

READING

Elvis Presley came from a very poor family. He was born on 8 January 1935 in Mississippi. Elvis loved music. He went to church every Sunday and sang in the choir. When he was 13, his mother bought him a guitar. Elvis wanted a bicycle, but it was too expensive. In the same year Elvis and his family left Mississippi. They moved to Memphis, Tennessee.

One day in 1954 he went to a recording studio called Sun Records. He wanted to make a record for his mother's birthday. The secretary at the studio, Marion Keisker, heard Elvis and she told her boss, Sam Phillips.

Elvis was Sam Phillips' dream – “a white boy with a black voice”. Phillips became Elvis's manager and Elvis made his first single – “That's all Right, Mama”. When disc jockeys played it on their radio stations, American teenagers went wild. Many American parents didn't like Elvis. He was too sexy.

In 1955, Elvis appeared on TV in New York. The following year he went to Hollywood and made his first film “Love Me Tender”. In the next two years he had many hit records – “Blue Suede Shoes”, “Heartbreak Hotel”, “Teddy Bear”.

In 1958, Elvis joined the American army and went to Germany. When he returned to the United States in the early 60s, pop music was not the same. British groups like the Beatles and the Rolling Stones were the new stars.

Elvis was a millionaire, but he was a very lonely man. In his last years he became fat and depressed. He died of a heart attack on 16 August 1977 in his mansion at Graceland, Memphis. But for millions of fans, Elvis is still the king.

Vocabulary: *suede* - замшевый

mansion - великий особняк

I. Put the following sentences in the correct order.

- | | |
|----------|--|
| 1) _____ | a) He joined the army. |
| 2) _____ | b) Elvis had a heart attack. |
| 3) _____ | c) Elvis Presley moved to Tennessee. |
| 4) _____ | d) Presley made his film “Love Me Tender”. |
| 5) _____ | e) He went to Sun Record studio. |

II. Say if the statements are true or false.

- _____ 1) Elvis Presley came from a very rich family.
- _____ 2) He went to Hollywood in 1956.
- _____ 3) His family left Mississippi and moved to the other country.
- _____ 4) In 1958 Elvis joined the American army and went to Canada.
- _____ 5) His first film was "That`s all Right Mama".

III. Answer the questions based on the text.

1) Why didn`t Elvis` mother buy him a bicycle?

1) _____

2) Why did he go to a recording studio called Sun Record?

2) _____

3) What was the name of his first single?

3) _____

4) Why did he die?

4) _____

IV Answer the following questions.

- What`s your favorite kind of music?
- Who is your favorite singer?
- Can you play any musical instruments? Which one?