

# TREASURED POSSESSIONS

## MULTIPLE MATCHING

You are going to read an article about four people's most treasured possessions. For each question choose from people A-D. You may choose the people more than once.

Which person ....

|  |      |
|--|------|
| Admits they are acting out of character?                                 | 1.   |
| Enjoys looking at their possession?                                      | 2.   |
| Believes their luck might change if they no longer had their possession? | 3.   |
| Has several items that they have an emotional attachment to?             | 4.   |
| Intends to pass things on to their child/children?                       | 5.   |
| Is planning to make a change to their house?                             | 6.   |
| Describes something that makes them feel unhappy?                        | 7.   |
| Imagines their possession being used in the past?                        | 8.   |
| Thinks their possession could be worth a lot of money?                   | 9.   |
| Says their possession attracts attention?                                | 10 . |



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*Most of us have possessions that we treasure. Four people talk to us about theirs.*

**A** The plant has been in the family for years. It was a cutting taken from a plant at my parents' house and they'd had theirs since I was a child, so that's at least 50 years. It's a money tree and it's supposed to be an indicator of the owner's financial condition. If the plant is unhealthy, it means your finances are also suffering. I hate to think what would happen if mine died! It's so big that it was difficult finding somewhere to put it. It's in the kitchen at the moment but we're going to have the room re-designed so we need to find a new home for it. It's not particularly attractive plant but because of its size, everyone who visits comments on it. The children aren't fond of it so I don't think we'll be handing it down to them. I don't want to risk ending up in poverty if I throw it out so we'll have to wait and see.

**B** One of the things my father left me was a knife. He was in the navy during the war and all recruits were issued with one of these knives. He called it a deep sea diving knife and whenever he showed it to me as a child, I imagined him diving to great depths in a diving suit with this knife in his belt. It never occurred to me that since my father wasn't a great swimmer he probably wouldn't have dived at all. Since his death I've kept it locked away and I've also done some research to find out more about it. Apparently, it's collectible and people are prepared to pay a lot for certain models. Whenever I look at it, I have fond memories of my father and I still like to think he put it to good use all those years ago.

**C** I've got things that are important to me - my computer and objects that have sentimental value, like the photos of my children and my wedding ring. But my most treasured possessions are the memories I have of my children growing up. They still live with us and we have wonderful times together so the memories are constantly being added to. Memories of holidays, family parties and get-togethers are particularly happy. Of course, there were also events that I wish hadn't happened, such as the accidents they had as small children. These still upset me but all in all, my memories are of happy times. Some of these occasions were caught on video or in photos. If we lost them, I'd be upset but it's the memories themselves I cherish most.

**D** I'm not sentimental and don't usually hang on to things so I suppose it's surprising that the possessions that stand out are the letters I have from my son when he was younger. He used to travel a lot during his twenties and would send me wonderful letters telling me where he was and what he was doing. Some of them were quite exciting - one described a train journey on which he shared a carriage with some coffee smugglers. Other letters were more disturbing, such as one in which he described being robbed. You can imagine how concerned I was reading it at the time but now it's just a reminder of an adventure. Then there's the letter in which he explained he'd met a wonderful girl. That girl eventually became his wife and my daughter-in-law. I know my son wants me to keep these letters and eventually I'll give them to him.