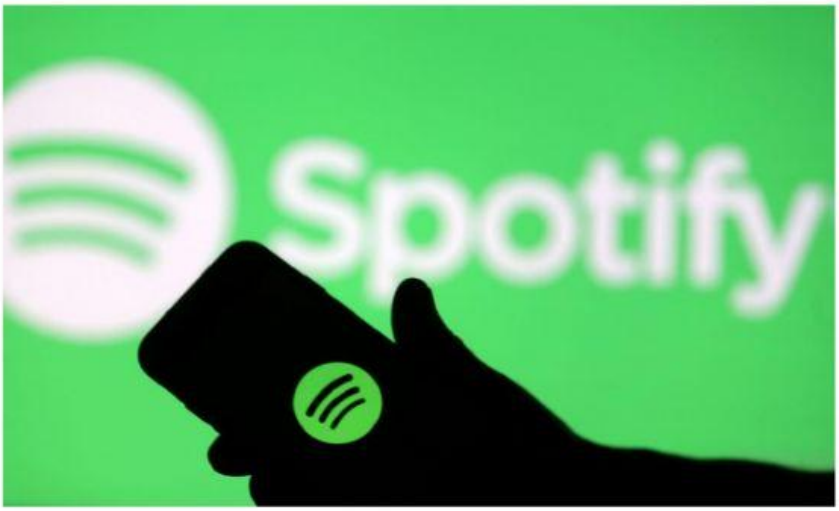
Reading 2

Skills:

- Details
- Make inferences
- Identify referents
- Understand negative facts
- Understand language function
- Understand the author's purpose
- Understand vocabulary in context

Getting started: How do you listen to music nowadays?

SPOTIFY



Spotify is a popular audio streaming service that launched publicly in Europe in 2008 and has since expanded to most major markets, including the United States, Canada, and Australia. It's primarily known for its music streaming service, which lets you listen to tunes from major labels on the Spotify apps by downloading an official Spotify Music app for your iOS or Android smartphone or tablet, Windows 10 device, Mac OS computer, or your Xbox One or PlayStation 4 console. If you don't want to download the app, you also have the option of using Spotify on the web. Spotify is

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also supported on Samsung Smart TV, Android TV, Amazon Fire TV, Roku and Google Chromecast, in addition to Sonos, Amazon Alexa, Google Home, Denon, Bose, and Chromecast Audio smart speakers. Some car models also feature Spotify Music streaming connectivity.

Spotify is a completely legal way to stream music online and listen to podcasts. The company licenses tracks from major and minor record labels for its large music library and pays the rights holders an undisclosed amount based on the number of times people listen to each track. Listening to music on Spotify is completely free, but you see **banner ads** within the official apps and hear the occasional audio ad between songs. If you want to remove ads, you can pay for Spotify Premium, a paid membership that removes all advertising from the apps, enables song downloading for offline listening, and more.

Using the free version of Spotify is a completely legitimate option for most people who enjoy streaming music and **don't mind** the occasional commercial playing between songs. Nevertheless, Spotify Premium **does** have a few benefits you may find appealing such as improved audio quality, no ads, and offline listening. Spotify Premium costs $9.99 a month while the Spotify Premium for Students option costs $4.99 a month. If you pay for the Spotify Premium service, you can download songs for offline listening. Unfortunately, there's no way to download just an individual song by itself. A song can only be downloaded as part of an album or playlist. To download a playlist on Spotify, for example, open **it** and select the Download switch. The entire playlist should now download to your smartphone or tablet.

On Spotify, you can also follow other users to see what they're listening to. If you use the Windows 10 app, you can see a live feed of what all your friends are listening to in real-time, which makes the listening experience much more social.

To use the streaming service, you need to create a Spotify account, which is very simple. You can do this by tapping Sign Up Free after opening the Spotify app on your mobile device, or via the account creation page on the Spotify website. To create an account, you need to enter a valid email address, an account password, a username, your birthday, and your gender, or you can **sign up** with your Facebook account. The entire process takes just around a minute to complete. After that, you will be ready to enjoy hours and hours of great music in just one place.

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Adapted from https://www.lifewire.com/what-is-spotify

Glossary:

- **Banner ads**: A banner ad, or a web banner, is an advertisement displayed into a web page. The advertisement consists of an image (.jpg, .png, .gif) or of a multimedia object (usually created using Flash). Thus, banner ads can be static or animated, depending on the technology used to make them.
- **Sign up**: Sign up is the action of creating an online account using an e-mail address or a username and password. The online account is usually for a website or web-based service

Answer the following questions:

1. What is stated about Spotify in paragraph 1?
    a. It was created in Canada.
    b. It can be used with several devices.
    c. It only works if you download the app.
    d. It is mainly popular among Android users.

2. What can be inferred about musicians in paragraph 2?
    a. They consider Spotify is an illegal app.
    b. They only get money from premium users.
    c. They occasionally remove their songs from the app.
    d. They receive money every time someone listens to their songs.

3. What is said about banner ads in paragraph 2?
    a. They can be removed by paying a subscription.
    b. They cost Spotify a lot of money.
    c. They can also be downloaded.
    d. They are played every time a song finishes.

4. The author uses the phrase **don't mind** in paragraph 3 to
    a. explain that commercial songs aren't frequently enjoyable.
    b. emphasize how users can have a great time using the app.
    c. indicate most people don't understand how the app works.
    d. state that for some people listening to ads is not a problem.

5. What is the function of the word **does** in paragraph 3?
    a. It has an emphatic use.
    b. It is an interrogatory word.
    c. It is acting as a verb.

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d. It replaces the word *make*.

6. What is NOT a benefit of paying Spotify premium?
   a. You don't have to listen to commercials.
   b. The sound in the premium version is so much better.
   c. Songs can be downloaded to your computer music library.
   d. You don't need online connection to listen to certain songs.

7. The word **it** in paragraph 3 refers to
   a. switch
   b. album
   c. playlist
   d. Spotify

8. What is stated about creating a Spotify account in paragraph 5?
   a. You can open an account only if you have a valid email.
   b. The registration process on Spotify is really easy.
   c. The complete process lasts for hours and hours.
   d. You need to download the app to be able to register.

What do you think?

Do you use Spotify? Why(not)? Is there any other music app you use?

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