at the front desk is for *their* convenience, not hers. She was required to leave them there so that she would have a more difficult time shoplifting, as she would not be able to readily conceal things as easily.

When something is said to be "for your convenience", you can be reasonably certain that it is actually for someone else's convenience.