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## **Level 3 – 23rd November 2023**

### **Napoleon's hat most expensive ever sold at auction**

**FREE online quizzes, mp3 listening and more for this lesson here:**

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2311/231123-napoleon-hat.html>

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**Please try Levels 0, 1 and 2 (they are easier).**

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# THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2311/231123-napoleon-hat.html>

Is it possible to spend over \$2 million on a hat? The answer is "yes" if the hat once belonged to the French emperor Napoleon Bonaparte. An iconic hat that Napoleon is famous for was sold at an auction this week for \$2.1 million. This is a record for a hat, so it is the most expensive piece of headwear ever sold. The auction sale broke the previous record for a hat, which was \$2 million. That hat also once belonged to Napoleon. A historian said Napoleon liked hats and owned around 120 of them. This week's record-breaking hat is made of felt and has the red, white and blue colours of the French flag on it. Experts say it dates back to the early 1800s. Thousands of artists have created paintings of Napoleon wearing it.

Napoleon is one of France's most famous historical figures. He was a general who played a key part in the French Revolution of 1787-1799. He helped to take over the French government, and then became emperor of France in 1804. His reign as emperor came to an end in 1815 after he lost the Battle of Waterloo to the British. He was sent to live on a remote island in the South Atlantic Ocean called St. Helena. He died there six years later in 1821, aged 51. The auction of his hat coincides with the release of a new Hollywood movie about his rise to power, and his relationship with the empress Josephine. The movie is called "Napoleon". It is directed by Ridley Scott and stars Joaquin Phoenix as Napoleon and Vanessa Kirby as Josephine.

Sources: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/napoleon-hat-sold-at-auction-for-a-history-making-price-breaks-record/>  
<https://edition.cnn.com/2023/11/20/style/napoleons-hat-record-intl-scli/index.html>  
<https://news.yahoo.com/napoleons-hat-sells-record-sum-160514514.html>

# WARM-UPS

**1. HATS:** Students walk around the class and talk to other students about hats. Change partners often and share your findings.

**2. CHAT:** In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

possible / spend / hat / emperor / auction / record / historian / flag / artists / painting  
historical figures / general / revolution / government / battle / remote island / movie

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

**3. AUCTION MONEY:** Students A **strongly** believe half of the money from auctions should go to charity; Students B **strongly** believe not. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**4. HEADWEAR:** How useful are these items of headwear? Why? Do you have / would you like one? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	How Useful?	Why?	Have / Want?
A crown			
A safety helmet			
A crash helmet			
A tiara			
A baseball cap			
A Santa hat			

**5. SPEND:** Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "spend". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

**6. AUCTION:** Rank these with your partner. Put the best things to buy at an auction at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Hats
- Car licence plates
- Movie memorabilia
- Rock star clothes
- Classic cars
- Houses
- Jewellery
- Paintings

# VOCABULARY MATCHING

## Paragraph 1

- |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| 1. belonged     | a. A leader or ruler of a country or group of countries.   |
| 2. emperor      | b. A public sale where things are sold to the person who will pay the highest price.             |
| 3. iconic       | c. Originated at a particular time in the past; has existed since a particular time in the past. |
| 4. auction      | d. Being a person or thing that is very well known for a particular reason.                      |
| 5. record       | e. A person who is very knowledgeable about or skillful in a particular area.                    |
| 6. expert       | f. Was the property of; was owned by.  |
| 7. date back to | g. The best performance or most remarkable event of its kind.                                    |

## Paragraph 2

- |                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| 8. figure        | h. A leader of an army, or an army officer of very high rank.    |
| 9. general       | i. Very important.   |
| 10. key          | j. The way in which people are connected, often because of love. |
| 11. reign        | k. Very, very far from anywhere else.                            |
| 12. remote       | l. The period of a monarch being in power.                       |
| 13. coincide     | m. A person who was important or special in some way.            |
| 14. relationship | n. Happen at the same time.                                      |

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2311/231123-napoleon-hat.html>

**1. TRUE / FALSE:** Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

1. A hat worn by Napoleon Bonaparte sold for \$2.5 million. **T / F**
2. The previous record for a hat was one worn by Julius Caesar. **T / F**
3. The hat that was sold comes from the beginning of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. **T / F**
4. The article says thousands of artists have painted Napoleon with his hat. **T / F**
5. Napoleon Bonaparte became the French emperor in 1815. **T / F**
6. Bonaparte was sent by the British to live on a South Pacific island. **T / F**
7. Bonaparte died at the age of 51. **T / F**
8. A movie about Napoleon is directed by Joaquin Phoenix. **T / F**

