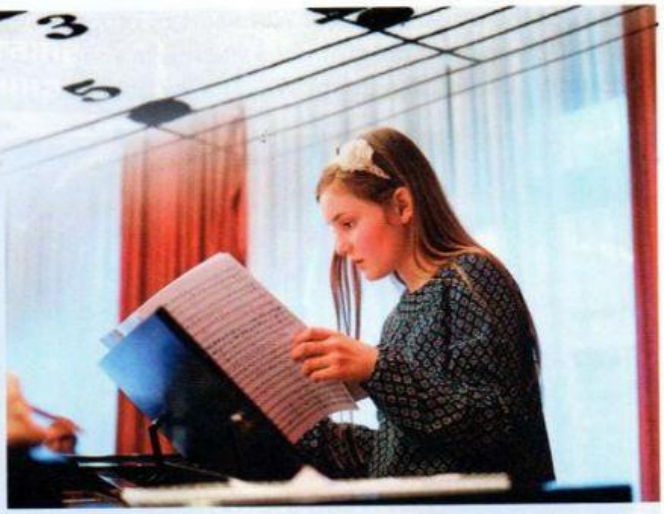


Alma Deutscher – the new Mozart?

Alma Deutscher is like many other girls of her age. She loves reading and spending time with her friends. But Alma has done something that most other thirteen year-olds haven't done: she's written an opera. The opera is based on the story of Cinderella, and Alma started writing it when she was only eight years old! A group of opera singers performed it on stage for the first time just before her twelfth birthday. 'I'm very proud,' says Alma. Now she hopes to take her opera around the world, so that more people will hear it.

Alma has always been interested in music. She started playing the piano when she was two years old, and the violin when she was three. At the age of four, she composed her first tune. Where do her musical ideas come from? Sometimes they come to her in her dreams, and she also has a very special inspiration – her 'magic' purple skipping rope. When she plays with it, music and ideas appear in her head, says Alma.

So what are Alma's plans for the future? At the moment she's writing a book, and then she's going to write the music for a film. A lot of people have called her 'the new Mozart' after the famous Austrian composer. He wrote his first pieces at the age of five. What does Alma think about that? 'I love Mozart,' says Alma, 'but I'm going to be like Alma, not Mozart.'

1 **Read the text quickly. Who is the girl in the photo? Why do some people call her 'the new Mozart'?**

2 2.58 **Read and listen to the text. Circle the correct answer a, b or c.**

1 Alma doesn't like doing the same things as other teenage girls.
a Right (b) Wrong c Doesn't say

2 Alma has written a book about Cinderella.
a Right b Wrong c Doesn't say

3 Her opera is famous around the world.
a Right b Wrong c Doesn't say

4 Alma is better at playing the piano than the violin.
a Right b Wrong c Doesn't say

5 Alma sometimes gets ideas for music when she is asleep.
a Right b Wrong c Doesn't say

6 In the future, Alma is going to visit Austria.
a Right b Wrong c Doesn't say

7 Alma doesn't like Mozart.
a Right b Wrong c Doesn't say

3 **Look up the highlighted words from the text in the dictionary.**

4 2.59 **Complete the texts with the words highlighted in the text. Then listen and check.**

Paul McCartney [1]*composed* the famous Beatles song *Yesterday* in less than a minute. He woke up with the [2]_____ in his head! It was very successful and Paul McCartney was very [3]_____ of it! Today, it's one of the most popular songs of all time.

The Lion King is a famous musical. It is [4]_____ the animated film of the same name. Actors first [5]_____ the musical in 1997. Today, more than 90 million people have seen the story of Simba and his horrible uncle, Scar, [6]_____.

5 **Can you think of other young people who became famous when they were children or teenagers? Are they still famous?**

Miley Cyrus became famous as an actress. She's still famous, but now she's a singer.

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