

Types of Retailers

True / False Questions

1. The most basic characteristic used to describe the different types of retailers is their retail mix, or the elements retailers use to satisfy their customers' needs.

True False

2. Walmart is classified as an off-price retailer.

True False

3. To be competitive in today's marketplace, supermarkets are focusing on offering fresh perishables and providing better value with private-label merchandise.

True False

4. Supermarkets gain higher profit margins from private-label merchandise than national brands.

True False

5. Private-label brands benefit retailers but not customers.

True False

6. Traditionally, department stores almost exclusively offered soft goods. But now, most department stores focus on selling both hard and soft goods.

True False

7. Extreme-value retailers primarily target low-income consumers.

True False

8. Due to the intangibility of their offerings, services retailers often use tangible symbols to inform customers about the quality of their services.

True False

9. The biggest difference between service retailers and merchandise retailers is their profits.

True False

10. Whereas corporate chains can tailor their offerings to their customers' needs, single-store retailers can more effectively negotiate lower prices for merchandise and advertising because of their larger size.

True False

Multiple Choice Questions

11. Which of the following statements is true of the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS)?

- A. It was developed by the Federal Trade Commission (FTC).
- B. It uses an 8-digit classification system.
- C. It was created to collect data on North America's business activity.
- D. It is limited in its use to only manufacturing companies.
- E. It is a classification system developed by the United States.

12. With respect to retailing, which of the following best defines assortment of merchandise?

- A. Each different item of merchandise offered by a retailer
- B. The number of different items offered in a merchandise category
- C. The number of merchandise categories a retailer offers
- D. Merchandise with minor mistakes in construction
- E. End-of-season merchandise that will not be used in following seasons

13. With respect to retailing, which of the following best defines variety?
- A. Merchandise with minor mistakes in construction
 - B. The number of different items offered in a merchandise category
 - C. End-of-season merchandise that will not be used in following seasons
 - D. The number of merchandise categories a retailer offers
 - E. Each different item of merchandise offered by a retailer
14. Because the only merchandise categories at the University Futon Shop are double-sized futons, the Futon Shop can be said to have no _____.
- A. inventory control
 - B. need for customer service
 - C. variety
 - D. irregularity
 - E. product depth
15. Which of the following best defines a stock-keeping unit?
- A. The number of different items offered in a merchandise category
 - B. End-of-season merchandise that will not be used by a retailer in following seasons
 - C. Merchandise with minor mistakes in construction
 - D. Each different item of merchandise offered by a retailer
 - E. The number of merchandise categories a retailer offers

16. With respect to retailing, variety is often referred to as the _____.

- A. closeouts
- B. assortment of merchandise
- C. irregulars
- D. breadth of merchandise
- E. stock-keeping units

17. With respect to retailing, assortment is often referred to as the _____.

- A. power perimeter
- B. depth of merchandise
- C. closeouts
- D. variety of merchandise
- E. irregulars

18. The Men's Wearhouse stocks over 350 different styles and colors of ties. This assortment of ties can be referred to as the store's _____.

- A. consignment merchandise
- B. closeouts
- C. breadth of merchandise
- D. power perimeter
- E. depth of merchandise

19. Limited-assortment supermarkets are also called:

- A. extreme-value food retailers.
- B. full-line discount stores.
- C. conventional supermarkets.
- D. consignment shops.
- E. warehouse clubs.

20. Which of the following is Save-A-Lot considered to be?

- A. Conventional supermarket
- B. Convenience store
- C. Category specialist
- D. Full-line discount store
- E. Limited-assortment supermarket

21. The outer walls of a supermarket that stocks fresh-merchandise such as dairy, bakery, meat, produce, etc. is referred to as the _____.

- A. power perimeter
- B. convenience rack
- C. closeouts
- D. irregulars
- E. supercenters

22. The _____ focuses on reducing the carbon footprint caused by the transportation of food throughout the world.

- A. core insight plan
- B. locavore movement
- C. sustainable agriculture act
- D. limited liabilities act
- E. non-compete clause

23. Purchasing from factories that pay workers a living wage (more than the minimum wage) and offer other benefits to the employees is called _____.

- A. a closeout
- B. power perimeter
- C. cash wrap
- D. flash sale
- E. fair trade

24. What type of store is Meijer considered to be?

- A. Supercenter
- B. Department store
- C. Full-line discount store
- D. Drugstore
- E. Category specialist

25. Which of the following is a similarity between hypermarkets and supercenters?

- A. Both are common in the United States.
- B. Both offer self-service.
- C. Both carry a negotiable percentage of nonfood items.
- D. Both avoid the sale of perishables.
- E. Both lack parking facilities for customers.

26. Which of the following differentiates a hypermarket from a supercenter?

- A. Hypermarkets do not offer self-service facilities, whereas supercenters offer self-service facilities to its customers.
- B. Hypermarkets carry a larger proportion of food items, whereas supercenters carry a larger portion of nonfood items.
- C. Hypermarkets have a greater emphasis on dry groceries, whereas supercenters have a greater emphasis on perishables.
- D. Hypermarkets are very common in the United States, whereas supercenters are not common in the United States.
- E. Hypermarkets provide large parking facilities to its customers, whereas supercenters do not provide parking facilities to its customers.

27. What type of a retail store is Costco considered to be?

- A. A supercenter
- B. A hypermarket
- C. A category specialist
- D. A warehouse club
- E. A department store

28. What is the challenge that big-box stores face while developing locations in Europe, Japan, and the United States?

- A. Limited and expensive land
- B. Increased operating costs
- C. Restricted building size in some counties
- D. Opposing sentiments from local residents
- E. All of these

29. Which of the following statements best defines a warehouse club?

- A. They are stores which provide a large variety and assortment of merchandise at a convenient location with speedy checkout.
- B. They are large, self-service retail food stores offering about 30,000 SKUs with high inventory holding costs.
- C. They are retailers that carry a broad variety and deep assortment, offer customer services, and organize their stores into distinct departments for displaying merchandise.
- D. They are retailers that offer a limited and irregular assortment of food and general merchandise with little service at low prices.
- E. They are large stores that combine a supermarket with a full-line discount store.

30. Convenience stores _____ than supermarkets.

- A. make customers wait in a long checkout line
- B. avoid selling lower profit products
- C. offer a broad variety and deep assortment of merchandise
- D. offer self-service to its customers
- E. charge higher prices for similar products sold

31. Which of the following statements is TRUE about warehouse clubs?

- A. Warehouse clubs carry a broad variety and deep assortment of merchandise.
- B. Warehouse clubs are small and typically located in high-rent districts.
- C. Warehouse clubs typically have low inventory holding costs.
- D. Warehouse clubs offer extensive customer service.
- E. Warehouse clubs offer its fast-selling items at high prices.

32. Which of the following statements is true of department stores?

- A. They are usually located in local neighborhoods rather than large regional malls.
- B. They often resemble a collection of specialty shops.
- C. They can be categorized into two tiers.
- D. They focus almost exclusively on hard goods.
- E. They offer a limited variety and shallow assortment of merchandise.

33. A retailer that carries a broad variety and deep assortment, offers customer services, and is organized into distinct sections for displaying merchandise is called a(n) _____.

- A. off-price retailer
- B. department store
- C. discount retailer
- D. convenience store
- E. specialty retailer

34. What type of store is Kohl's considered to be?

- A. Off-price retailer
- B. Department store
- C. Full-line discount store
- D. Extreme value retailer
- E. Specialty retailer

35. Which of the following is a first tier department store?

- A. Macy's
- B. Nordstrom
- C. Sears
- D. Kohl's
- E. JCPenney

36. Which of the following is a second tier department store?

- A. Macy's
- B. Neiman Marcus
- C. TJ Maxx
- D. Nordstrom
- E. Saks Fifth Avenue

37. Which of the following is a third tier department store?

- A. Macy's
- B. Neiman Marcus
- C. TJ Maxx
- D. Nordstrom
- E. JCPenny

38. What can department stores do to differentiate their merchandise offering and strengthen their image?

- A. Increase their pricing
- B. Decrease the variety and assortment of merchandise within the store
- C. Seek exclusive arrangements with nationally recognized brands
- D. Merge with faltering retailers to gain their market share
- E. Start selling both soft goods and hard goods

39. Attempting to combat losing market share, department stores are _____.

- A. becoming more effective with multichannel retailing
- B. adding exclusive merchandise to their assortments
- C. developing stronger marketing campaigns to enhance their store image
- D. placing more emphasis on developing their own private-label brands
- E. all of these

40. Private-label brands are also called _____.

- A. closeouts
- B. category killers
- C. irregulars
- D. inclusive brands
- E. store brands

41. Alfani (women's fashion), Hotel Collection (luxury fabrics), and Tools of the Trade (housewares) are examples of Macy's _____.

