Crack Down on Counterfeits: a Dupe Detector Kit Tale

Ad lib your way through charming Nuckrackerville. Join the fun by adding in your own words to personalize this holiday story.

The King scampered past, “Hurry up, can’t be late!” he exclaimed, as he raced toward the toy store, which closes at 8. The toy store, a gingerbread ____________, was topped with candy. Having a neighborhood toy store was oh, so handy! The windows shone bright with ________ and white candy canes, all in a line. (color)

The ______________, draped with _____ white lights (part of building) (size) illuminated the __________ CLOSED sign. (adjective)

“Hmmm, if I buy online, I must overnight,” but the only option the King saw was a pop-up store called “Discount __________ Central.” “What a fright!” The King knew to stay away from such a sketchy store – he’d have to return to the gingerbread toy store the next day to get his present for sure.

Ahead, a ballerina in a ____________ tutu, twirled her way down Main Street, in (color) search of sparkling sugarplums her family could eat. But when she whisked out her ____________ and paid for the treats, the cashier raised her eyebrow and showed (accessory) the receipt. “Declined,” read the paper, and the ballerina blushed. She ____________ out the door and into the slush. She checked her bank app, (past tense verb) and was startled to find, her identity stolen, checking account mined! She thought back
to a purchase she made via chat, shook her head and thought “it couldn’t be that!” It was suspect and shady and a little bit hurried, but never did she think she should ever be worried.

A soldier on leave went to pick up a box, but when he got to the post office all he could do was gawk. The box was discolored, and the _______ logo (famous brand) looked bizarre. The gift for his niece was tattered and torn. “That’s what I get for ordering off an unsecured website,” he muttered, forlorn.

Would the children of Nutcrackerville receive their gifts? The many wishes and hopes they wrote down on lists? Did they realize some of the presents wrapped up in ribbons, were sold by people headed for prison? Organized crime backs counterfeit goods, some based overseas, others in nearby neighborhoods.

Drum sets, _______________, headphones, and electronic things (type of toys - plural) things, ______________, and gadgets with faulty wiring.

(clothing type)

Counterfeit goods should make everyone worry. Child labor, poor working conditions, and environmental damage are just half of the story. The _______________ items are sold by scammers, gangs, and organized (word for phony) crime. You learned about safe purchasing, through our cute, little rhyme. Cheap and cheerful ads sound like a _____________ idea, but are too good to be true when (positive word)
purchased from counterfeiters who could care less about you. Avoid pop-up banners and unsecured sites, stray from purchasing gifts from social media that disappear in the night. Be smart, be aware and above all stay merry. But now and in the new year… always stay wary.

GO FOR REAL this holiday season!