

An unusual collectible

10 Look at the photos and *quickly* read the text.

- 1 Who are the celebrities?
- 2 Why are they important to Paul Fraser?

11 Read the text again and complete it with the verbs in the correct tense.

Paul Fraser Celebrity hair collector!

Celebrity culture ¹ *has arrived* (arrive)! We ² *never* (be) more interested in the latest celebrity news and gossip. And some fans ³ *just* (not want) to read about their favourite celebrity, they want more – an autograph, a selfie or even a lock of their hair! So, believe it or not, there are professional hair collectors who ⁴ (make) money by selling the locks of celebrities!

Paul Fraser is a UK professional collector of all kinds of things, including ... hair! He ⁵ (collect) the hair of famous people for some years. He ⁶ (be) a collector of stamps, coins, fine art, and antiques for a long time, but a few years ago, Paul ⁷ (realize) that the best way to make money was to invest in things that are one of a kind, such as a lock of a celebrity's hair. In 2016, a US auction house in Texas ⁸ (sell) a lock of John Lennon's hair for an amazing \$35,000.

Paul Fraser now ⁹ (own) a lock of Paul McCartney's hair, and he also ¹⁰ (have) Michael Jackson's, Marilyn Monroe's, Napoleon's, John Kennedy's, and even Charles Dickens's hair in his collection. When the celebrity is dead, the hair is worth more! However, in 2011 someone ¹¹ (buy) a lock of Justin Bieber's hair on eBay for \$40,668!



Justin Bieber

Celebrity hair for sale



BID NOW

Auction ends in 2 days

\$800

BUY IT NOW

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Elvis Presley



Marilyn Monroe

Paul charges \$570 for just one strand of hair! He ¹² (sell) hair for the last few years on his website, Paul Fraser Collectibles, alongside his other collections.

So – what's the highest amount of money someone ¹³ ever (pay) for a lock of celebrity hair? And whose head ¹⁴ (belong) to? It was Elvis Presley's, and it ¹⁵ (cost) \$115,000!

Historian, Leo Braudy, says, 'to own a genuine* artefact* from a widely recognised cultural figure – even if it's hair – is highly attractive.'

This certainly seems to be true!

genuine real

artefact an object of historical or cultural interest

12 Complete the questions using the verbs in brackets. Then answer them.

1 What does Paul Fraser do (do)?

He's a professional collector.

2 What kind of things _____ he _____ (collect)?

3 How long _____ he _____ (collect) celebrity hair?

4 Why _____ he _____ (start) collecting hair?

5 How much _____ John Lennon's hair _____ (sell) for?

6 _____ Paul _____ (own) Lennon's hair?

7 How much _____ Paul Fraser _____ (charge) for a strand of hair?

8 What's the greatest amount someone _____ ever _____ (pay) for a lock of hair? Whose hair _____ (be) it?

11.3 Listen and check.