

1. Complete the sentences with the words from the box.

record	habit	composer	popular	violin	musician
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- 1) Most teenagers prefer to listen to _____ music.
- 2) It has become _____ a for me to wake up at the sounds of my favourite music in the morning.
- 3) They say he is a very talented _____ and soon will give a solo concert.
- 4) Can you play a _____ of this wonderful song once again, please?
- 5) The sounds of the _____ were so beautiful that people stopped in front of the musician and tears appeared in their eyes.
- 6) The music of this _____ is known all over the world.

2. Read the text and decide if the statements below are true or false.

Antonio Stradivari

Antonio Stradivari is a famous Italian violin maker who created instruments that are still considered to be the finest ever made. The new styles of violins that he developed became the basic design for all modern versions of the instruments.



There is no exact information about the date of Antonio's birth. It is supposed that he was born in 1644 in Cremona, Italy. Antonio Stradivari was a student of a well-known violin maker Nicola Amati, whose instruments were very popular at that time. While following Amati's basic design for violins, Stradivari started experimenting with improvements in tone and design of the instruments. As a result, his violins had more powerful sound than earlier instruments and musicians from other towns began to buy them. The fame of Antonio Stradivari grew. The years from 1700 to 1720 were the greatest for Stradivari's career and this period is considered to be his «golden period».

Some violins of that time have developed individual identities and reputations. Stradivari's most famous violins are «Betts» (1704), which now is in the United States Congress Library; «Alard» (1715) and «Messiah» (1716), the violin that Stradivari never sold and now it is in the best condition of any other of his surviving instruments. Beside violins Stradivari made guitars, harps, violas da gamba and mandolins. He continued producing instruments on his own until his death at the age of 93 on December 18, 1737. It is estimated that Stradivari produced 1,116 instruments of which 960 were violins. Around 650 instruments survived, including 450 to 512 violins.

- 1) We don't know the date when Antonio Stradivari was born.
- 2) Antonio Stradivari lived in Europe.

- 3) Nicola Amati was a student of Antonio Stradivari.
- 4) The «golden period» of Stradivari is before 1700.
- 5) The violin «Alard» is now in the United States Congress Library.
- 6) Stradivari produced violins and other musical instruments.
- 7) During his life Antonio Stradivari produced 1,116 violins.