

STARTING IN THE MUSIC BUSINESS

DO YOU WANT TO PLAY IN A BAND, OR BECOME A FAMOUS SINGER OR SONG-WRITER?

Read on to find out how!



Pete

1 I'm a singer-songwriter. I give concerts at a local club. Everyone likes listening to my music and wants to buy a CD. What can I do next?



Shona

2 Hi, I play in a band with some friends from school. The others aren't serious about music, but I am. Help! Do I stay with the band or find other musicians to play with?



Spark

3 I'm 15 and a rapper. I record my songs and put them online. I get lots of hits! But I live in the countryside and there are no gigs here. It's too far for me to travel to the city. What can I do to become famous?



A

Why not make a music video too? Then it doesn't matter where you live. Ask your parents or someone from school if it's okay, and they can show you how to do it. Then you can upload the video to a social network like YouTube or Instagram. That's how Shawn Mendes became famous!

B

You already write and perform your own songs. Great! Next step: record an album using computer software and post it online. You don't need a record deal. College courses are a really useful way to learn how to do this, and can give you other ideas too. Ask at your school.

C

Music is an important part of your life. Stay with your friends for the moment but think about going to a music school. These schools teach music and everything you need to know about becoming a musician. Talk to your parents about it. Good luck!

Are the sentences right (✓) or wrong (X)?

- 1 Pete sells CDs of his songs at his concerts.
- 2 Pete needs to make an album with a record company.
- 3 Shona is more interested in music than her friends are.
- 4 Shona needs to change school as soon as possible.
- 5 Spark lives a long way from the city.
- 6 Spark doesn't need to perform live for people to hear his music.

Read the text about a famous theatre school.
What kind of people study at the school?

A FAMOUS THEATRE SCHOOL

Do you love singing, acting or dancing? At a theatre school, young people learn how to become actors, dancers and singers. There are many theatre schools in the UK. One of the most famous is the Sylvia Young Theatre School in London. Children aged between 10 and 16 go there. There are about 250 students at the school. Famous students from the past include the singers Leona Lewis and Dua Lipa.

At the Sylvia Young Theatre School students study the same subjects as students at other secondary schools, like maths, history and science. Students also take the normal school exams at 16. They do these school lessons on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Then they do dancing, singing or acting classes on Thursdays and Fridays. There aren't any lessons on Saturdays or Sundays. You can also study at the Sylvia Young Theatre School in the holidays, and they do classes for adults, too.



Read the text again. Are the sentences right (✓) or wrong (X)?

- 1 There aren't many theatre schools in the UK. _____
- 2 There are 350 students at the Sylvia Young Theatre School. _____
- 3 Twelve-year-old children can study at the Sylvia Young Theatre School. _____
- 4 Students study maths at the Sylvia Young Theatre School. _____
- 5 Students learn how to sing, dance and act on Saturdays. _____