- A. national brands
- B. store brands
- C. irregulars
- D. inclusive brands
- E. closeouts

42. What type of store is Target considered to be?

- A. Off-price retailer
- B. Department store
- C. Full-line discount store
- D. Extreme value retailer
- E. Specialty retailer

43. To respond to a competitive discount environment, Walmart is fighting back by _____.

- A. converting its discount stores into supercenters
- B. leasing retail space in its stores to independent merchants
- C. focusing on high customer service
- D. converting the discount stores into convenience stores
- E. expanding into rural locations

44. Which of the following statements about full-line discount stores is true?

- A. They carry only private-label merchandise.
- B. They have a narrow breadth of merchandise.
- C. They typically carry more brands and sizes in each category than department stores.
- D. They have inconsistent assortments.
- E. They confront intense competition from category specialists.

45. Why are category specialists sometimes called category killers?

- A. They are often located close to full-line discount stores and discount stores which offer a deep assortment of merchandise.
- B. They are located at stand-alone sites.
- C. They have a broad merchandise mix and shallow assortment.
- D. They can dominate a category of merchandise making it difficult for other retailers to compete.
- E. They carry mainly technologically obsolete merchandise.

46. Best Buy is a category specialist for the electronics industry. This means the stores _____.

- A. offer their customers narrow breadth and depth of merchandise
- B. sell only their own private-label brands
- C. have excellent after sales customer service
- D. avoid self-service approach
- E. offer a narrow but deep assortment of merchandise

47. What type of a retail store is Victoria's Secret considered to be?

- A. Department store
- B. Convenient store
- C. Full-line discount store
- D. Specialty store
- E. Supermarket

48. Which of the following statements is true about specialty stores?

- A. They tailor their retail strategy toward very specific market segments.
- B. They group products by brand instead of product category like in department stores.
- C. They offer very shallow and narrow assortments.
- D. They completely avoid including their own private-label brands in the store.
- E. They discourage sampling.

49. A special type of resale store where merchandise is donated and proceeds go to charity is called a(n) _____.

- A. extreme-value retailer
- B. thrift store
- C. consignment shop
- D. dollar store
- E. supercenter

50. A type of resale store that accepts used merchandise from people and pays them after it is sold is called a(n) _____.

- A. dollar store
- B. consignment shop
- C. supercenter
- D. thrift store
- E. extreme-value retailer

51. Which of the following types of general merchandise retailers is called as dollar stores?

- A. Extreme-value retailers
- B. Department stores
- C. Full-line discount stores
- D. Category specialists
- E. Specialty stores

52. What type of a retail store is Walgreens considered to be?

- A. Full-line discount store
- B. Drugstore
- C. Department store
- D. Convenience store
- E. Supercenter

53. What type of store is Dollar General considered to be?

- A. Off-price retailer
- B. Department store
- C. Full-line discount store
- D. Extreme-value retailer
- E. Specialty retailer

54. The drugstore industry has seen a decrease in their annual sales mainly due to _____.

- A. higher prices on prescription drugs
- B. pharmacies in full-line discount stores
- C. the aging population
- D. government regulations on pharmaceutical sales
- E. the wide assortment of merchandise sold by them

55. _____ offer an inconsistent assortment of brand-name merchandise at a significant discount off the manufacturers' suggested retail price.

- A. Off-price retailers
- B. Department stores
- C. Discount retailers
- D. Convenience stores
- E. Specialty retailers

56. What type of store is TJMaxx considered to be?

- A. Off-price retailer
- B. Department store
- C. Full-line discount store
- D. Extreme-value retailer
- E. Specialty retailer

57. Which of the following is true of off-price retailers?

- A. They offer a consistent assortment of soft goods at low prices.
- B. They sell brand-name merchandise at reduced prices.
- C. They offer gift registries.
- D. They require suppliers to give them a variety of advertising allowances and markdown discounts.
- E. They sell designer-label merchandise at 20 to 60 percent higher than the manufacturer's suggested retail price.

58. Off-price retailers will often sell merchandise less than the MSRP which means:

- A. the merchandise sales are profitable.
- B. the merchandise is sold below the suggested retail price.
- C. the merchandise is sold below the suggested realized profit.
- D. the merchandise is sold less than the surrounding retail competitors.
- E. the merchandise sold by them are always closeouts.

59. _____ are products that have minor blemishes to the fabric or errors in the construction.

- A. Close-outs
- B. Irregulars
- C. Category killers
- D. Soft goods
- E. Hard goods

60. _____ are end-of-season merchandise that will not be in the manufacturer's offerings going forward.

- A. Close-outs
- B. Irregulars
- C. Endcaps
- D. Category killers
- E. Soft goods

61. _____ are off-price retailers owned by manufacturers or retailers.

- A. Dollar stores
- B. Closeouts
- C. Thrift stores
- D. Outlet stores
- E. Supercenters

62. With respect to off-price retailing, in a _____ sale, each day at the same time, members receive an email that announces the deals available.

- A. closeout
- B. clearance
- C. enterprise
- D. consultative
- E. flash

63. A special type of off-price retailer stores owned by manufacturers is called a _____.

- A. consignment shop
- B. thrift store
- C. dollar store
- D. warehouse club
- E. factory outlet

64. Merrill Lynch, Marriott, and Century 21 are examples of:

- A. dollar stores.
- B. off-price retailers.
- C. service retailers.
- D. specialty stores.
- E. full-line discount stores.

65. Services are difficult to be evaluated before customers buy or even after they buy and consume them. Which of the following characteristics of service causes this challenge for service retailers?

- A. Intangibility
- B. Perishability
- C. Inconsistency
- D. Consumability
- E. Compatibility

66. How can a service retailer best cope with the problems associated with the intangibility of service?

- A. Use low prices during off-seasons to help match supply and demand.
- B. Use mass production.
- C. Emphasize quality control.
- D. Solicit customer evaluations and complaints.
- E. Increase staffing at peak demand times.

67. A dermatologist has her diplomas prominently displayed above her large desk, which sits on a Persian rug in an office filled with tasteful, yet expensive furnishings. Which of the following service characteristics is the doctor trying to handle with her office décor?

- A. Intangibility
- B. Perishability
- C. Inconsistency
- D. Consumability
- E. Compatibility

68. A massage parlor requires its therapists to keep a database on each customer and include in that database what was done on each visit for customer aches and pains. Which of the following service characteristics is the parlor trying to cope with?

- A. Intangibility
- B. Perishability
- C. Inconsistency
- D. Consumability
- E. Compatibility

69. Due to the _____ of services, service retailers like Universal Studios Theme Parks, Delta, and Applebee's restaurants, sometimes, find it difficult to match supply and demand.

- A. intangibility
- B. perishability
- C. inconsistency
- D. consumability
- E. compatibility

70. Why do movie theaters sell tickets for an afternoon showing of a movie at a lower price than the 7 p.m. showing of the same movie?

- A. To deal with the perishability of services
- B. To make sure the service offered is consistent
- C. To deal with the intangible characteristic of services
- D. To deal with the incompatibility characteristic of services
- E. To minimize inventory losses

71. How can a service retailer best cope with the problems associated with the inconsistency of service?

- A. Use low prices during off-seasons to help match supply and demand.
- B. Use mass production.
- C. Avoid simultaneity of production and consumption of service.
- D. Train and motivate service providers.
- E. Increase staffing at peak demand times.

72. Which of the following is true of single-store retailers?

- A. They do not have direct contact with their customers.
- B. They are not bound by the bureaucracies inherent in large retail organizations.
- C. They are totally independent of their owner-managers' capabilities to make any retail decision.
- D. They must join a wholesale-sponsored voluntary competitive group to compete against corporate chains.
- E. They are very rigid and lack quick adaptability to market changes and customer needs.

