



Bartering is the action of exchanging goods or services without using money. In 2005, a Canadian blogger named Kyle McDonald decided to start a blog (<http://oneredpaperclip.blogspot.com/>) dedicated to his bartering. He began his experiment with a single red paperclip.

After 14 bartering transactions, McDonald was able to trade a movie role for a **house**. Here is the list of all of his trades:

1. On **July 14, 2005**, he went to Vancouver and traded the paperclip for a fish-shaped pen.
2. He then traded the pen **the same day** for a hand-sculpted doorknob from Seattle, Washington, which he nicknamed "Knob-T".
3. On **July 25, 2005**, he traveled to Amherst, Massachusetts, with a friend to trade the Knob-T for a Coleman camp stove (with fuel).
4. On **September 24, 2005**, he went to San Clemente, California, and traded the camp stove for a Honda generator.
5. On **November 16, 2005**, he traded the generator for an "instant party": an empty keg, an IOU for filling the keg with the beer of the holder's choice, and a neon Budweiser sign.
6. On **December 8, 2005**, he traded the "instant party" to Quebec comedian and radio personality Michel Barrette for one Ski-doo snowmobile.
7. **Within a week of that**, he traded the snowmobile for a two-person trip to Yahk, British Columbia, in February 2006.
8. On **January 7, 2006**, he traded the second spot on the Yahk trip for a cube van.
9. On **February 22, 2006**, he traded the cube van for a recording contract with Metalworks in Mississauga, Ontario.
10. On or about **April 11, 2006**, he traded the recording contract to Jody Gnant for a year's rent in Phoenix, Arizona.
11. On or about **April 26, 2006**, he traded the one year's rent in Phoenix, Arizona, for one afternoon with Alice Cooper.
12. On or about **May 26, 2006**, he traded the one afternoon with Alice Cooper for a KISS motorized snow globe.
13. On or about **June 2, 2006**, he traded the KISS motorized snow globe to Corbin Bernsen for a role in the film *Donna on Demand*.^[2]
14. On or about **July 5, 2006**, he traded the movie role for a two-story farmhouse in Kipling, Saskatchewan.

You are going to conduct a similar experiment with bartering. You are going to start with an object of your choice worth than \$50. You have until March 10th to barter your way "up" as far as you can. There must be no cash involved in your bartering. You can use social media or craigslist to find trading partners. Must have at least 1 verifiable trade. Check last page for info.

Bartering Log

Date of Transaction	With who?	I bartered...	... for ...

Note: If you have more than 20 transactions, attach a separate piece of paper to this packet.
***Make sure to take a picture with each of your trading partners. This will be used to complete story board with all of your transactions.

Reflection

1. Explain some difficulties that you had throughout your bartering experiment.
2. Did you ever have any arguments over what was being bartered (i.e. over the fairness, worth, etc.)? If so, please elaborate on what one argument was over.
3. Were there ever any transactions in which you regretted what you had bartered for? If so, explain. If not, what might you try to do if you did regret an item that you bartered?
4. Is trading a cow for a horse of comparable health a fair transaction? If you believe it is, explain. If not, explain why not.

Final portion: Create a timeline/storyboard with all of your trades and pics of your trading partners. Depict what each transaction did for you and how it came about. Attach the communication (post) from social media or craigslist to the board with the picture. Make it engaging and fun to check out.

Instructions for credit:

- 1) This is all due by March 13th.
- 2) Complete all portions of this handout and the storyboard/timeline of trades.
- 3) Each trade must have a pic of the person you traded with, and account of what was traded, and a printout/display of the communication between the parties (text or email)
- 4) Value of first item must be under \$50, or check with Mr. B if you have something you really want to start with that is greater than \$50. Goal should be to make as many trades as possible.
- 5) You are encouraged to use sites other than craigslist to help conduct trades. Do a google search for trading sites. If you make trades in person (i.e. with friends) they must also be depicted the same as others. I will only allow one trade with someone you already know.
- 6) Max extra credit is 16 points. 2 points per trade you make and chronicle. If you go above 8 trades, you will not get more points, but may get some cool stuff.

Have fun and be safe. Make sure you take a friend or parent with you when making a trade.

By chance if you end up with a long board surfboard I might buy it off you at the end ☺

Contact Mr. B with any questions.

B