

1 a Fill in the gaps with *am*, *is* or *are*.

- 1 90% of the world's rice _____ grown in Asia.
- 2 English _____ spoken in over 45 countries.
- 3 We _____ paid on the last day of the month.
- 4 Meetings _____ held every three weeks.
- 5 I _____ taught at home so I don't go to school.
- 6 A hundred watches _____ sold every hour on eBay.

b Fill in the gaps with *was* or *were*.

- 1 That book _____ written by an 18-year-old!
- 2 Your wallet and keys _____ found on the train.
- 3 That dress _____ worn by Madonna.
- 4 In 1995, eBay _____ called AuctionWeb.
- 5 I'm sorry, but they _____ sold yesterday.
- 6 The competition _____ won by a group of people from Liverpool.

2 Choose the correct words.

THE COLLECTOR'S FAVOURITE: eBay

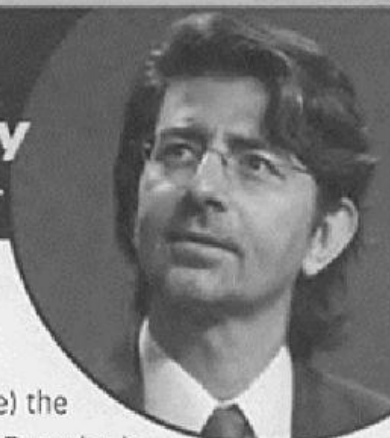
- 1 Today, eBay *uses/is used* by almost 100 million people.
- 2 A private plane *bought/was bought* in 2001, for \$4.9 million.
- 3 Every two minutes, someone *buys/is bought* a car.
- 4 In 2001 the jeans company Levi's *bought/were bought* a pair of jeans for \$46,532. They *made/were made* in 1880!
- 5 In 2002 someone *tried/was tried* to sell the Earth!
An offer of \$10,000,000 *made/was made*, but the person didn't pay!
- 6 Between 1998 and 2011, over 1000 books *wrote/were written* about eBay.



- 3 Read the article and put the verbs in brackets into the active or the passive. Use the Present Simple or Past Simple.

The man behind eBay

Pierre Omidyar



On a day off work, in 1995, Pierre Omidyar

1 _____ (create) the auction website, eBay. But who is

Pierre Omidyar and what does he do now?

Pierre Omidyar's parents are from Iran. They

2 _____ (meet) in Paris in the 1960s.

They 3 _____ (get) married and had a son, Pierre. Six years later they moved to America.

From a young age, Pierre loved computers, but the subject 4 _____ (not teach) at his school.

So Pierre 5 _____ (teach) himself on a small computer. Three years later, he got his first job in computing – for the school library. He

6 _____ (pay) \$6 an hour!

Now, over 25 years later, Pierre still gives eBay advice, but the company 7 _____ (not run)

Omidyar Network. Pierre and his wife

9 _____ (start) Omidyar Network in 2004.

It 10 _____ (give) money to companies that have a positive effect on the world. For

example, at www.meetup.com, people can find others with the same interests. Then meetings

11 _____ (organise) all over the world.

Thousands of people 12 _____ (use) the website to meet other English students!