



**1 Skills**

# ONE DIRECTION

With 61 number-one songs and albums worldwide and millions of fans on Facebook and Twitter, One Direction are one of the most successful bands to emerge from the UK and Ireland in recent years. So it's strange to think that in July 2010, members Louis Tomlinson, Niall Horan, Zayn Malik, Harry Styles and Liam Payne didn't know each other. They were contestants on the UK TV singing competition *The X Factor*, but they all wanted to be solo singers, not in a band.

*The X Factor* judges thought the boys were good singers, but not as solo artists. They saw their potential as a band and put them together. The boys worked well together immediately and Harry chose the name, One Direction. They didn't win the competition, taking third place instead, but it wasn't long before they were famous all over the world.

Today One Direction are busy with two world tours and three albums behind them. The film about them, *This is Us*, appeared in cinemas in 2013 and they even have their own perfume, *Our Moment*. But it's not all about fame for the boys. They do a lot of work for charities, too, and in interesting ways! Louis Tomlinson plays football for a professional team to raise money and in 2013, Zayn and Niall sold their pyjamas for a British children's charity!

## Reading

**1 Read the text. Are the sentences true or false? Correct the false sentences.**

- One Direction have 61 fans. False. They have millions of fans.
- One Direction are an American band.  
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- The boys didn't know each other before *The X Factor* competition in 2010.  
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- The judges thought they weren't a good band.  
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- They won the competition.  
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- One Direction do world tours.  
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- There aren't any films about One Direction.  
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- Louis Tomlinson does sport for charity.  
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