73. Which of the following is a drawback of the franchise ownership?

- A. The franchisee lacks any kind of off- or onsite training from the franchisor.
- B. The franchisor lacks any benefit from the success of his or her franchisee.
- C. The franchisee must adhere to the franchisor's rules and operating guidelines.
- D. The franchisee must join a single-store retailer to become independent of the franchisor.
- E. The franchisor must incur the capital costs like purchase and modification of the retail space.

Essay Questions

74. Differentiate between variety and assortment of merchandise offered by a retailer.

75. Explain the strategies that limited-assortment supermarkets (extreme-value food retailers) use in order to provide customers with high-quality merchandise at low prices to compete against other food retailing formats.

76. How are department stores categorized into tiers? How do the tiers differ? Give examples of each tier.

77. Discuss the reasons that department stores are losing their market share to discount stores, and list the steps taken by department stores to deal with their eroding market share.

78. Write a note on category specialists.

79. Explain what drugstores do to remain competitive in the marketplace.

80. Discuss how off-price retailers opportunistically obtain their merchandise and the different types of merchandise found at off-price retailers.

81. Describe the four important differences in the nature of the offerings provided by services and merchandise retailers.

82. What is franchising? What does a franchisor offer its franchisees to get the franchisees off to a good start?

83. Define a retail chain with examples.

Chapter 02 Types of Retailers **Answer Key**

True / False Questions

1. The most basic characteristic used to describe the different types of retailers is their retail mix, (p. 36) or the elements retailers use to satisfy their customers' needs.

TRUE

The most basic characteristic used to describe the different types of retailers is their retail mix, or the elements retailers use to satisfy their customers' needs. Four elements of the retail mix are particularly useful for classifying retailers: the type of merchandise and/or services offered, the variety and assortment of merchandise offered, the level of customer service, and the price of the merchandise.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Understand

Difficulty: 1 Easy

Learning Objective: 02-01 List the different characteristics that define retailers.

Topic: Retailer Characteristics

2. Walmart is classified as an off-price retailer.

(p. 38)

FALSE

Walmart is a full-line discount store. Off-price retailers offer an inconsistent assortment of brand-name merchandise at a significant discount off the manufacturers' suggested retail price (MSRP), and Walmart has consistent assortments.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Understand

Difficulty: 1 Easy

Learning Objective: 02-01 List the different characteristics that define retailers.

Topic: Retailer Characteristics

3. To be competitive in today's marketplace, supermarkets are focusing on offering fresh

(p. 43) perishables and providing better value with private-label merchandise.

TRUE

To compete successfully against intrusions by other food retailing formats, conventional supermarkets are differentiating their offerings by emphasizing fresh perishables, targeting green and ethnic consumers, providing better value with private-label merchandise, and providing a better shopping experience.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Apply

Difficulty: 2 Medium

Learning Objective: 02-02 Categorize the various types of food retailers.

Topic: Food Retailers

4. Supermarkets gain higher profit margins from private-label merchandise than national brands.

(p. 44)

TRUE

The benefits of private-label brands to retailers include increased store loyalty, the ability to differentiate themselves from the competition, lower promotional costs, and higher gross margins compared with national brands.

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Understand

Difficulty: 2 Medium

Learning Objective: 02-02 Categorize the various types of food retailers.

Topic: Food Retailers

5. Private-label brands benefit retailers but not customers.

(p. 44)

FALSE

Private-label brands benefit both customers and retailers.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Understand

Difficulty: 1 Easy

Learning Objective: 02-02 Categorize the various types of food retailers.

Topic: Food Retailers

6. Traditionally, department stores almost exclusively offered soft goods. But now, most
(p. 48) department stores focus on selling both hard and soft goods.

FALSE

Traditionally, department stores sold both soft goods and hard goods. But now, most department stores focus almost exclusively on soft goods.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Apply

Difficulty: 2 Medium

Learning Objective: 02-03 Identify the various types of general merchandise retailers.

Topic: General Merchandise Retailers

7. Extreme-value retailers primarily target low-income consumers.
(p. 54)

TRUE

Extreme-value retailers primarily target low-income consumers. These customers want well-known brands but cannot afford to buy the large-size packages offered by full-line discount stores or warehouse clubs.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Remember

Difficulty: 1 Easy

Learning Objective: 02-03 Identify the various types of general merchandise retailers.

Topic: General Merchandise Retailers

8. Due to the intangibility of their offerings, services retailers often use tangible symbols to inform
(p. 58) customers about the quality of their services.

TRUE

Due to the intangibility of their offerings, services retailers often use tangible symbols to inform customers about the quality of their services. For example, lawyers frequently have elegant, carpeted offices with expensive antique furniture.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Remember

Difficulty: 1 Easy

Learning Objective: 02-04 Explain the differences between service and merchandise retailers.

Topic: Service Retailing

9. The biggest difference between service retailers and merchandise retailers is their profits.
(p. 58)

FALSE

Profit doesn't play a role in comparing the differences between service retailers and merchandise retailers. Differences are intangibility, simultaneous production and consumption, perishability, and inconsistency of the offering to customers.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Understand

Difficulty: 2 Medium

Learning Objective: 02-04 Explain the differences between service and merchandise retailers.

Topic: Service Retailing

10. Whereas corporate chains can tailor their offerings to their customers' needs, single-store (p. 60) retailers can more effectively negotiate lower prices for merchandise and advertising because of their larger size.

FALSE

Whereas single-store retailers can tailor their offerings to their customers' needs, corporate chains can more effectively negotiate lower prices for merchandise and advertising because of their larger size. Corporate chains can and do invest in sophisticated analytical systems to help them buy and price merchandise.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Apply

Difficulty: 2 Medium

Learning Objective: 02-05 Illustrate the types of ownership for retail firms.

Topic: Types of Ownership

Multiple Choice Questions

11. Which of the following statements is true of the North American Industry Classification System (p. 36) (NAICS)?

- A. It was developed by the Federal Trade Commission (FTC).
- B. It uses an 8-digit classification system.
- C.** It was created to collect data on North America's business activity.
- D. It is limited in its use to only manufacturing companies.
- E. It is a classification system developed by the United States.

The United States, Canada, and Mexico developed the NAICS as a classification scheme to collect data on business activity in each country.

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Remember

Difficulty: 2 Medium

Learning Objective: 02-01 List the different characteristics that define retailers.

Topic: Retailer Characteristics

12. With respect to retailing, which of the following best defines assortment of merchandise?

(p. 37)

- A. Each different item of merchandise offered by a retailer
- B.** The number of different items offered in a merchandise category
- C. The number of merchandise categories a retailer offers
- D. Merchandise with minor mistakes in construction
- E. End-of-season merchandise that will not be used in following seasons

Assortment is the number of different items offered in a merchandise category. It is referred to as the depth of merchandise.

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Understand

Difficulty: 3 Hard

Learning Objective: 02-01 List the different characteristics that define retailers.

Topic: Retailer Characteristics

13. With respect to retailing, which of the following best defines variety?

(p. 37)

- A. Merchandise with minor mistakes in construction
- B. The number of different items offered in a merchandise category
- C. End-of-season merchandise that will not be used in following seasons
- D.** The number of merchandise categories a retailer offers
- E. Each different item of merchandise offered by a retailer

Variety is the number of different merchandise categories a retailer offers, also known as the breadth of merchandise.

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Remember

Difficulty: 1 Easy

Learning Objective: 02-01 List the different characteristics that define retailers.

Topic: Retailer Characteristics

14. Because the only merchandise categories at the University Futon Shop are double-sized
(p. 37) futons, the Futon Shop can be said to have no _____.

- A. inventory control
- B. need for customer service
- C. variety**
- D. irregularity
- E. product depth

Variety is the number of different merchandise categories a retailer offers, also known as the breadth of merchandise. Since this store only carries one stock-keeping unit SKU (double sized futons), it has very little variety. It may have good product depth if it offers the double sized futons in many different colors and fabrications, but we don't have any information on that.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Apply

Difficulty: 2 Medium

Learning Objective: 02-01 List the different characteristics that define retailers.

Topic: Retailer Characteristics

15. Which of the following best defines a stock-keeping unit?

(p. 37)

- A. The number of different items offered in a merchandise category
- B. End-of-season merchandise that will not be used by a retailer in following seasons
- C. Merchandise with minor mistakes in construction
- D.** Each different item of merchandise offered by a retailer
- E. The number of merchandise categories a retailer offers

Each different item of merchandise is called a stock-keeping unit (SKU). Some examples of SKUs include an original scent, 33-ounce box of Tide laundry detergent with bleach or a blue, long-sleeve, button-down-collar Ralph Lauren shirt, size medium.

