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English test

KEY STAGE

**2**

LEVELS

**3–5**

**Spelling Test**  
***Collecting***

**Teacher's version**

**2010**

# 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.

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.

