



Questions for Classroom Discussion

Not Just Another Work Day

- **Why is the time around Thanksgiving traditionally a major shopping period?**
 - ⇒ Consider how this is the “start of the holiday season”, especially the day after Thanksgiving when people turn their sights towards Christmas
 - ⇒ Consider the role that stores have in promoting this shopping period by offering special sales and increasing their advertising
- **Why would a retail store (such as Wal-Mart or Target) want to stay open on Thanksgiving Day?**
 - ⇒ Consider the basic idea of “supply and demand,” and how stores simply do what the customers want (i.e. if customers want to shop on Thanksgiving, stores will remain open)
 - ⇒ Consider the potential for increased profits for the stores when they offer more shopping hours
 - ⇒ Consider the need to control the rush that traditionally happens on “Black Friday”... by opening a day earlier, people no longer need to wait in long lines or wade through overcrowded stores
- **What are reasons why someone might have a problem with stores being open on Thanksgiving Day?**
 - ⇒ Consider the basic idea of Thanksgiving—a day off from the daily routine to “give thanks”—and how shopping and working get in the way of that focus
 - ⇒ Consider how employees at major retailers who have to work on Thanksgiving don’t get to be home with their families, yet quitting the job is not a realistic option
 - ⇒ Consider how stores trying to open their doors a few hours earlier might seem “greedy”