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Remember

Difficulty: 1 Easy

Learning Objective: 02-01 List the different characteristics that define retailers.

Topic: Retailer Characteristics

16. With respect to retailing, variety is often referred to as the _____.

(p. 37)

- A. closeouts
- B. assortment of merchandise
- C. irregulars
- D.** breadth of merchandise
- E. stock-keeping units

Variety is the number of different merchandise categories a retailer offers. Variety is often referred to as the breadth of merchandise.

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Remember

Difficulty: 1 Easy

Learning Objective: 02-01 List the different characteristics that define retailers.

Topic: Retailer Characteristics

17. With respect to retailing, assortment is often referred to as the _____.

(p. 37)

- A. power perimeter
- B. depth of merchandise**
- C. closeouts
- D. variety of merchandise
- E. irregulars

Assortment is the number of different items offered in a merchandise category. Assortment is referred to as the depth of merchandise.

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Remember

Difficulty: 1 Easy

Learning Objective: 02-01 List the different characteristics that define retailers.

Topic: Retailer Characteristics

18. The Men's Wearhouse stocks over 350 different styles and colors of ties. This assortment of (p. 37) ties can be referred to as the store's _____.

- A. consignment merchandise
- B. closeouts
- C. breadth of merchandise
- D. power perimeter
- E. depth of merchandise**

The depth of merchandise refers to the different items offered in a merchandise category. "Ties" would be the category with many different colors and styles giving great depth for the customer.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Apply

Difficulty: 2 Medium

Learning Objective: 02-01 List the different characteristics that define retailers.

Topic: Retailer Characteristics

19. Limited-assortment supermarkets are also called:

(p. 42)

- A. extreme-value food retailers.
- B. full-line discount stores.
- C. conventional supermarkets.
- D. consignment shops.
- E. warehouse clubs.

Limited-assortment supermarkets are also called extreme-value food retailers. They stock only about 1,500 SKUs.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Remember

Difficulty: 1 Easy

Learning Objective: 02-02 Categorize the various types of food retailers.

Topic: Food Retailers

20. Which of the following is Save-A-Lot considered to be?

(p. 42)

- A. Conventional supermarket
- B. Convenience store
- C. Category specialist
- D. Full-line discount store
- E. Limited-assortment supermarket

The two largest limited-assortment supermarket chains in the United States are Save-A-Lot and ALDI. Limited-assortment supermarkets stock about 1,500 SKUs.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Understand

Difficulty: 2 Medium

Learning Objective: 02-02 Categorize the various types of food retailers.

Topic: Food Retailers

21. The outer walls of a supermarket that stocks fresh-merchandise such as dairy, bakery, meat, (p. 43) produce, etc. is referred to as the _____.

- A. power perimeter
- B. convenience rack
- C. closeouts
- D. irregulars
- E. supercenters

Fresh-merchandise categories are located in the areas around the outer walls of a supermarket, known as the "power perimeter," and include the dairy, bakery, meat, florist, produce, deli, and coffee bar.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Remember

Difficulty: 1 Easy

Learning Objective: 02-02 Categorize the various types of food retailers.

Topic: Food Retailers

22. The _____ focuses on reducing the carbon footprint caused by the transportation of food throughout the world.
(p. 43-44)

- A. core insight plan
- B. locavore movement**
- C. sustainable agriculture act
- D. limited liabilities act
- E. non-compete clause

The locavore movement focuses on reducing the carbon footprint caused by the transportation of food throughout the world. Food miles are calculated using the distance that foods travel from the farm to the plate.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Understand

Difficulty: 2 Medium

Learning Objective: 02-02 Categorize the various types of food retailers.

Topic: Food Retailers

23. Purchasing from factories that pay workers a living wage (more than the minimum wage) and (p. 43) offer other benefits to the employees is called _____.

- A. a closeout
- B. power perimeter
- C. cash wrap
- D. flash sale
- E. fair trade**

Fair trade is the practice of purchasing from factories that pay workers a living wage, considerably more than the prevailing minimum wage, and offer other benefits such as onsite medical treatment.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Understand

Difficulty: 2 Medium

Learning Objective: 02-02 Categorize the various types of food retailers.

Topic: Food Retailers

24. What type of store is Meijer considered to be?

(p. 44)

- A. Supercenter
- B. Department store
- C. Full-line discount store
- D. Drugstore
- E. Category specialist

Meijer is considered to be a supercenter. Supercenters are large stores (160,000 to 200,000 square feet) that combine a supermarket with a full-line discount store.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Understand

Difficulty: 2 Medium

Learning Objective: 02-02 Categorize the various types of food retailers.

Topic: Food Retailers

25. Which of the following is a similarity between hypermarkets and supercenters?

(p. 45)

- A. Both are common in the United States.
- B. Both offer self-service.**
- C. Both carry a negotiable percentage of nonfood items.
- D. Both avoid the sale of perishables.
- E. Both lack parking facilities for customers.

Both hypermarkets and supercenters are large, carry grocery and general merchandise categories, offer self-service, and are located in warehouse type structures with large parking facilities.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Understand

Difficulty: 2 Medium

Learning Objective: 02-02 Categorize the various types of food retailers.

Topic: Food Retailers

26. Which of the following differentiates a hypermarket from a supercenter?

(p. 45)

- A. Hypermarkets do not offer self-service facilities, whereas supercenters offer self-service facilities to its customers.
- B.** Hypermarkets carry a larger proportion of food items, whereas supercenters carry a larger portion of nonfood items.
- C. Hypermarkets have a greater emphasis on dry groceries, whereas supercenters have a greater emphasis on perishables.
- D. Hypermarkets are very common in the United States, whereas supercenters are not common in the United States.
- E. Hypermarkets provide large parking facilities to its customers, whereas supercenters do not provide parking facilities to its customers.

Hypermarkets carry a larger proportion of food items than do supercenters. Supercenters have a larger percentage of nonfood items.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Understand

Difficulty: 2 Medium

Learning Objective: 02-02 Categorize the various types of food retailers.

Topic: Food Retailers

27. What type of a retail store is Costco considered to be?

(p. 45)

- A. A supercenter
- B. A hypermarket
- C. A category specialist
- D. A warehouse club
- E. A department store

Costco is considered to be a warehouse club. Warehouse clubs are retailers that offer a limited and irregular assortment of food and general merchandise with little service at low prices for ultimate consumers and small businesses.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Remember

Difficulty: 1 Easy

Learning Objective: 02-02 Categorize the various types of food retailers.

Topic: Food Retailers

28. What is the challenge that big-box stores face while developing locations in Europe, Japan, (p. 45) and the United States?

- A. Limited and expensive land
- B. Increased operating costs
- C. Restricted building size in some counties
- D. Opposing sentiments from local residents
- E. All of these**

Supermarket and large format stores have a difficult time finding land in the European, Japanese, and American markets. There are also additional operating costs, restrictions on how big the building can be and a culture that is not receptive to big-box retailing.

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Understand

Difficulty: 2 Medium

Learning Objective: 02-02 Categorize the various types of food retailers.

Topic: Food Retailers

29. Which of the following statements best defines a warehouse club?

(p. 45)

- A. They are stores which provide a large variety and assortment of merchandise at a convenient location with speedy checkout.
- B. They are large, self-service retail food stores offering about 30,000 SKUs with high inventory holding costs.
- C. They are retailers that carry a broad variety and deep assortment, offer customer services, and organize their stores into distinct departments for displaying merchandise.
- D.** They are retailers that offer a limited and irregular assortment of food and general merchandise with little service at low prices.
- E. They are large stores that combine a supermarket with a full-line discount store.

Warehouse clubs are retailers that offer a limited and irregular assortment of food and general merchandise with little service at low prices for ultimate consumers and small businesses.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Understand

Difficulty: 2 Medium

Learning Objective: 02-02 Categorize the various types of food retailers.

Topic: Food Retailers

30. Convenience stores _____ than supermarkets.

(p. 46)

- A. make customers wait in a long checkout line
- B. avoid selling lower profit products
- C. offer a broad variety and deep assortment of merchandise
- D. offer self-service to its customers
- E. charge higher prices for similar products sold

Convenience stores generally charge higher prices for similar products like milk, eggs, and bread. Convenience stores provide a limited variety and assortment of merchandise at a convenient location in 3,000- to 5,000-square-foot stores with speedy checkout.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Remember

Difficulty: 2 Medium

Learning Objective: 02-02 Categorize the various types of food retailers.