**2. SYNONYM MATCH:** (The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- |                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1. <b>belonged</b>  | a. people           |
| 2. <b>famous</b>    | b. important        |
| 3. <b>expensive</b> | c. made             |
| 4. <b>experts</b>   | d. happens together |
| 5. <b>created</b>   | e. well known       |
| 6. <b>figures</b>   | f. faraway          |
| 7. <b>key</b>       | g. was owned by     |
| 8. <b>remote</b>    | h. big names        |
| 9. <b>coincides</b> | i. specialists      |
| 10. <b>stars</b>    | j. costly           |

**3. PHRASE MATCH:** (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- |  |                            |
|--|----------------------------|
| 1. sold at an auction                      | a. historical figures      |
| 2. the most expensive piece of headwear    | b. to an end in 1815       |
| 3. The auction sale broke the previous     | c. French flag             |
| 4. colours of the                          | d. rise to power           |
| 5. Experts say it dates                    | e. this week               |
| 6. Napoleon is one of France's most famous | f. record for a hat        |
| 7. He was a general who played             | g. on a remote island      |
| 8. His reign as emperor came               | h. back to the early 1800s |
| 9. He was sent to live                     | i. a key part              |
| 10. a new Hollywood movie about his        | j. ever sold               |

# GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2311/231123-napoleon-hat.html>

Is it possible to (1) \_\_\_\_\_ over \$2 million on a hat? The answer is "yes" if the hat once (2) \_\_\_\_\_ to the French emperor Napoleon Bonaparte. An iconic hat that Napoleon is famous for was sold at an (3) \_\_\_\_\_ this week for \$2.1 million. This is a record for a hat, so it is the most expensive piece of headwear ever (4) \_\_\_\_\_. The auction sale broke the previous (5) \_\_\_\_\_ for a hat, which was \$2 million. That hat also once belonged to Napoleon. A historian said Napoleon liked hats and owned around 120 of them. This week's record-breaking hat is made of (6) \_\_\_\_\_ and has the red, white and blue colours of the French (7) \_\_\_\_\_ on it. Experts say it dates back to the early 1800s. Thousands of (8) \_\_\_\_\_ have created paintings of Napoleon wearing it.

felt  
spend  
auction  
artists  
record  
belonged  
flag  
sold

Napoleon is one of France's most famous (9) \_\_\_\_\_ figures. He was a general who played a (10) \_\_\_\_\_ part in the French Revolution of 1787-1799. He helped to (11) \_\_\_\_\_ over the French government, and then became emperor of France in 1804. His (12) \_\_\_\_\_ as emperor came to an end in 1815 after he lost the Battle of Waterloo to the British. He was sent to live on a (13) \_\_\_\_\_ island in the South Atlantic Ocean called St. Helena. He died there six years later in 1821, aged 51. The auction of his hat (14) \_\_\_\_\_ with the release of a new Hollywood movie about his (15) \_\_\_\_\_ to power, and his relationship with the empress Josephine. The movie is called "Napoleon". It is directed by Ridley Scott and (16) \_\_\_\_\_ Joaquin Phoenix as Napoleon and Vanessa Kirby as Josephine.

reign  
historical  
take  
stars  
key  
coincides  
rise  
remote

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2311/231123-napoleon-hat.html>

- 1) if the hat once belonged to the French \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. temper or Napoleon Bonaparte
  - b. member or Napoleon Bonaparte
  - c. amp aura Napoleon Bonaparte
  - d. emperor Napoleon Bonaparte
- 2) An iconic hat that Napoleon is famous for was sold at an \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. action this week
  - b. auction this weeks
  - c. auction these week
  - d. auction this week
- 3) This is a record for a hat, so it is the most expensive piece of \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. headwear even sold
  - b. headwear ever sold
  - c. headwear every sold
  - d. headwear never sold
- 4) A historian said Napoleon liked hats and \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. disowned around 120
  - b. gowned around 120
  - c. owned around 120
  - d. moaned around 120
- 5) Experts say it dates back to \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. the burly 1800s
  - b. the early 1800s
  - c. the hurly 1800s
  - d. the curly 1800s
- 6) Napoleon is one of France's most \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. famous historical figurines
  - b. famous historical figure
  - c. famous historical figures
  - d. famous historical figured
- 7) He was a general who played a key part in the French \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. Resolution of 1787-1799
  - b. Revolution of 1787-1799
  - c. Revolting of 1787-1799
  - d. Regulation of 1787-1799
- 8) He was sent to live on \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. a remote island
  - b. a limit island
  - c. a demote island
  - d. a devote island
- 9) coincides with the release of a new Hollywood movie about his \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. arise to power
  - b. lies to power
  - c. rice to power
  - d. rise to power
- 10) It is directed by Ridley Scott and \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. starts Joaquin Phoenix
  - b. stares Joaquin Phoenix
  - c. steers Joaquin Phoenix
  - d. stars Joaquin Phoenix

# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2311/231123-napoleon-hat.html>

Is it (1) \_\_\_\_\_ over \$2 million on a hat? The answer is "yes" if the hat once belonged to the French emperor Napoleon Bonaparte. An iconic hat that Napoleon is (2) \_\_\_\_\_ sold at an auction this week for \$2.1 million. This is a record for a hat, so it is the most (3) \_\_\_\_\_ headwear ever sold. The auction sale (4) \_\_\_\_\_ record for a hat, which was \$2 million. That hat also once belonged to Napoleon. A historian said Napoleon liked hats (5) \_\_\_\_\_ 120 of them. This week's record-breaking hat is made of felt and has the red, white and blue colours of the French flag on it. Experts say it dates back to the early 1800s. (6) \_\_\_\_\_ have created paintings of Napoleon wearing it.

Napoleon is one of France's most (7) \_\_\_\_\_. He was a general who played a key part in the French Revolution of 1787-1799. He (8) \_\_\_\_\_ the French government, and then became emperor of France in 1804. His reign as emperor came to (9) \_\_\_\_\_ 1815 after he lost the Battle of Waterloo to the British. He was sent to live on (10) \_\_\_\_\_ in the South Atlantic Ocean called St. Helena. He died there six years later in 1821, aged 51. The auction of his hat (11) \_\_\_\_\_ release of a new Hollywood movie about his rise to power, and his relationship with the empress Josephine. The movie is called "Napoleon". It (12) \_\_\_\_\_ Ridley Scott and stars Joaquin Phoenix as Napoleon and Vanessa Kirby as Josephine.



# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2311/231123-napoleon-hat.html>

1. How much did Napoleon Bonaparte's hat sell for?
2. Where did the hat sell?
3. Who once owned the second-most expensive hat ever sold?
4. How many hats did Napoleon own?
5. How many artists have painted Napoleon wearing his hat?
6. When was the French Revolution?
7. When did Napoleon become emperor?
8. Where did Napoleon after he lost the Battle of Waterloo?
9. What happened to Napoleon in 1821?
10. What is the name of the woman Napoleon had a relationship with?

# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2311/231123-napoleon-hat.html>

- 1) How much did Napoleon Bonaparte's hat sell for?
  - a) \$2 million
  - b) \$2.1 million
  - c) \$2.2 million
  - d) \$2.3 million
- 2) Where did the hat sell?
  - a) in a Parisian department store
  - b) online
  - c) New York
  - d) at an auction
- 3) Who once owned the second-most expensive hat ever sold?
  - a) Aristotle
  - b) Julius Caesar
  - c) Napoleon
  - d) Tutankhamen
- 4) How many hats did Napoleon own?
  - a) around 120
  - b) exactly 120
  - c) fewer than 120
  - d) more than 120
- 5) How many artists have painted Napoleon wearing his hat?
  - a) millions
  - b) thousands
  - c) billions
  - d) gazillions
- 6) When was the French Revolution?
  - a) 1787-1799
  - b) 1789-1797
  - c) 1777-1789
  - d) 1788-1799
- 7) When did Napoleon become emperor?
  - a) 1800
  - b) 1815
  - c) 1804
  - d) 1807
- 8) Where did Napoleon go after he lost the Battle of Waterloo?
  - a) a South Atlantic island
  - b) Italy
  - c) on an expedition
  - d) on a tour of French schools
- 9) What happened to Napoleon in 1821?
  - a) He became president.
  - b) He escaped from prison.
  - c) He wrote a book about revolution.
  - d) He died.
- 10) What is the name of the woman Napoleon had a relationship with?
  - a) Jocelyne
  - b) Jacqueline
  - c) Josephine
  - d) Janet

# ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2311/231123-napoleon-hat.html>

## **Role A – A Hat**

You think a hat is the best thing to buy at an auction. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): movie memorabilia, jewellery or a painting.

