

Woman wins \$1 million Picasso in charity raffle

27th May, 2020



Image: Pablo Picasso

A woman in Italy has suddenly become the owner of a Pablo Picasso painting. Claudia Borgogno, 58, won the Picasso in a charity raffle. Her son Lorenzo bought his mother the ticket as a Christmas

present. The ticket cost €100 (about \$110). The raffle draw was made on Wednesday and Ms Borgogno was the lucky winner. Lorenzo explained to reporters how he told his mother. He said: "When I arrived and I told her she has won a Picasso painting, she was like: 'Please don't joke'." He added: "It was maybe the best decision I've made in my life." His mother could not believe she had won and summed up her amazement in one word - incredible. She said: "I have never won anything before".

The Picasso painting is called Still Life. It was painted and signed by the artist in 1921. It shows a newspaper and a wine glass on a wood table. The charity draw took place in Paris at the international auction house Christies. The auction house valued the work of art as being worth \$1.1 million. However, the billionaire art collector who donated the painting to the charity raffle said it was worth at least two or three times more than that. Christies sold 51,140 tickets for the charity raffle. All of the money it collected will go to provide water for villagers in Madagascar and Cameroon. An NGO will help to build and repair wells, washing facilities, and toilets in countryside villages.

Sources: theguardian.com / yahooonews.com / cnn.com

Writing

Painting is the best form of art. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

owner / painting / charity / raffle / ticket / winner / joke / decision / amazement / win / artist / newspaper / wood / table / billionaire / water / village / washing / facilities

True / False

- The woman who won the Picasso painting was in Italy. T / F
- The raffle ticket that won the painting cost \$100. T / F
- The woman told her son not to joke when he said she had won. T / F
- It is the third time the woman has won a painting. T / F
- The painting is called Still Life. T / F
- The charity draw took place at an auction house in Milan. T / F
- An art collector said the Picasso could be worth as much as \$3.3 million. T / F
- Money collected in the raffle will help to build toilets in Madagascar. T / F

Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. suddenly | a. gave |
| 2. present | b. fortunate |
| 3. lucky | c. raised |
| 4. joke | d. amazing |
| 5. incredible | e. all of a sudden |
| 6. valued | f. fix |
| 7. donated | g. rural |
| 8. collected | h. gift |
| 9. repair | i. priced |
| 10. countryside | j. fool around |

Discussion – Student A

- What do you know about Pablo Picasso?
- Would you like to own a Picasso?
- What are you like at painting?
- What do you think of lottery and raffle tickets?
- Have you ever won something?
- What art do you have on the walls in your house?
- What's the best decision you've made in your life?
- What's the worst decision you've made in your life?

Phrase Match

1. The raffle draw was made
 2. explained to reporters how
 3. the best decision I've
 4. summed up her amazement
 5. I have never won
 6. It was painted and signed
 7. the international
 8. valued the work of art as being
 9. it was worth at least
 10. help to build and
- a. by the artist in 1921
 - b. repair wells
 - c. in one word
 - d. on Wednesday
 - e. worth \$1.1 million
 - f. made in my life
 - g. two or three times more
 - h. anything before
 - i. auction house Christies
 - j. he told his mother

Discussion – Student B

- a) What do you think about what you read?
- b) What do you think of Picasso?
- c) What kinds of paintings do you like?
- d) What do you think of still life paintings?
- e) How would you look after a million-dollar painting?
- f) Who would you like a million dollars to help?
- g) Why do people think Picasso is one of the greatest artists?
- h) What questions would you like to ask the lady?

Spelling

1. the rowen of a Pablo Picasso painting
2. The raffle rdaw was made on Wednesday
3. the uklyc winner
4. When I eirvdar and I told her
5. the best iodcins I've made
6. summed up her anztmmeea
7. painted and sidnge by the artist
8. the international iauonct house Christies
9. wrhot \$1.1 million
10. dverpio water for villagers
11. An NGO will help to build and rarpie wells
12. washing aiceifsitl, and toilets

Answers – Synonym Match

1. e	2. h	3. b	4. j	5. d
6. i	7. a	8. c	9. f	10. g

Role Play

Role A – Clean Water

You think clean water is the best charitable cause. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their causes. Also, tell the others which is the least worthy of these (and why): helping children, helping the aged or restoring historic buildings.

Role B – Helping Children

You think helping children is the best charitable cause. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their causes. Also, tell the others which is the least worthy of these (and why): clean water, helping the aged or restoring historic buildings.

Role C – The Aged

You think helping the aged is the best charitable cause. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their causes. Also, tell the others which is the least worthy of these (and why): helping children, clean water or restoring historic buildings.

Role D – Restoring Historic Buildings

You think restoring historic buildings is the best charitable cause. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their causes. Also, tell the others which is the least worthy of these (and why): helping children, helping the aged or clean water.

Speaking – Charity

Rank these with your partner. Put the charitable causes you like most at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Clean water
- Children
- Wildlife
- The aged
- Cancer research
- Historic buildings
- Homelessness
- Domestic violence

Answers – True False

a	T	b	F	c	T	d	F	e	F	f	F	g	T	h	T
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.