Topic: Food Retailers

31. Which of the following statements is TRUE about warehouse clubs?

(p. 46)

- A. Warehouse clubs carry a broad variety and deep assortment of merchandise.
- B. Warehouse clubs are small and typically located in high-rent districts.
- C.** Warehouse clubs typically have low inventory holding costs.
- D. Warehouse clubs offer extensive customer service.
- E. Warehouse clubs offer its fast-selling items at high prices.

Warehouse clubs keep inventory holding costs low by carrying a limited assortment of fast-selling items.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Understand

Difficulty: 2 Medium

Learning Objective: 02-02 Categorize the various types of food retailers.

Topic: Food Retailers

32. Which of the following statements is true of department stores?

(p. 48)

- A. They are usually located in local neighborhoods rather than large regional malls.
- B.** They often resemble a collection of specialty shops.
- C. They can be categorized into two tiers.
- D. They focus almost exclusively on hard goods.
- E. They offer a limited variety and shallow assortment of merchandise.

The department store often resembles a collection of specialty shops. Each department within the store has a specific selling space allocated to it, as well as sales people to assist customers.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Remember

Difficulty: 2 Medium

Learning Objective: 02-03 Identify the various types of general merchandise retailers.

Topic: General Merchandise Retailers

33. A retailer that carries a broad variety and deep assortment, offers customer services, and is
(p. 48) organized into distinct sections for displaying merchandise is called a(n) _____.

- A. off-price retailer
- B. department store**
- C. discount retailer
- D. convenience store
- E. specialty retailer

A retailer that carries a broad variety and deep assortment, offers customer services, and is organized into distinct sections for displaying merchandise is called a department store. The largest department store chains in the United States are Sears, Macy's, Kohl's, JCPenney, Nordstrom, and Dillards.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Remember

Difficulty: 1 Easy

Learning Objective: 02-03 Identify the various types of general merchandise retailers.

Topic: General Merchandise Retailers

34. What type of store is Kohl's considered to be?

(p. 48)

- A. Off-price retailer
- B. Department store**
- C. Full-line discount store
- D. Extreme value retailer
- E. Specialty retailer

Kohl's is one of the largest departmental store chains in the United States. Department stores are retailers that carry a broad variety and deep assortment, offer customer services, and organize their stores into distinct departments for displaying merchandise.

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Remember

Difficulty: 1 Easy

Learning Objective: 02-03 Identify the various types of general merchandise retailers.

Topic: General Merchandise Retailers

35. Which of the following is a first tier department store?

(p. 48)

- A. Macy's
- B. Nordstrom**
- C. Sears
- D. Kohl's
- E. JCPenney

First tier department stores are characterized by having upscale, high-fashion chains with exclusive designer merchandise and excellent customer service. Nordstrom, Neiman Marcus, Bloomingdale's and Saks Fifth Avenue are first tier department stores.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Understand

Difficulty: 1 Easy

Learning Objective: 02-03 Identify the various types of general merchandise retailers.

Topic: General Merchandise Retailers

36. Which of the following is a second tier department store?

(p. 48)

- A. Macy's
- B. Neiman Marcus
- C. TJ Maxx
- D. Nordstrom
- E. Saks Fifth Avenue

Second tier department stores are retailers who sell more modestly priced merchandise with less customer service than first tier stores. Dillards is an example of a second tier department store.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Understand

Difficulty: 1 Easy

Learning Objective: 02-03 Identify the various types of general merchandise retailers.

Topic: General Merchandise Retailers

37. Which of the following is a third tier department store?

(p. 48)

- A. Macy's
- B. Neiman Marcus
- C. TJ Maxx
- D. Nordstrom
- E.** JCPenny

Third tier department stores focus on value and price-conscious customers. Retailers in this category are Sears, JCPenny and Kohls.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Understand

Difficulty: 1 Easy

Learning Objective: 02-03 Identify the various types of general merchandise retailers.

Topic: General Merchandise Retailers

38. What can department stores do to differentiate their merchandise offering and strengthen their
(p. 49) image?

- A. Increase their pricing
- B. Decrease the variety and assortment of merchandise within the store
- C.** Seek exclusive arrangements with nationally recognized brands
- D. Merge with faltering retailers to gain their market share
- E. Start selling both soft goods and hard goods

To differentiate their merchandise offerings and strengthen their image, department stores are aggressively seeking exclusive brands in which national brand vendors sell them merchandise that is not available elsewhere.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Understand

Difficulty: 2 Medium

Learning Objective: 02-03 Identify the various types of general merchandise retailers.

Topic: General Merchandise Retailers

39. Attempting to combat losing market share, department stores are _____.

(p. 49)

- A. becoming more effective with multichannel retailing
- B. adding exclusive merchandise to their assortments
- C. developing stronger marketing campaigns to enhance their store image
- D. placing more emphasis on developing their own private-label brands
- E.** all of these

Department stores are trying hard to not lose market share. Therefore, they are attempting the multichannel retailing, adding exclusive merchandise, developing stronger marketing campaigns, and placing more emphasis on developing their own private-label brands.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Understand

Difficulty: 2 Medium

Learning Objective: 02-03 Identify the various types of general merchandise retailers.

Topic: General Merchandise Retailers

40. Private-label brands are also called _____.

(p. 49)

- A. closeouts
- B. category killers
- C. irregulars
- D. inclusive brands
- E.** store brands

Private-label brands are also called store brands. These items are developed and marketed by the retailer, available only in its stores.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Remember

Difficulty: 1 Easy

Learning Objective: 02-03 Identify the various types of general merchandise retailers.

Topic: General Merchandise Retailers

41. Alfani (women's fashion), Hotel Collection (luxury fabrics), and Tools of the Trade
(p. 49) (housewares) are examples of Macy's _____.

- A. national brands
- B. store brands**
- C. irregulars
- D. inclusive brands
- E. closeouts

Alfani (women's fashion), Hotel Collection (luxury fabrics), and Tools of the Trade
(housewares) are examples of Macy's store brands. These items are developed and marketed
by the retailer, available only in Macy's.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Understand

Difficulty: 1 Easy

Learning Objective: 02-03 Identify the various types of general merchandise retailers.

Topic: General Merchandise Retailers

42. What type of store is Target considered to be?

(p. 50)

- A. Off-price retailer
- B. Department store
- C. Full-line discount store**
- D. Extreme value retailer
- E. Specialty retailer

Target is one of the largest full-line discount store chains. Full-line discount stores are retailers that offer a broad variety of merchandise, limited service, and low prices.

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Remember

Difficulty: 1 Easy

Learning Objective: 02-03 Identify the various types of general merchandise retailers.

Topic: General Merchandise Retailers

43. To respond to a competitive discount environment, Walmart is fighting back by _____.

(p. 50)

- A. converting its discount stores into supercenters**
- B. leasing retail space in its stores to independent merchants
- C. focusing on high customer service
- D. converting the discount stores into convenience stores
- E. expanding into rural locations

Walmart is converting many of their discount stores into supercenters. Supercenters are more efficient than traditional discount stores because of the economies of scale that result from the high traffic generated by the food offering.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Understand

Difficulty: 2 Medium

Learning Objective: 02-03 Identify the various types of general merchandise retailers.

Topic: General Merchandise Retailers

44. Which of the following statements about full-line discount stores is true?

(p. 50)

- A. They carry only private-label merchandise.
- B. They have a narrow breadth of merchandise.
- C. They typically carry more brands and sizes in each category than department stores.
- D. They have inconsistent assortments.
- E. They confront intense competition from category specialists.

Full-line discount stores confront intense competition from category specialists that focus on a single category of merchandise.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Understand

Difficulty: 2 Medium

Learning Objective: 02-03 Identify the various types of general merchandise retailers.

Topic: General Merchandise Retailers

45. Why are category specialists sometimes called category killers?

(p. 51)

- A. They are often located close to full-line discount stores and discount stores which offer a deep assortment of merchandise.
- B. They are located at stand-alone sites.
- C. They have a broad merchandise mix and shallow assortment.
- D. They can dominate a category of merchandise making it difficult for other retailers to compete.
- E. They carry mainly technologically obsolete merchandise.

