

Lesson 7: Activity 2

Teacher resource sheet: Gadget insurance

ANSWER TO CATHERINE'S QUERY:

Samantha <sam@helpdesk.edu>

15.39 (3 hours ago) ☆



To Catherine ▾

Hi Catherine

When you buy expensive electronic equipment, it makes sense that you want to protect yourself, but insurance for goods such as laptops or mobile phones can be quite expensive in the long term. There are a few things to think about before you sign-up to any policy, to make sure you are getting the best deal available.

(1)

Check if you are already covered under your existing home or contents insurance policy. 'All-risks' cover is an optional extra under most home insurance policies and protects you against loss or theft of, or accidental damage to, personal belongings both inside and outside the home.

- Check exactly what is covered and ask your insurance provider about any exclusions, if you are unsure.
- Check if there is an excess to pay on the policy if you make a claim and consider the implications of any excess.

(2)

Ask your insurance company what it would cost to insure the laptop and then compare this with the insurance being offered by the retailer.

(3)

If you don't have a home insurance policy, check what premium you would be paying if you take the insurance from the retailer and think about how much it will cost you over a few years. You should also ask about any exclusions which may apply.

(4)

If you decide to buy the shop's insurance, read the terms and conditions carefully, check the excesses and exclusions, and weigh up how likely your son is to lose or damage the laptop against the cost of the insurance and the worst-case-scenario cost of replacing the laptop. Don't forget, if the laptop develops a fault soon after you buy it, you also have statutory consumer rights and are entitled to a repair, replacement, or refund, depending on the fault. So make sure you keep the receipt safe in case you need it.

Best of luck to Eric with his new laptop and studies!