

## What is it worth?

### Level

Intermediate

### Tasks

Discussing experiences of using 'eBay' and / or going to auctions

Guessing how much items were sold for at recent auctions

Reading an article about auctions

Making sentences with expressions using 'bid'

Playing a language game where students bid for items at an auction

### How to use the lesson

- 1 Write 'eBay' on the board and check students know what the company does. Hand out the worksheet and ask students to discuss the first question. Elicit feedback. Did anyone make a lot of money, or get a bargain?
- 2 Check students know the expression: 'it's worth'. For example, 'my car cost X and now it's worth Y'. First, find out if anyone has seen the film in (b) or know the photograph in (c). Then ask the students to guess the answers to the questions. The students scan the first two paragraphs of the article to check their answers.

### Answers

- 1 (b) \$24,000
  - 2 (c) \$266,000
  - 3 (c) €155,000
- 3 Students read the whole article. Ask students what their reactions are to the sale prices.
  - 4 Students check they know the words and if appropriate, they can give examples of some of the expressions in relation to their own company.
  - 5 Ask students if they know who the famous people in the exercise are and what they know about them. Students work in groups and decide what their maximum bid for each item will be. Their aim is to get the item they want most; also, it would be nice to buy an item at the lowest price possible. They can spend up to €100,000. Auction each item. The teacher (or appointed student) starts the bidding at €10,000. Note: if nobody offers the minimum asking price, cancel the sale. Finish the lesson by providing any language feedback.

### Related websites

Send your students to these websites, or just take a look yourself.

[www.ebay.com](http://www.ebay.com)

[www.christies.com](http://www.christies.com)

[www.sothebys.com](http://www.sothebys.com)