By offering a complete assortment in a category, category specialists can "kill" a category of merchandise for other retailers and thus are frequently called category killers.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Understand

Difficulty: 2 Medium

Learning Objective: 02-03 Identify the various types of general merchandise retailers.

Topic: General Merchandise Retailers

46. Best Buy is a category specialist for the electronics industry. This means the stores _____.

(p. 51)

- A. offer their customers narrow breadth and depth of merchandise
- B. sell only their own private-label brands
- C. have excellent after sales customer service
- D. avoid self-service approach
- E. offer a narrow but deep assortment of merchandise

Category specialists are big-box stores that offer a narrow but deep assortment of merchandise. Most category specialists predominantly use a self-service approach, but they offer assistance to customers in some areas of the stores.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Understand

Difficulty: 1 Easy

Learning Objective: 02-03 Identify the various types of general merchandise retailers.

Topic: General Merchandise Retailers

47. What type of a retail store is Victoria's Secret considered to be?

(p. 52)

- A. Department store
- B. Convenient store
- C. Full-line discount store
- D. Specialty store**
- E. Supermarket

Victoria's Secret is the leading specialty retailer of lingerie and beauty products in the United States. Specialty stores concentrate on a limited number of complementary merchandise categories and provide a high level of service.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Remember

Difficulty: 1 Easy

Learning Objective: 02-03 Identify the various types of general merchandise retailers.

Topic: General Merchandise Retailers

48. Which of the following statements is true about specialty stores?

(p. 52)

- A. They tailor their retail strategy toward very specific market segments.
- B. They group products by brand instead of product category like in department stores.
- C. They offer very shallow and narrow assortments.
- D. They completely avoid including their own private-label brands in the store.
- E. They discourage sampling.

Specialty stores tailor their retail strategy toward very specific market segments by offering deep but narrow assortments and sales associate expertise. Specialty stores concentrate on a limited number of complementary merchandise categories and provide a high level of service.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Understand

Difficulty: 2 Medium

Learning Objective: 02-03 Identify the various types of general merchandise retailers.

Topic: General Merchandise Retailers

49. A special type of resale store where merchandise is donated and proceeds go to charity is
(p. 53) called a(n) _____.

- A. extreme-value retailer
- B. thrift store**
- C. consignment shop
- D. dollar store
- E. supercenter

A special type of resale store where merchandise is donated and proceeds go to charity is called thrift store. Resale stores are retailers that sell secondhand or used merchandise.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Understand

Difficulty: 2 Medium

Learning Objective: 02-03 Identify the various types of general merchandise retailers.

Topic: General Merchandise Retailers

50. A type of resale store that accepts used merchandise from people and pays them after it is
(p. 53) sold is called a(n) _____.

- A. dollar store
- B.** consignment shop
- C. supercenter
- D. thrift store
- E. extreme-value retailer

A type of resale store that accepts used merchandise from people and pays them after it is sold is called consignment shop. Resale stores are retailers that sell secondhand or used merchandise.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Remember

Difficulty: 1 Easy

Learning Objective: 02-03 Identify the various types of general merchandise retailers.

Topic: General Merchandise Retailers

51. Which of the following types of general merchandise retailers is called as dollar stores?

(p. 54)

- A. Extreme-value retailers
- B. Department stores
- C. Full-line discount stores
- D. Category specialists
- E. Specialty stores

Extreme-value retailers are also called dollar stores. They are small discount stores that offer a broad variety but shallow assortment of household goods, health and beauty care (HBC) products, and groceries.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Remember

Difficulty: 1 Easy

Learning Objective: 02-03 Identify the various types of general merchandise retailers.

Topic: General Merchandise Retailers

52. What type of a retail store is Walgreens considered to be?

(p. 54)

- A. Full-line discount store
- B. Drugstore**
- C. Department store
- D. Convenience store
- E. Supercenter

Walgreens is one of the largest drugstores in the United States. Drugstores are specialty stores that concentrate on health and beauty care (HBC) products.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Understand

Difficulty: 2 Medium

Learning Objective: 02-03 Identify the various types of general merchandise retailers.

Topic: General Merchandise Retailers

53. What type of store is Dollar General considered to be?

(p. 54)

- A. Off-price retailer
- B. Department store
- C. Full-line discount store
- D. Extreme-value retailer**
- E. Specialty retailer

Dollar General is one of the largest extreme-value retailers. Extreme-value retailers, also called dollar stores, are small discount stores that offer a broad variety but shallow assortment of household goods, health and beauty care (HBC) products, and groceries.

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Remember

Difficulty: 1 Easy

Learning Objective: 02-03 Identify the various types of general merchandise retailers.

Topic: General Merchandise Retailers

54. The drugstore industry has seen a decrease in their annual sales mainly due to _____.

(p. 54)

- A. higher prices on prescription drugs
- B. pharmacies in full-line discount stores**
- C. the aging population
- D. government regulations on pharmaceutical sales
- E. the wide assortment of merchandise sold by them

Customers drawn to the "one-stop" shopping idea may prefer getting their groceries, paper products, and prescription to be filled all in one-stop at a discount store.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Understand

Difficulty: 2 Medium

Learning Objective: 02-03 Identify the various types of general merchandise retailers.

Topic: General Merchandise Retailers

55. _____ offer an inconsistent assortment of brand-name merchandise at a significant discount off
(p. 55) the manufacturers' suggested retail price.

- A. Off-price retailers
- B. Department stores
- C. Discount retailers
- D. Convenience stores
- E. Specialty retailers

Off-price retailers offer an inconsistent assortment of brand-name merchandise at a significant discount off the manufacturers' suggested retail price (MSRP). America's largest off-price retail chains are TJX Companies (which operates TJ Maxx and Marshalls, Winners, HomeGoods, TKMaxx, AJWright, and Home-Sense), Ross Stores, Burlington Coat Factory, and Big Lots.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Remember

Difficulty: 1 Easy

Learning Objective: 02-03 Identify the various types of general merchandise retailers.

Topic: General Merchandise Retailers

56. What type of store is TJMaxx considered to be?

(p. 55)

- A. Off-price retailer
- B. Department store
- C. Full-line discount store
- D. Extreme-value retailer
- E. Specialty retailer

TJ Maxx is one of America's largest off-price retail chains. Off-price retailers offer an inconsistent assortment of brand-name merchandise at a significant discount off the manufacturers' suggested retail price (MSRP).

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Remember

Difficulty: 1 Easy

Learning Objective: 02-03 Identify the various types of general merchandise retailers.

Topic: General Merchandise Retailers

57. Which of the following is true of off-price retailers?

(p. 55)

- A. They offer a consistent assortment of soft goods at low prices.
- B.** They sell brand-name merchandise at reduced prices.
- C. They offer gift registries.
- D. They require suppliers to give them a variety of advertising allowances and markdown discounts.
- E. They sell designer-label merchandise at 20 to 60 percent higher than the manufacturer's suggested retail price.

Off-price retailers offer an inconsistent assortment of brand-name merchandise at a significant discount off the manufacturers' suggested retail price (MSRP). Off-price retailers are able to sell brand-name and even designer-label merchandise at 20 to 60 percent lower than the manufacturer's suggested retail price.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Remember

Difficulty: 2 Medium

Learning Objective: 02-03 Identify the various types of general merchandise retailers.

Topic: General Merchandise Retailers

58. Off-price retailers will often sell merchandise less than the MSRP which means:

(p. 55)

- A. the merchandise sales are profitable.
- B.** the merchandise is sold below the suggested retail price.
- C. the merchandise is sold below the suggested realized profit.
- D. the merchandise is sold less than the surrounding retail competitors.
- E. the merchandise sold by them are always closeouts.

MSRP is an acronym for manufacturers' suggested retail price.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Understand

Difficulty: 2 Medium

Learning Objective: 02-03 Identify the various types of general merchandise retailers.

Topic: General Merchandise Retailers

59. _____ are products that have minor blemishes to the fabric or errors in the construction.

(p. 55)

- A. Close-outs
- B.** Irregulars
- C. Category killers
- D. Soft goods
- E. Hard goods

Irregulars are merchandise with minor mistakes in construction.

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Remember

Difficulty: 2 Medium

Learning Objective: 02-03 Identify the various types of general merchandise retailers.

Topic: General Merchandise Retailers

60. _____ are end-of-season merchandise that will not be in the manufacturer's offerings going
(p. 55) forward.

