Questions 11 – 15

For each question, choose the correct answer.

My unusual collection

Fourteen-year-old Johnny Paterson writes about collecting old mobile phones.

My hobby is collecting old mobile phones. Even people I don't know send me their old phones these days when they find out about my strange hobby. It all started when I was eight. I saw my parents using their mobiles all the time and I kept asking them if I could have one. My dad told the guy next door about this and one day he came round with a ten-year-old phone he no longer used. He thought letting me have it would stop me bothering my parents. Everyone at school thought it was great when I took it there the next day, even though it didn't actually work!

Everyone has a reason for collecting things. For some, it's because whatever they're collecting may be worth lots of money in the future. Others love having something that could be on display in a museum somewhere. That's certainly what attracts me to it. Compared to newer phones, mine are far less pleasant to look at. I often wonder what's inside them, as they're so much heavier than modern phones. I guess old batteries were much bigger.

Some people find my hobby a bit strange. I used to tell everyone about it, but some people just didn't know what to say, so they ended up feeling uncomfortable, which I'd rather avoid. I can completely understand – not everybody keeps over 150 old mobile phones in their bedroom! Most people find the fact it's unusual really interesting, and I'm proud to have such an unusual hobby.

My mum and dad put up some shelves to keep my collection on. Although there's probably space for a few more, and there are still some particular phones I'd like to find, I may give up collecting them before long. My dad recently gave me the coins he collected when he was my age and they look amazing. It's a far more expensive hobby but I really fancy having a go at it. I've spent more or less nothing on my phone collection so I've managed to save up quite a bit. We'll see!

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11 Johnny was given the first phone in his collection by

A a neighbour.

B a relative.

C a classmate.

D a stranger.

12 Johnny says he collects old phones because

A he loves learning about how they work.

B they're more attractive than modern ones.

C it's like owning objects from a museum.

D they'll be valuable in a few years' time.

13 What does Johnny say about some people's attitudes towards his hobby?

A He's curious about why they find it so strange.

B He's keen to prevent anyone feeling embarrassed.

C He gets upset when they try to make him feel bad.

D He feels surprised that anyone finds it unusual.

14 Why does Johnny say he might stop collecting phones soon?

A He'll soon have all the models he wants.

B He has too little money to buy more.

C He'll have no more room for them.

D He wants to start collecting something else.

15 What would Johnny write in his diary?

A

I never thought I'd end up with more than 150 phones when I got that first one when I was ten years old.

B

When I took my first phone into my class, the teacher couldn't believe you could still make calls on something so old.

C

I'm so grateful Mum and Dad support my hobby. I guess wanting to collect things is something I get from my dad.

D

It's great that I've been able to make a bit of money by selling a few of the phones from my collection.

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