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KEY STAGE
2

LEVELS
3–5

2010

English test

Spelling Test
Collecting

Teacher's version

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Collecting

Collecting objects is a popular hobby, with both adults and **children**. You can collect a whole **variety** of things. Lots of people collect stamps, autographs, stickers and model cars. You could even collect more unusual things like telephones and milk **bottle** tops.

Why would you start collecting? You may have a real passion for one **particular** thing or you may enjoy the **challenge** of searching for a rare object. There are many opportunities for **sharing** your **enthusiasm** for collecting through clubs and magazines.

Collecting autographs, or the **signatures** of people, is one of the oldest forms of collecting. Autographs of film stars, politicians, sports **figures**, authors and **musicians** can sell for a lot of money.

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People occasionally forge or fake autographs, which is illegal.

There are several points that may affect the price of an autograph. The autograph of a very famous person is worth considerably more than someone who is not very well known. The condition of an autograph is very important. Smears, stains and creases all make an autograph less valuable. An ink autograph is worth far more than one in pencil, as pencil fades over time. You would have to pay the most for a handwritten letter, as it not only has the person's autograph, but it gives some insight into their character.

People can become very excited about their collections, no matter how big or small. The cost of collecting can vary enormously too, as you may pay hundreds of pounds for historic books, or go to the beach and find empty shells costing nothing.

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QCDA/10/4479 (Pupil pack)
QCDA/10/4477 (Mark scheme)

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