- A.** Close-outs
- B. Irregulars
- C. Endcaps
- D. Category killers
- E. Soft goods

Close-outs are end-of-season merchandise that will not be used in following seasons.

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Remember

Difficulty: 2 Medium

Learning Objective: 02-03 Identify the various types of general merchandise retailers.

Topic: General Merchandise Retailers

61. _____ are off-price retailers owned by manufacturers or retailers.

(p. 56)

- A. Dollar stores
- B. Closeouts
- C. Thrift stores
- D.** Outlet stores
- E. Supercenters

A special type of off-price retailer is the outlet store. Outlet stores are off-price retailers owned by manufacturers or retailers.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Remember

Difficulty: 1 Easy

Learning Objective: 02-03 Identify the various types of general merchandise retailers.

Topic: General Merchandise Retailers

62. With respect to off-price retailing, in a _____ sale, each day at the same time, members
(p. 56) receive an email that announces the deals available.

- A. closeout
- B. clearance
- C. enterprise
- D. consultative
- E. flash**

With respect to off-price retailing, in a flash sale, each day at the same time, members receive an email that announces the deals available. An online twist to off-price retailing are flash sale sights such as Gilt Groupe, Rue La La, and HauteLook.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Remember

Difficulty: 1 Easy

Learning Objective: 02-03 Identify the various types of general merchandise retailers.

Topic: General Merchandise Retailers

63. A special type of off-price retailer stores owned by manufacturers is called a _____.

(p. 56)

- A. consignment shop
- B. thrift store
- C. dollar store
- D. warehouse club
- E. factory outlet**

A special type of off-price retailer stores owned by manufacturers is called a factory outlet.

Outlet stores are off-price retailers owned by manufacturers or retailers.

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Remember

Difficulty: 1 Easy

Learning Objective: 02-03 Identify the various types of general merchandise retailers.

Topic: General Merchandise Retailers

64. Merrill Lynch, Marriott, and Century 21 are examples of:

(p. 57)

- A. dollar stores.
- B. off-price retailers.
- C. service retailers.**
- D. specialty stores.
- E. full-line discount stores.

Merrill Lynch, Marriott, and Century 21 are examples of service retailers. Service retailers are firms that primarily sell services rather than merchandise.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Remember

Difficulty: 2 Medium

Learning Objective: 02-04 Explain the differences between service and merchandise retailers.

Topic: Service Retailing

65. Services are difficult to be evaluated before customers buy or even after they buy and
(p. 58) consume them. Which of the following characteristics of service causes this challenge for
service retailers?

- A.** Intangibility
- B. Perishability
- C. Inconsistency
- D. Consumability
- E. Compatibility

Since customers cannot see, touch, or feel what is being sold, the intangibility of the service can sometimes be a concern for customers in trying to decide whether to buy or not.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Apply

Difficulty: 3 Hard

Learning Objective: 02-04 Explain the differences between service and merchandise retailers.

Topic: Service Retailing

66. How can a service retailer best cope with the problems associated with the intangibility of
(p. 58) service?

- A. Use low prices during off-seasons to help match supply and demand.
- B. Use mass production.
- C. Emphasize quality control.
- D. Solicit customer evaluations and complaints.
- E. Increase staffing at peak demand times.

Services retailers often solicit customer evaluations and scrutinize complaints to cope with the problems associated with the intangibility of service. Services are less tangible than products—customers cannot see, touch, or feel them. They are performances or actions rather than objects.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Understand

Difficulty: 2 Medium

Learning Objective: 02-04 Explain the differences between service and merchandise retailers.

Topic: Service Retailing

67. A dermatologist has her diplomas prominently displayed above her large desk, which sits on a (p. 58) Persian rug in an office filled with tasteful, yet expensive furnishings. Which of the following service characteristics is the doctor trying to handle with her office décor?

- A. Intangibility
- B. Perishability
- C. Inconsistency
- D. Consumability
- E. Compatibility

Since customers cannot see, touch, or feel what is being sold, the intangibility of the service can sometimes be a concern for customers in trying to decide whether to buy or not. By having tangible symbols, such as the earned degrees on the wall, help to give confidence to the customer about the dermatologist's credentials. The elaborate furnishings are a subtle way of exuding success and accomplishments giving the customers additional confidence in the services they are about to purchase.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Apply

Difficulty: 2 Medium

Learning Objective: 02-04 Explain the differences between service and merchandise retailers.

Topic: Service Retailing

68. A massage parlor requires its therapists to keep a database on each customer and include in (p. 59) that database what was done on each visit for customer aches and pains. Which of the following service characteristics is the parlor trying to cope with?

- A. Intangibility
- B. Perishability
- C. Inconsistency**
- D. Consumability
- E. Compatibility

In order to provide quality customer service, service retailers will keep a database on each customer to provide consistent high-quality service upon their return.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Apply

Difficulty: 2 Medium

Learning Objective: 02-04 Explain the differences between service and merchandise retailers.

Topic: Service Retailing

69. Due to the _____ of services, service retailers like Universal Studios Theme Parks, Delta, and (p. 59) Applebee's restaurants, sometimes, find it difficult to match supply and demand.

- A. intangibility
- B. perishability**
- C. inconsistency
- D. consumability
- E. compatibility

Due to the perishability of services, service retailers like Universal Studios Theme Parks, Delta, and Applebee's restaurants, sometimes, find it difficult to match supply and demand. Services are perishable. They cannot be saved, stored, or resold.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Understand

Difficulty: 2 Medium

Learning Objective: 02-04 Explain the differences between service and merchandise retailers.

Topic: Service Retailing

70. Why do movie theaters sell tickets for an afternoon showing of a movie at a lower price than (p. 59) the 7 p.m. showing of the same movie?

- A. To deal with the perishability of services
- B. To make sure the service offered is consistent
- C. To deal with the intangible characteristic of services
- D. To deal with the incompatibility characteristic of services
- E. To minimize inventory losses

Services retailers use a variety of programs to match demand and supply. Movie theaters set lower prices when they have excess capacity.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Apply

Difficulty: 2 Medium

Learning Objective: 02-04 Explain the differences between service and merchandise retailers.

Topic: Service Retailing

71. How can a service retailer best cope with the problems associated with the inconsistency of
(p. 59) service?

- A. Use low prices during off-seasons to help match supply and demand.
- B. Use mass production.
- C. Avoid simultaneity of production and consumption of service.
- D.** Train and motivate service providers.
- E. Increase staffing at peak demand times.

A service retailer can best cope with the problem associated with the inconsistency of service by training and motivating the service providers. Because services are performances produced by people (employees and customers), no two services will be identical.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Apply

Difficulty: 2 Medium

Learning Objective: 02-04 Explain the differences between service and merchandise retailers.

Topic: Service Retailing

72. Which of the following is true of single-store retailers?

(p. 60)

- A. They do not have direct contact with their customers.
- B.** They are not bound by the bureaucracies inherent in large retail organizations.
- C. They are totally independent of their owner-managers' capabilities to make any retail decision.
- D. They must join a wholesale-sponsored voluntary competitive group to compete against corporate chains.
- E. They are very rigid and lack quick adaptability to market changes and customer needs.

Single-store retailers are not bound by the bureaucracies inherent in large retail organizations. Many retail start-ups are owner-managed, which means management has direct contact with customers and can respond quickly to their needs.

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Remember

Difficulty: 2 Medium

Learning Objective: 02-05 Illustrate the types of ownership for retail firms.

Topic: Types of Ownership

73. Which of the following is a drawback of the franchise ownership?

(p. 61)

- A. The franchisee lacks any kind of off- or onsite training from the franchisor.
- B. The franchisor lacks any benefit from the success of his or her franchisee.
- C.** The franchisee must adhere to the franchisor's rules and operating guidelines.
- D. The franchisee must join a single-store retailer to become independent of the franchisor.
- E. The franchisor must incur the capital costs like purchase and modification of the retail space.

There are also several drawbacks to franchise ownership. In addition to incurring the capital costs, the franchisee must adhere to the franchisor's rules and operating guidelines.

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Accessibility: Keyboard Navigation

Blooms: Remember

Difficulty: 2 Medium

Learning Objective: 02-05 Illustrate the types of ownership for retail firms.

