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Superman comic sells for \$1 million

MANY FLASH AND ONLINE ACTIVITIES FOR THIS LESSON, PLUS A LISTENING, AT:

<http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1002/100223-superman.html>

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ALL ANSWERS ARE IN THE TEXT ON PAGE 2.

23rd February, 2010

THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1002/100223-superman.html>

A mystery buyer bought a rare comic book for one million dollars on February 22nd. It was the very first edition of a comic to feature Superman. The price for the 1938 edition of Action Comics No. 1 was a world record. Its original cost was just 10 cents. The recent sale smashed the previous record of \$317,200, paid in 2009. The Internet auction site ComicConnect.com sold the copy but did not say who the buyer was. There are around 100 copies of Action Comics No. 1 in different collections around the world.

It seems strange to pay a million dollars for a comic. Some people say it's a good idea because the buyer can sell it for two million dollars in the future. There are better things to spend a million dollars on. So many people in the world are starving. That much money could buy a lot of food and keep people alive. I wonder if people who spend a million dollars on comics and other things think about poor people. I'm sure Superman wouldn't like that. He would tell the person to give the money to the poor instead.

PHRASE MATCH

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1002/100223-superman.html>

Match the following phrases from the article.

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. A mystery | a. of a comic |
| 2. the very first edition | b. around the world |
| 3. a world | c. site |
| 4. The recent sale smashed | d. record |
| 5. Internet auction | e. buyer |
| 6. different collections | f. the previous record |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. It seems strange to | a. can sell it |
| 2. the buyer | b. to the poor |
| 3. people in the world | c. that |
| 4. keep people | d. pay a million dollars |
| 5. I'm sure Superman wouldn't like | e. alive |
| 6. give the money | f. are starving |

LISTENING GAP FILL

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1002/100223-superman.html>

A _____ a rare comic book for one million dollars on February 22nd. It was the _____ a comic to feature Superman. The price for the 1938 edition of Action Comics No. 1 was a world record. Its _____ just 10 cents. The recent _____ previous record of \$317,200, paid in 2009. The Internet auction site ComicConnect.com sold the copy but did _____ was. There are around 100 copies of Action Comics No. 1 in _____ around the world.

It _____ a million dollars for a comic. Some people say _____ because the buyer can sell it for two million dollars in the future. There are better _____ million dollars on. So many people in the _____. That much money could buy a lot of food and keep people alive. I wonder if people _____ dollars on comics and other things think about poor people. I'm sure Superman wouldn't like that. He would tell the person to give the money _____.

MULTIPLE CHOICE

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1002/100223-superman.html>

A (1) _____ buyer bought a rare comic book for one million dollars on February 22nd. It was the very first edition of a comic to (2) _____ Superman. The price for the 1938 edition of Action Comics No. 1 was a world record. Its original (3) _____ was just 10 cents. The recent sale smashed the previous record of \$317,200, paid in 2009. The Internet auction site ComicConnect.com sold the copy (4) _____ did not say who the buyer was. There are around 100 copies of Action Comics No. 1 in different (5) _____ around the world.

It seems (6) _____ to pay a million dollars for a comic. Some people say it's a good idea because the buyer can sell it for two million dollars in the future. There are better things to (7) _____ a million dollars on. So many people in the world are starving. That much money could buy a lot of food and (8) _____ people alive. I (9) _____ if people who spend a million dollars on comics and other things think about poor people. I'm sure Superman wouldn't like that. He would tell the person to give the money to the poor (10) _____.

Put the correct words from this table into the article.

- | | | |
|-------------------|------------------|--------------|
| 1. (a) mysteries | (b) mysteriously | (c) mystery |
| 2. (a) future | (b) feature | (c) further |
| 3. (a) sell | (b) cost | (c) profit |
| 4. (a) however | (b) so | (c) but |
| 5. (a) collectors | (b) collections | (c) collect |
| 6. (a) strange | (b) stranger | (c) strangle |
| 7. (a) spent | (b) spend | (c) spending |
| 8. (a) keeps | (b) kept | (c) keep |
| 9. (a) wonder | (b) wander | (c) wound |
| 10. (a) steady | (b) instead | (c) instant |

SPELLING

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1002/100223-superman.html>

Spell the jumbled words (from the text) correctly.

Paragraph 1

1. A mystery yuber
2. the very first nioidte
3. a world orrdec
4. Internet oinuact site
5. 100 cisoep
6. anudro the world

Paragraph 2

7. It seems agestrn
8. in the freuut
9. enspd a million dollars
10. keep people ialve
11. I wdrneo if...
12. give the money to the poor eiasdtn

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1002/100223-superman.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () food and keep people alive. I wonder if people who spend a million dollars on comics and other things think about poor
- () of a comic to feature Superman. The price for the 1938 edition of Action Comics No. 1 was a world
- () It seems strange to pay a million dollars for a comic. Some people say it's a good
- () people. I'm sure Superman wouldn't like that. He would tell the person to give the money to the poor instead.
- () record. Its original cost was just 10 cents. The recent sale smashed the previous record of \$317,200, paid in
- () 2009. The Internet auction site ComicConnect.com sold the copy but did not say who the
- () buyer was. There are around 100 copies of Action Comics No. 1 in different collections around the world.
- () idea because the buyer can sell it for two million dollars in the future. There are better things to spend a
- () million dollars on. So many people in the world are starving. That much money could buy a lot of
- (**1**) A mystery buyer bought a rare comic book for one million dollars on February 22nd. It was the very first edition

THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

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With a partner, put the words back into the correct order.

1. a bought buyer mystery A book comic rare.

2. comic was first a It very of the edition.

3. cents 10 just was cost original Its.

4. previous the smashed sale recent The record.

5. world the around collections Different.

6. a seems million strange dollars to pay It.

7. future it million the Sell two in for dollars.

8. people starving in the So world many are.

9. money a food much buy of That could lot.

10. poor the to money the Give instead.

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

WRITING

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1002/100223-superman.html>

Write about Superman for 10 minutes. Show your partner your paper. Correct each other's work.

[illegible]

HOMEWORK

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. SUPERMAN: Search the Internet and find more information about Superman. Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. MAGAZINE ARTICLE: Write a magazine article about Superman. Include imaginary interviews with Superman and a rival superhero. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

4. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT? Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

5. LETTER: Write a letter to Superman. Ask him three questions about what it's like being Superman. Give him three suggestions on what he can do to help the world. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Your partner will answer the questions you asked.