## **Role B – Movie Memorabilia**

You think movie memorabilia is the best thing to buy at an auction. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): a hat, jewelery or a painting.

## **Role C – Jewellery**

You think jewellery is the best thing to buy at an auction. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): movie memorabilia, a hat or a painting.

## **Role D – A Painting**

You think a painting is the best thing to buy at an auction. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): movie memorabilia, jewellery or a hat.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2311/231123-napoleon-hat.html>

**1. WORD SEARCH:** Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'hat' and 'auction'.

hat	auction

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS:** Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**3. GAP FILL:** In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

**4. VOCABULARY:** Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

**5. TEST EACH OTHER:** Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• possible</li><li>• sold</li><li>• sale</li><li>• owned</li><li>• red</li><li>• thousands</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• historical</li><li>• key</li><li>• end</li><li>• remote</li><li>• rise</li><li>• stars</li></ul>
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# HATS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2311/231123-napoleon-hat.html>

Write five GOOD questions about hats in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

# HATS DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'hat'?
3. How important are hats to you?
4. When are the best times to wear a hat?
5. What do you think of spending \$2.1 million on a hat?
6. What's the most you'd pay for a hat?
7. Which is better – a hat or a cap?
8. Should baseball caps be worn backwards?
9. What would you do with Napoleon's hat?
10. How many hats do you need?

*Napoleon's hat most expensive ever sold at auction – 23rd November 2023*  
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# HATS DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'auction'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. Do you have a favourite hat?
15. What do you know about Napoleon?
16. What do you think of auctions?
17. Have you ever used online auctions like eBay?
18. Would you like to see the movie 'Napoleon'?
19. Do we need hats?
20. What questions would you like to ask the auction house?

# DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

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# DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

# LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2311/231123-napoleon-hat.html>

Is it (1) \_\_\_\_\_ to spend over \$2 million on a hat? The answer is "yes" if the hat once (2) \_\_\_\_\_ to the French emperor Napoleon Bonaparte. An iconic hat that Napoleon is famous for was sold (3) \_\_\_\_\_ an auction this week for \$2.1 million. This is a record for a hat, so it is the most expensive piece of headwear ever sold. The auction sale (4) \_\_\_\_\_ the previous record for a hat, which was \$2 million. That hat also once belonged to Napoleon. A historian said Napoleon liked hats and owned around 120 of them. This week's record-breaking hat is made of (5) \_\_\_\_\_ and has the red, white and blue colours of the French flag on it. Experts say it dates back to the (6) \_\_\_\_\_ 1800s. Thousands of artists have created paintings of Napoleon wearing it.

Napoleon is one of France's most famous historical (7) \_\_\_\_\_. He was a general who played a key part in the French Revolution of 1787-1799. He helped to take over the French government, and then became emperor of France in 1804. His (8) \_\_\_\_\_ as emperor came to an end in 1815 after he lost the Battle of Waterloo to the British. He was sent to live on a (9) \_\_\_\_\_ island in the South Atlantic Ocean called St. Helena. He died there six years later in 1821, aged 51. The auction of his hat (10) \_\_\_\_\_ with the release of a new Hollywood movie about his (11) \_\_\_\_\_ to power, and his relationship with the empress Josephine. The movie is called "Napoleon". It is directed by Ridley Scott and (12) \_\_\_\_\_ Joaquin Phoenix as Napoleon and Vanessa Kirby as Josephine.

## Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- |     |                  |                   |                 |              |
|-----|------------------|-------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| 1.  | (a) possibly     | (b) possibilities | (c) possibility | (d) possible |
| 2.  | (a) belong       | (b) belongings    | (c) belonging   | (d) belonged |
| 3.  | (a) of           | (b) at            | (c) on          | (d) under    |
| 4.  | (a) break        | (b) broken        | (c) broke       | (d) breaking |
| 5.  | (a) belt         | (b) melt          | (c) felt        | (d) pelt     |
| 6.  | (a) early        | (b) fast          | (c) slow        | (d) low      |
| 7.  | (a) figurines    | (b) figures       | (c) figure      | (d) figured  |
| 8.  | (a) reign        | (b) rein          | (c) rain        | (d) ruin     |
| 9.  | (a) remoteness   | (b) remote        | (c) remotely    | (d) remotes  |
| 10. | (a) coincidences | (b) coinciding    | (c) coincides   | (d) coincide |
| 11. | (a) elevate      | (b) up            | (c) rise        | (d) increase |
| 12. | (a) satellites   | (b) moons         | (c) suns        | (d) stars    |



# SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2311/231123-napoleon-hat.html>

## Paragraph 1

1. the hat once beodngle to the French emperor
2. sold at an ocunati
3. the most expensive piece of arhweade
4. broke the opusriev record for a hat
5. rxestpe say it dates back to the early 1800s
6. Thousands of sttiars have created paintings

## Paragraph 2

7. famous sohciirtla figures
8. the French ieRolnuoty of 1787-1799
9. His eirgn as emperor came to an end
10. He was sent to live on a meerto island
11. icedonsci with the release
12. his hairilospent with the empress Josephine

# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2311/231123-napoleon-hat.html>

**Number these lines in the correct order.**

- ( ) \$2 million. That hat also once belonged to Napoleon. A historian said Napoleon liked hats and owned
- ( ) belonged to the French emperor Napoleon Bonaparte. An iconic hat that Napoleon is famous
- ( ) called "Napoleon". It is directed by Ridley Scott and stars Joaquin Phoenix as Napoleon and Vanessa Kirby as Josephine.
- ( ) part in the French Revolution of 1787-1799. He helped to take over the French government, and then became emperor
- ( ) for was sold at an auction this week for \$2.1 million. This is a record for a hat, so it is the most
- ( ) around 120 of them. This week's record-breaking hat is made of felt and has the red, white and blue colours of the French
- ( ) flag on it. Experts say it dates back to the early 1800s. Thousands of artists have created paintings of Napoleon wearing it.
- ( ) Napoleon is one of France's most famous historical figures. He was a general who played a key
- ( ) of France in 1804. His reign as emperor came to an end in 1815 after he lost the Battle of Waterloo
- ( **1** ) Is it possible to spend over \$2 million on a hat? The answer is "yes" if the hat once
- ( ) to the British. He was sent to live on a remote island in the South Atlantic Ocean called St. Helena. He died there six years
- ( ) later in 1821, aged 51. The auction of his hat coincides with the release of a new Hollywood movie about his rise to
- ( ) expensive piece of headwear ever sold. The auction sale broke the previous record for a hat, which was
- ( ) power, and his relationship with the empress Josephine. The movie is

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2311/231123-napoleon-hat.html>

1. An iconic that famous Napoleon for . hat is
2. is ever hat It the sold . most expensive
3. hat week's felt . record-breaking is This of made
4. say it 1800s . the back dates Experts to
5. Napoleon . of created of paintings artists have Thousands
6. a general played who A part . key
7. the to He over take helped government . French
8. end . emperor to an His came reign as
9. remote island . a to sent was He
10. power . to his movie Hollywood rise about A

# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2311/231123-napoleon-hat.html>

Is it *possible* / *possibility* to spend over \$2 million on a hat? The answer is "yes" if the hat once *belonging* / *belonged* to the French emperor Napoleon Bonaparte. An iconic hat that Napoleon is *famous* / *famously* for was sold at *the* / *an* auction this week for \$2.1 million. This is a record *on* / *for* a hat, so it is the most expensive piece of headwear ever sold. The auction sale *broken* / *broke* the previous record for a hat, which was \$2 million. That hat also once belonged to Napoleon. A *historian* / *historical* said Napoleon liked hats and owned *round* / *around* 120 of them. This week's record-breaking hat is made of felt and has the red, white and blue colours *to* / *of* the French flag on it. Experts say it dates back to the early 1800s. Thousands of artists have created paintings of Napoleon wearing *it* / *them*.

Napoleon is one of France's *must* / *most* famous historical figures. He was a general who played a key part *in* / *on* the French Revolution of 1787-1799. He helped to take *over* / *under* the French government, and then became emperor *of* / *on* France in 1804. His *rain* / *reign* as emperor came to an *end* / *finish* in 1815 after he lost the Battle of Waterloo to the British. He was sent to live on a *remote* / *remotely* island in the South Atlantic Ocean called St. Helena. He died there six years later in 1821, aged 51. The auction of his hat *coincides* / *coinciding* with the release of a new Hollywood movie about his rise to power, and his relationship with the empress Josephine. The movie is *calling* / *called* "Napoleon". It is directed by Ridley Scott and *suns* / *stars* Joaquin Phoenix as Napoleon and Vanessa Kirby as Josephine.

**Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct. Look up the definition of new words.**

# INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

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\_s \_t p\_ss\_bl\_ t\_ sp\_nd \_v\_r \$2 m\_ll\_\_n \_n \_ h\_t?  
Th\_ \_nsw\_r \_s "y\_s" \_f th\_ h\_t \_nc\_ b\_l\_ng\_d t\_ th\_  
Fr\_nch \_mp\_r\_r N\_p\_l\_\_n B\_n\_p\_rt\_. \_n \_c\_n\_c h\_t  
th\_t N\_p\_l\_\_n \_s f\_m\_\_s f\_r w\_s s\_ld \_t \_n \_\_ct\_\_n  
th\_s w\_\_k f\_r \$2.1 m\_ll\_\_n. Th\_s \_s \_ r\_c\_r\_d f\_r \_  
h\_t, s\_ \_t \_s th\_ m\_st \_xp\_ns\_v\_ p\_\_c\_ \_f h\_\_dw\_\_r  
\_v\_r s\_ld. Th\_ \_\_ct\_\_n s\_l\_ br\_k\_ th\_ pr\_v\_\_s r\_c\_r\_d  
f\_r \_ h\_t, wh\_ch w\_s \$2 m\_ll\_\_n. Th\_t h\_t \_ls\_ \_nc\_  
b\_l\_ng\_d t\_ N\_p\_l\_\_n. \_ h\_st\_r\_\_n s\_\_d N\_p\_l\_\_n l\_k\_d  
h\_ts \_nd \_wn\_d \_r\_\_nd 120 \_f th\_m. Th\_s w\_\_k's  
r\_c\_r\_d-br\_\_k\_ng h\_t \_s m\_d\_ \_f f\_lt \_nd h\_s th\_ r\_d,  
wh\_t\_ \_nd bl\_\_ c\_l\_\_rs \_f th\_ Fr\_nch fl\_g \_n \_t.  
\_xp\_rts s\_y \_t d\_t\_s b\_ck t\_ th\_ \_\_rly 1800s.  
Th\_\_snds \_f \_rt\_sts h\_v\_ cr\_\_t\_d p\_\_nt\_ngs \_f  
N\_p\_l\_\_n w\_\_r\_ng \_t.

N\_p\_l\_\_n \_s \_n\_ \_f Fr\_nc\_'s m\_st f\_m\_\_s h\_st\_r\_c\_l  
f\_g\_r\_s. H\_ w\_s \_ g\_n\_r\_l wh\_ pl\_y\_d \_ k\_y p\_rt \_n  
th\_ Fr\_nch R\_v\_l\_t\_\_n \_f 1787-1799. H\_ h\_lp\_d t\_  
t\_k\_ \_v\_r th\_ Fr\_nch g\_v\_rnm\_nt, \_nd th\_n b\_c\_m\_  
\_mp\_r\_r \_f Fr\_nc\_ \_n 1804. H\_s r\_\_gn \_s \_mp\_r\_r  
c\_m\_ t\_ \_n \_nd \_n 1815 \_ft\_r h\_ l\_st th\_ Bttl\_ \_f  
W\_t\_rl\_\_ t\_ th\_ Br\_t\_sh. H\_ w\_s s\_nt t\_ l\_v\_ \_n \_  
r\_m\_t\_ \_sl\_nd \_n th\_ S\_\_th \_tl\_nt\_c \_c\_\_n c\_ll\_d St.  
H\_l\_n\_. H\_ d\_\_d th\_r\_ s\_x y\_\_rs l\_t\_r \_n 1821, \_g\_d  
51. Th\_ \_\_ct\_\_n \_f h\_s h\_t c\_\_nc\_d\_s w\_th th\_  
r\_l\_\_s\_ \_f \_n\_w H\_llyw\_\_d m\_v\_\_ \_b\_\_t h\_s r\_s\_ t\_  
p\_w\_r, \_nd h\_s r\_l\_t\_\_nsh\_p w\_th th\_ \_mpr\_ss  
J\_s\_ph\_n\_. Th\_ m\_v\_\_ \_s c\_ll\_d "N\_p\_l\_\_n". \_t \_s  
d\_r\_ct\_d by R\_dly Sc\_tt \_nd st\_rs J\_\_q\_\_n Ph\_\_n\_x  
\_s N\_p\_l\_\_n \_nd V\_n\_ss\_ K\_rby \_s J\_s\_ph\_n\_.

