

Car license plate sells for record \$15 million

13th April 2023



Most of us don't really take much notice of car license plates. Maybe we should look at them more from now because they may be valuable. One license plate has just sold for nearly \$15 million in

Dubai, UAE. It is the world's most expensive plate. The plate had the letter and number P7 on it. The previous highest price was also set in the UAE. That was in 2008, when someone paid \$14.3 million for a license plate with the number "one" on it. It is not known who broke the record earlier this week. However, locals say it might be difficult for the person's identity to remain a secret. The sale is big news in Dubai, so many drivers will be aware of the P7 plate.

The money from the record-breaking license plate will help poor people worldwide. The cash will go to a charity called the One Billion Meals Endowment. This charity was set up by Dubai's ruler Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid. It brings food to hungry people all around the world. The auction house told reporters it was happy with the sale. A spokesperson from Emirates Auction said: "We are proud to announce that the Most Noble Numbers charity auction...has set a new world record. We are thrilled that the proceeds will go directly towards supporting the...campaign, which aims to establish the largest Ramadan sustainable food aid fund."

Sources: [cbsnews.com](https://www.cbsnews.com) / [thedrive.com](https://www.thedrive.com) / [yahoo.com](https://www.yahoo.com)

Writing

People should be able to design their own car license plates. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

car license plates / valuable / Dubai / expensive / letter / number / identity / drivers / record breaking / cash / charity / meals / reporters / auction / Ramadan / food aid

True / False

- 1) The article says no one notices car license plates. T / F
- 2) A car license plate sold for just over \$15 million in Dubai. T / F
- 3) The number on the record-breaking plate was "7P". T / F
- 4) It will be very easy to keep the new plate owner's identity a secret. T / F
- 5) The money from the auction will go to help hungry people worldwide. T / F
- 6) A food charity was established by the ruler of Dubai. T / F
- 7) The auction house was happy with the amount of money raised. T / F
- 8) The charity wants to create an unsustainable food aid fund. T / F

Synonym Match

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

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| 1. valuable | a. stated |
| 2. previous | b. stay |
| 3. difficult | c. impoverished |
| 4. remain | d. former |
| 5. aware | e. conscious |
| 6. poor | f. expensive |
| 7. cash | g. pleased |
| 8. happy | h. straight |
| 9. announce | i. hard |
| 10. directly | j. money |

Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you think about what you read?
- b) What license plate number would you like?
- c) How else can auctions help poor and hungry people?
- d) What do you do to help poorer people?
- e) Should money be shared so there is no need for charities?
- f) What world record would you like to break?
- g) What charities do you support?
- h) What questions would you like to ask the new plate owner?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Most of us don't really take much | a. up by Dubai's ruler |
| 2. One license plate has just sold | b. broke the record |
| 3. The previous highest | c. to remain a secret |
| 4. It is not known who | d. supporting the campaign |
| 5. difficult for the person's identity | e. notice of car license plates |
| 6. The cash will | f. people |
| 7. This charity was set | g. thrilled |
| 8. It brings food to hungry | h. for nearly \$15 million |
| 9. We are | i. go to a charity |
| 10. the proceeds will go directly towards | j. price |

Discussion – Student B

- What are license plates like in your country?
- What's your favourite car?
- What do you think of auctions?
- What do you know about Dubai?
- Would you pay a lot of money for a license plate?
- What would you like to buy at an auction?
- What would you do if you had \$15 million?
- What advice do you have for the new plate owner?

Spelling

- don't really take much ocitne
- they may be labauavl
- The oripvesu highest price
- collas say it might be difficult
- for the person's tdiytien to remain a secret
- many drivers will be aaewr
- The cash will go to a yhaitrc
- The cuontia house
- We are dorpu to announce that
- We are ihlltred
- the roedcpse will go directly
- isbstnaleau food aid fund

Answers – Synonym Match

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

Role Play

Role A – Car License Plates

You think car license plates are the best thing to 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): used clothes, smartphones or food.

Role B – Used Clothes

You think used clothes are the best thing to 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): car license plates, smartphones or food.

Role C – Smartphones

You think smartphones are the best thing to 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): used clothes, car license plates or food.

Role D – Food

You think food is the best thing to 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): used clothes, smartphones or car license plates.

Speaking – Auctions

Rank these with your partner. Put the best things to auction at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|----------------------|----------|
| • Car license plates | • Houses |
| • Used clothes | • Art |
| • English books | • Cars |
| • Smartphones | • Food |

Answers – True False

1	F	2	F	3	F	4	F	5	T	6	T	7	T	8	F
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.