Annie Appleseed & Benjamin P. Farmington in

AUCTION ADVENTURES

WITH SPECIAL GUEST AUCTIONEER SCOTT
Ben, What are you doing?
Trying to buy something from an online auction.

Whoa, how does that work?
Ben, where are we?
I am not sure.

You are at a live auction! I heard you ask how auctions work and I figured the best way to explain it, is to show you! So, I brought you here.
This is a Farm Estate Auction. The auctioneer will sell the farm equipment, livestock and then the actual land!

What are all those people doing?

Let me show you!
Whoa, now where are we?

This is an art auction. Ben, you asked what the people are doing. Well, they are bidding, or signaling to the auctioneer that they will pay the price the auctioneer is asking for.
So, all I have to do is hold up this bid paddle to make a bid?

Yes, when the auctioneer sees your bid paddle, they will accept your bid. Meaning you are currently the highest bidder, or willing to pay the highest price.

But then the auctioneer looks at other people, and keeps talking, what is that about?

They are creating competition. Let me show you!
Is this a livestock auction?

It sure is!

The way auctioneers speak is fun and exciting!

How the auctioneer speaks is called a chant, it helps create excitement. Within the chant, you hear numbers which is the dollar amount the auctioneer is asking for in the next bid.
1, 2, 2 and a half, 3, 3 and a quarter

Whoa, this is fun! I hear all the numbers.

These auctions can move very quickly. Creating an environment of fun, excitement and competition. Let’s check out another one!
You can buy cars at an auction too?

Sure can.

What are those two people doing?

At some auctions, an auctioneer will have helpers, called ringmen, to watch all the bidders. The ringmen will turn in bids by yelling or using hand signals to let the auctioneer know when bids are made.
This is so cool!

The ringmen are here to help the buyers feel comfortable. They can answer questions and encourage bidding when the buyer wants to make a bid.

Going once, going twice, SOLD!

What just happened when he said SOLD?
When the auctioneer says ‘sold,’ that means someone has made the highest bid and won the item.

How does he know when to say the item is sold?

When the bidding ends, and no one else is willing to bid higher, the auctioneer will announce SOLD! Then, take the bidder number so they know who the item was sold to.
So, the auction keeps going as long as people are willing to pay more for the item and make a bid.

You’ve got it!

Winning bid goes to bidder number 5628. Thank you for your bid.
What is this?

This is my favorite kind of auction. It is called a benefit or fundraising auction!

What happens here?

All these people are here to purchase items and donate money to a Nonprofit organization. This one is for a cancer research hospital.
Cancer Research Auction

Well, I’ve got to get to work. Would you like to help me?

Yeah!

That would be great!
Welcome everyone! Thank you for coming out tonight to support this benefit auction! We are going to get the bidding started with a ticket package to the Baseball World Series.

3, 4, thousand. 5 and a half, 6... SOLD!