

# THE PERFORMING ARTS

Read the text below and choose the word that best fits the gap.

In the past, British children were frequently encouraged to try out their performing skills for the (1)\_\_\_\_\_ adults. They did this by reading aloud, acting or (2)\_\_\_\_\_ a musical instrument. As they (3)\_\_\_\_\_ up they were taken to public places of entertainment - the theater, opera, circus or ballet. They looked forward to these (4)\_\_\_\_\_ with great (5)\_\_\_\_\_ and would remember and discuss what they had seen for many weeks afterwards. But nowadays television and computers (6)\_\_\_\_\_ an endless stream of easily (7)\_\_\_\_\_ entertainment, and children quickly accept these marvelous (8)\_\_\_\_\_ as a very ordinary part of their everyday lives. For many children, the sense of witnessing a very (9)\_\_\_\_\_ live performance is gone forever.

But all is not lost. The (10)\_\_\_\_\_ of a TV set may have encouraged a very lazy response from (11)\_\_\_\_\_ in their own homes, but the (12)\_\_\_\_\_ of those with ambitions to become performing artists themselves does not seem to have been at all diminished. And live performances in public are still relatively (13)\_\_\_\_\_ albeit with an older, more special audience.