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2311/231123-napoleon-hat.html>

is it possible to spend over 2 million on a hat the answer is yes if the hat once belonged to the french emperor napoleon bonaparte an iconic hat that napoleon is famous for was sold at an auction this week for 21 million this is a record for a hat so it is the most expensive piece of headwear ever sold the auction sale broke the previous record for a hat which was 2 million that hat also once belonged to napoleon a historian said napoleon liked hats and owned around 120 of them this weeks recordbreaking hat is made of felt and has the red white and blue colours of the french flag on it experts say it dates back to the early 1800s thousands of artists have created paintings of napoleon wearing it

napoleon is one of frances most famous historical figures he was a general who played a key part in the french revolution of 1787-1799 he helped to take over the french government and then became emperor of france in 1804 his reign as emperor came to an end in 1815 after he lost the battle of waterloo to the british he was sent to live on a remote island in the south atlantic ocean called st helena he died there six years later in 1821 aged 51 the auction of his hat coincides with the release of a new hollywood movie about his rise to power and his relationship with the empress josephine the movie is called napoleon it is directed by ridley scott and stars joaquin phoenix as napoleon and vanessa kirby as josephine

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2311/231123-napoleon-hat.html>

Is it possible to spend over \$2 million on a hat? The answer is "yes" if the hat once belonged to the French emperor Napoleon Bonaparte. A icon that Napoleon is famous for was sold at an auction this week for \$2.1 million. This is a record for a hat, so it is the most expensive piece of headwear ever sold. The auction sale broke the previous record for a hat, which was \$2 million. That hat also once belonged to Napoleon. A historian said Napoleon liked hats and owned around 120 of them. This week's record-breaking hat is made of felt and has the red, white and blue colours of the French flag on it. Experts say it dates back to the early 1800s. Thousands of artists have created paintings of Napoleon wearing it. Napoleon is one of France's most famous historical figures. He was a general who played a key part in the French Revolution of 1787-1799. He helped to take over the French government, and then became emperor of France in 1804. His reign as emperor came to an end in 1815 after he lost the Battle of Waterloo to the British. He was sent to live on a remote island in the South Atlantic Ocean called St. Helena. He died there six years later in 1821, aged 51. The auction of his hat coincides with the release of a new Hollywood movie about his rise to power, and his relationship with the empress Josephine. The movie is called "Napoleon". It is directed by Ridley Scott and stars Joaquin Phoenix as Napoleon and Vanessa Kirby as Josephine.







# HOMework

**1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION:** Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

**2. INTERNET:** Search the Internet and find out more about this news story. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. NAPOLEON:** Make a poster about Napoleon. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

**4. AUCTION:** Write a magazine article about half the money from auctions going to charity. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against this.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

**5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?** Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

**6. LETTER:** Write a letter to an expert on hats. Ask him/her three questions about them. Give him/her three of your opinions on hats. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## VOCABULARY (p.4)

1. f    2. a    3. d    4. b    5. g    6. e    7. c  
8. m    9. h    10. i    11. l    12. k    13. n    14. j

## TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

- 1 F    2 F    3 T    4 T    5 F    6 F    7 T    8 F

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

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

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

- \$2.1 million
- At an auction
- Napoleon
- Around 120
- Thousands
- 1787-1799
- 1804
- A South Atlantic island called St. Helena
- He died
- Josephine

## WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.19)

- An iconic hat that Napoleon is famous for.
- It is the most expensive hat ever sold.
- This week's record-breaking hat is made of felt.
- Experts say it dates back to the 1800s.
- Thousands of artists have created paintings of Napoleon.
- A general who played a key part.
- He helped to take over the French government.
- His reign as emperor came to an end.
- He was sent to a remote island.
- A Hollywood movie about his rise to power.

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

1. b    2. d    3. c    4. a    5. b    6. a    7. c    8. a    9. d    10. c

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.  
(It's good for your English ;-)