Topic: Types of Ownership

Essay Questions

74. Differentiate between variety and assortment of merchandise offered by a retailer.

(p. 37)

Variety is the number of merchandise categories a retailer offers. Assortment is the number of different items offered in a merchandise category. Variety is often referred to as the breadth of merchandise, and assortment is referred to as the depth of merchandise.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Blooms: Understand

Difficulty: 2 Medium

Learning Objective: 02-01 List the different characteristics that define retailers.

Topic: Retailer Characteristics

75. Explain the strategies that limited-assortment supermarkets (extreme-value food retailers) use (p. 42) in order to provide customers with high-quality merchandise at low prices to compete against other food retailing formats.

Limited-assortment supermarkets only stock about 1,500 SKUs, but conventional supermarkets carry about 30,000 SKUs. Limited-assortment supermarkets offer one or two brands and sizes, one of which is a store brand. Stores are designed to maximize efficiency and reduce costs. For example, merchandise is shipped in cartons on crates that can serve as displays so that no unloading is needed. Some costly services that consumers take for granted, such as free bags and paying with credit cards, are not provided. Stores are typically located in second- or third-tier shopping centers with low rents. By trimming costs, limited-assortment supermarkets can offer merchandise at prices 40 percent lower than those at conventional supermarkets. These features have supported the substantial growth of such retailers, which appeal strongly to customers who are not loyal to national brands and more willing to try a store brand, especially if it means they pay lower prices.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Blooms: Understand

Difficulty: 2 Medium

Learning Objective: 02-02 Categorize the various types of food retailers.

Topic: Food Retailers

76. How are department stores categorized into tiers? How do the tiers differ? Give examples of (p. 48) each tier.

Department store chains are categorized into three tiers. The first tier includes upscale, high-fashion chains with exclusive designer merchandise and excellent customer service, such as Neiman Marcus, Nordstrom, Saks Fifth Avenue, and Bloomingdale's. Macy's and Dillards are in the second tier of traditional department stores, in which retailers sell more modestly priced merchandise with less customer service. The third is the value-oriented tier, Sears, JCPenney, and Kohl's, which caters to more price-conscious consumers.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Blooms: Understand

Difficulty: 2 Medium

Learning Objective: 02-03 Identify the various types of general merchandise retailers.

Topic: General Merchandise Retailers

77. Discuss the reasons that department stores are losing their market share to discount stores, (p. 48-49) and list the steps taken by department stores to deal with their eroding market share.

Many consumers view department stores not as convenient as discount stores, such as Target, because they are located in large regional malls rather than local neighborhoods. Customer service has diminished in the second- and third-tier stores because of the retailers' desire to increase profits by reducing labor costs. To deal with their eroding market share, department stores are (1) increasing the amount of exclusive merchandise they sell, (2) increasing their use of private label merchandise, and (3) expanding their multichannel presence.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Blooms: Understand

Difficulty: 2 Medium

Learning Objective: 02-03 Identify the various types of general merchandise retailers.

Topic: General Merchandise Retailers

78. Write a note on category specialists.

(p. 51)

Category specialists are big-box stores that offer a narrow but deep assortment of merchandise. Most category specialists predominantly use a self-service approach, but they offer assistance to customers in some areas of the stores. For example, Staples stores have a warehouse atmosphere, with cartons of copy paper stacked on pallets, plus equipment in boxes on shelves. But in some departments, such as computers and other high-tech products, it provides salespeople in the display area to answer questions and make suggestions. By offering a complete assortment in a category, category specialists can "kill" a category of merchandise for other retailers and thus are frequently called category killers. Using their category dominance and buying power, they buy products at low prices and are ensured of supply when items are scarce. Department stores and full-line discount stores located near category specialists often have to reduce their offerings in the category because consumers are drawn to the deep assortment and competitive prices at the category killer.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Diversity

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Blooms: Understand

Difficulty: 2 Medium

Learning Objective: 02-03 Identify the various types of general merchandise retailers.

Topic: General Merchandise Retailers

79. Explain what drugstores do to remain competitive in the marketplace.

(p. 54)

Drugstores face competition from pharmacies in discount stores and from pressure to reduce health care costs. In response, the major drugstore chains are offering a wider assortment of merchandise, including more frequently purchased food items, as well as new services, such as the convenience of drive-through windows for picking up prescriptions, in-store medical clinics, and even makeovers and spa treatments.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Blooms: Understand

Difficulty: 3 Hard

Learning Objective: 02-03 Identify the various types of general merchandise retailers.

Topic: General Merchandise Retailers

80. Discuss how off-price retailers opportunistically obtain their merchandise and the different

(p. 55) types of merchandise found at off-price retailers.

Off-price retailers are able to sell brand-name and even designer-label merchandise at 20 to 60 percent lower than the manufacturer's suggested retail price because of their unique buying and merchandising practices. Much of the merchandise is bought opportunistically from manufacturers that have overruns, canceled orders, forecasting mistakes causing excess inventory, closeouts, and irregulars. They also buy excess inventory from other retailers. Closeouts are end-of-season merchandise that will not be used in following seasons. Irregulars are merchandise with minor mistakes in construction. Off-price retailers can buy at low prices because they do not ask suppliers for advertising allowances, return privileges, markdown adjustments, or delayed payments.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Blooms: Understand

Difficulty: 2 Medium

Learning Objective: 02-03 Identify the various types of general merchandise retailers.

Topic: General Merchandise Retailers

81. Describe the four important differences in the nature of the offerings provided by services and merchandise retailers.
(p. 58-59)

Four important differences in the nature of the offerings provided by services and merchandise retailers are (1) intangibility, (2) simultaneous production and consumption, (3) perishability, and (4) inconsistency of the offering to customers.

(1) Intangibility

Services are less tangible than products—customers cannot see or touch them. They are performances or actions rather than objects. For example, health care services cannot be seen or touched by a patient. Intangibility introduces several challenges for services retailers. Because customers cannot touch and feel services, it is difficult for them to evaluate services before they buy them or even after they buy and consume them.

(2) Simultaneous production and consumption

Products are typically made in a factory, stored and sold by a retailer, and then used by consumers in their homes. Service providers, however, create and deliver the service as the customer is consuming it. For example, when you eat at a restaurant, the meal is prepared and consumed almost at the same time.

(3) Perishability

Services are perishable. They cannot be saved, stored, or resold. Once an airplane takes off with an empty seat, the sale is lost forever. In contrast, merchandise can be held in inventory until a customer is ready to buy it. Due to the perishability of services, services retailing must match supply and demand.

(4) Inconsistency of the offering to customers

Products can be produced by machines with very tight quality control, so customers are reasonably assured that all boxes of Cheerios will be identical. But because services are

performances produced by people (employees and customers), no two services will be identical.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Blooms: Apply

Difficulty: 3 Hard

Learning Objective: 02-04 Explain the differences between service and merchandise retailers.

Topic: Service Retailing

82. What is franchising? What does a franchisor offer its franchisees to get the franchisees off to a good start?
(p. 61)

Franchising is a contractual agreement in which the franchisor (the company) sells the rights to use its business trademark, service mark, or trade name, or another commercial symbol of the company, to the franchisee for a one-time franchise fee and an ongoing royalty fee, typically expressed as a percentage of gross monthly sales.

To get franchisees off to a good start, most franchisors provide off- and onsite training, location analysis assistance, advertising, and sometimes a protected territory (i.e., no other franchise may open a store within a certain radius of the first store). Some franchisors even provide financing or offer third-party financing opportunities.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Blooms: Understand

Difficulty: 2 Medium

Learning Objective: 02-05 Illustrate the types of ownership for retail firms.

Topic: Types of Ownership

83. Define a retail chain with examples.

(p. 61)

A retail chain is a company that operates multiple retail units under common ownership and usually has centralized decision making for defining and implementing its strategy. Retail chains can range in size from a drugstore with two stores to retailers with thousands of stores, such as Kroger, Walmart, Best Buy, and Macy's. Some retail chains are divisions of larger corporations or holding companies. For example, the Williams Sonoma Corporation actually consists of four brands, Williams Sonoma, Pottery Barn, west elm, and Rejuvenation. Furthermore, its Pottery Barn branch features the PB teen and pottery barn kids lines. Royal Ahold owns 14 retail chains, including Stop and Shop, Giant, and Peapod in the United States and ICA and Albert Heijn in Europe.

AACSB: Communication

AACSB: Reflective Thinking

Blooms: Understand

Difficulty: 2 Medium

Learning Objective: 02-05 Illustrate the types of ownership for retail firms.

Topic: Types of Ownership