

Part 2.
Listening
Script

Speaker 1:

Almost every weekend I head off to a different city to see what I can pick up. I might go to a collectors' fair, or simply scour the junk yards and antique shops. Car boot sales can be a source of treasure too, but that's more the exception than the rule. It's tiring, and of course, I frequently come home with nothing. But from time to time, I find something outstanding and that makes it worthwhile. Over the years I've built up what I consider to be one of the best, if not the best collection in the country.

Speaker 2:

Despite owning what I'm told is a seriously impressive and unique stamp collection, I can't say I'm proud of it or anything like that. I inherited the stamps from my grandfather who collected them all his life. To be honest, if it was left to me, I'd sell the collection tomorrow. But it's a family heirloom and the expectation is that I'll pass it down to my kids at some stage. Until then I'm just its caretaker, I guess. I've shown the stamps to friends occasionally but other than that I never look at them.

Speaker 3

When people see the dolls, their first thought is that they must be for my kids or something. Wrong! These aren't dolls for playing with: these are valuable antiques and I'd rather they weren't handled at all – they retain their value better that way. I've collected dolls all my life. As a youngster, relatives bought them for me and once I was old enough to have pocket money, I started buying my own. I know

they aren't everyone's cup of tea, but they mean the world to me. They've all got names... they're like my family, really.

Speaker 4

If you'd told me 20 years ago that I'd be one of those geeky people who collects things, I'd have laughed in your face. Well, look at me now. Our house is stuffed full of music paraphernalia and I'm not done yet! It's almost become an addiction with me – I buy anything from old vinyl records to concert programmes, from old instruments to general pop memorabilia. Sourcing new stuff takes up a lot of my free time, I must admit, and I know my wife would quite like me to sell the lot. But I can't... I really can't!

Speaker 5

The thing about my collection is that I amass it on a day to day basis – very often without trying! You see, I don't buy old books or paintings; I don't gather phone cards or antiques. I collect jokes and anecdotes. I'm planning to publish them all in a book next year. I dare say it's been done before but, you know, it'll make people laugh. That means everyone can benefit from my efforts and that's got to be a good thing. I see myself as being on a bit of a mission to brighten up people's day!