

Breaking News English.com

Ready-to-Use English Lessons by Sean Banville

**"1,000 IDEAS & ACTIVITIES
FOR LANGUAGE TEACHERS"**

breakingnewsenglish.com/book.html

**Thousands more free lessons
from Sean's other websites**

www.freeeslmaterials.com/sean_banville_lessons.html

Level 5 – 24th November 2025

'Superman #1' copy becomes most expensive comic

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2511/251124-superman-comic-5.html>

Contents

The Reading	2
Phrase Matching	3
Listening Gap Fill	4
No Spaces	5
Survey	6
Writing and Speaking	7
Writing	8

Please try Levels 4 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

X (Twitter)



[X.com/SeanBanville](https://x.com/SeanBanville)

Facebook



www.facebook.com/pages/BreakingNewsEnglish/155625444452176

THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2511/251124-superman-comic-5.html>

A perfect copy of the first self-titled Superman comic has been sold for a world record \$9.12 million. The rare publication was sold by Heritage Auctions. Its vice-president called the record-breaking edition the "pinnacle of comic collecting". He said: "Superman No. 1 is a milestone in pop culture history." He added that the copy is "in unprecedented condition". He was happy that the price reflected that. He was also honoured that his company was entrusted to auction the comic. Superman No. 1 first appeared on bookshelves in June 1939. It started a whole gamut of superhero comics.

The record-breaking copy of Superman No. 1 had been gathering dust in a house for 86 years. Three brothers discovered it covered in cobwebs in their late mother's house. The brothers said their mother was an avid comic collector, and that she had "rare comics somewhere". Half a million copies of Superman No. 1 were initially printed. Mint condition copies are very rare because many people cut off the front cover to use as a poster. Superman No. 1 became the blueprint for today's modern superheroes. The character was a symbol of hope and "doing the right thing".

Sources: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c8e9rp0knj6o>
<https://edition.cnn.com/2025/11/21/style/superman-attic-most-expensive-comic-scli-intl>
<https://www.theguardian.com/books/2025/nov/21/superman-no1-becomes-most-expensive-comic-ever-sold>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2511/251124-superman-comic-5.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. A perfect copy of the first self- | a. bookshelves in June 1939 |
| 2. the pinnacle | b. unprecedented condition |
| 3. a milestone | c. of superhero comics |
| 4. the copy is in | d. of comic collecting |
| 5. He was happy that the price | e. to auction the comic |
| 6. his company was entrusted | f. titled Superman comic |
| 7. appeared on | g. in pop culture history |
| 8. It started a whole gamut | h. reflected that |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. gathering | a. of hope |
| 2. covered in | b. comic collector |
| 3. their mother was an avid | c. right thing |
| 4. Mint | d. to use as a poster |
| 5. people cut off the front cover | e. cobwebs |
| 6. the blueprint for today's | f. condition copies |
| 7. The character was a symbol | g. dust |
| 8. doing the | h. modern superheroes |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2511/251124-superman-comic-5.html>

A (1) _____ the first self-titled Superman comic has been sold for a world record \$9.12 million. The rare (2) _____ by Heritage Auctions. Its vice-president _____ called the record-breaking edition (3) _____ comic collecting". He said: "Superman No. 1 is a milestone in (4) _____." He added that the copy is "in unprecedented condition". He was happy that the (5) _____. He was also honoured that his company was entrusted to auction the comic. Superman No. 1 first appeared on bookshelves in June 1939. It started a (6) _____ superhero comics.

The (7) _____ of Superman No. 1 had been gathering dust in a house for 86 years. Three brothers discovered it (8) _____ in their late mother's house. The brothers said their mother was an (9) _____, and that she had "rare comics somewhere". Half a million copies of Superman No. 1 were initially printed. (10) _____ are very rare because many people cut off the front cover to use as a poster. Superman No. 1 became the (11) _____ modern superheroes. The character was a (12) _____ and "doing the right thing".

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2511/251124-superman-comic-5.html>

A perfect copy of the first self-titled Superman comic has been sold for a world record \$9.12 million. The rare publication was sold by Heritage Auctions. Its vice-president called the record-breaking edition the "pinnacle of comic collecting". He said: "Superman No. 1 is a milestone in pop culture history." He added that the copy is "in an unprecedented condition". He was happy that the price reflected that. He was also honoured that his company was entrusted to auction the comic. Superman No. 1 first appeared on bookshelves in June 1939. It started a whole gamut of superhero comics. The record-breaking copy of Superman No. 1 had been gathering dust in a house for 86 years. Three brothers discovered it covered in cobwebs in their late mother's house. The brothers said their mother was an avid comic collector, and that she had "rare comics somewhere". Half a million copies of Superman No. 1 were initially printed. Mint condition copies are very rare because many people cut off the front cover to use as a poster. Superman No. 1 became the blueprint for today's modern superheroes. The character was a symbol of hope and "doing the right thing".

SUPERMAN SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2511/251124-superman-comic-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about Superman 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.

WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

- a) _____
- b) _____
- c) _____
- d) _____
- e) _____
- f) _____

'Superman #1' copy becomes most expensive comic – 24th November 2025
More free lessons at breakingnewsenglish.com

WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

- a) _____
- b) _____
- c) _____
- d) _____
- e) _____
- f) _____

WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2511/251124-superman-comic-5.html>

Write about **Superman** for 10 minutes. Read and talk about your partner's paper.

[illegible]