

GE8 UNIT 9 MUSIC 1A

A. LISTENING

You will hear five different people describing different **unusual musical instruments from around the world**. For questions **19-23**, choose from the list **A-H** which **speaker's instrument best fits the description given**. Use the letters only once. There are three extra letters which you do not need to use.

A It is entirely made of wood.	
B It is similar to a guitar.	19 Speaker 1
C It is played by blowing through it.	20 Speaker 2
D It is difficult to transport.	21 Speaker 3
E It can no longer be made.	22 Speaker 4
F It serves another purpose.	23 Speaker 5
G It can only be found in Japan.	
H It is entirely made of rosewood.	

B. USE OF ENGLISH

1. Complete the following sentences using **what/ that**:

_____ he's saying is not true. Don't trust him.

Did she say _____ everything she played was composed by her brother?

Let's look at the news and see _____'s been happening around the world.

_____ was so nice of you! Thank you so much!

I thought I'd told you _____ must be done to impress the couple.

_____ a fabulous gown! I'm sure you'll be the most beautiful girl at the prom tonight.

Everything _____ you saw that night was just a complete illusion.

Do you agree with _____ they've just explained?

_____ a difference the government has made!

_____ I like about the ensemble is _____ everyone is so friendly.

2. Match the beginnings to the endings to form complete sentences:

- | | | | |
|---|---------------------|---|-----------------------|
| a | Can you tell me how | 1 | when the gig starts? |
| b | How | 2 | does the gig start? |
| c | I wonder what | 3 | has everyone gone? |
| d | Do you know | 4 | the story ends? |
| e | I wonder where | 5 | did they buy for her? |
| f | When | 6 | they bought for her. |
| g | Where | 7 | everyone has gone. |
| h | What | 8 | does the story end? |

3. Rewrite the TWO SENTENCES as ONE using a PARTICIPLE CLAUSE. There's an example:

There are some people in the street. They're making a terrible noise.

→ There are some people **making a terrible noise in the street.**

You can hear birds in the trees. They're singing.

The people won't be allowed to enter. They have arrived late.

There is a man at the door. He is waiting to see you.

I saw a dog in the park. It was chasing a ball.

There were some children in the playground. They were playing loudly.

C. READING - Read and choose the correct answer:

Choosing a musical instrument

Many people would like to learn how to play a musical instrument, but they are put off by one big problem: what to play? Here are a few questions to help you decide.

What kind of music do you like?

Many instruments are versatile, but some are more suited to certain types of music. Although there is some classical repertoire for the saxophone, for example, people associate it more with jazz, and it is not a permanent feature of many orchestras. Some instruments may lend themselves better than others to the music you like, so consider this before you start.

Do you want to play with other people?

Think about your long-term future as a musician. If you want to play with other people, what sort of instrument would be most practical? The initial attraction of playing a dazzling solo instrument like trumpet, violin, flute or lead guitar might fade when you realise how many other people are competing with you to get the main part with the same instrument! If you want to play rock music, there will always be a demand for bass players or drummers, and if you fancy being part of an orchestra, the bassoon is a great bet to make sure you are always needed.

Where are you going to practise?

Many people live in flats and practising the drums, for example, will drive your neighbours crazy. Think about where and when you are going to practise, as well as the patience of the people you live with or near. Electric versions of instruments like the piano, drums, guitar and even violin give you the option of playing into the night using headphones, while your housemates sleep in peace. Alternatively, you may need to consider going to a school or a community centre to practise.

1. **Many people think about learning a musical instrument but don't because ____.**
 - a. they haven't got enough time to practice
 - b. they don't know which instrument to choose
 - c. they can't afford to buy an instrument
 - d. they think it will be too difficult

2. **If you play the saxophone, ____.**
 - a. you can't play classical music
 - b. there might be fewer opportunities to play classical music
 - c. you can easily play in an orchestra
 - d. you should only play jazz

4. **Playing a popular solo instrument ____.**
 - a. is the best way to get into a band
 - b. is only for people who are really confident
 - c. means you will always perform on your own
 - d. can be a drawback if you want to play with others

5. **Electric instruments _____.**
 - a. are too noisy if you live close to other people
 - b. can't be played at night
 - c. are best for public performances
 - d. are a good idea to avoid disturbing other people

6. **Guitars _____.**
 - a. are normally relatively cheap
 - b. are only for buyers with big budgets
 - c. start quite cheap and go up to very expensive
 - d. are worth paying more money for

7. **Before choosing an instrument you should _____.**

How much money can you spend?

This is quite a big factor. A lot of instruments can be purchased in different price ranges, for example, guitars. But this doesn't alter the fact that many, such as the piano, are always pretty expensive. If you can't afford your chosen instrument, will you be able to borrow someone else's or hire one?

Are there any physical limitations?

If you're small and don't like lifting heavy objects, you won't want to carry around a double bass. Apart from that, use your common sense, and don't let your perceived physical shortcomings put you off. Who says small slim people can't play the tuba? It's true that some wind instruments require a lot of lung power but with the right coaching, everyone can develop the right technique.

Still not sure?

Talk to people you know who already play instruments. They might even let you try theirs. It's also a good idea to find an experienced music teacher, preferably one who plays a few different instruments, who can give you some advice and push you in the right direction.

- a. consider the size and weight of the instrument
- b. avoid wind instruments if you are small and slim
- c. reflect on your physical limitations
- d. make sure you have the correct technique