

A

Musical taste*

People's **taste in** music is different. I like **pop music**, my brother likes **folk music** [music written and played in a traditional style], and my dad prefers **classical music**.

My brother and I like going to concerts to see groups **perform** [play] live [in front of a large group of people, called an **audience**; pronounced to rhyme with *five*].

My dad just listens to music at home; he isn't interested in **live performances**.

When I listen to music I am mostly interested in the **tune** [the musical notes], but my brother is more interested in the **lyrics** [the words of a song].

*the type of music that you like

Common mistakes

Classical music (NOT ~~classic music~~)

B

Musical instruments and musicians

C

People in music

A **composer** is someone who writes music, usually classical music.

A **songwriter** is someone who writes songs, e.g. Paul McCartney, Adele, Ed Sheeran, Chris Martin.

A **conductor** is someone who stands in front of an **orchestra** [a large group of musicians who play different instruments] and **conducts** [leads] them.

An **opera singer** is someone who sings **opera** [a play in which the words are sung].

A **ballet dancer** is someone who dances in a **ballet**.

A **solo artist** is someone who sings or plays music but is not part of a group, e.g. Beyoncé, Jay-Z, etc.

Famous **groups/bands** are The Arctic Monkeys, U2, etc.

D

Making an album

When groups **record** an **album** [put eight or ten songs into one collection] or a **single** [one song], they do it in a **recording studio**. Then, when the album **comes out** [is available for people to buy], it is usually **advertised** in the media [there are **adverts** on TV, online etc.]. Many people **download** their favourite **tracks** [individual songs from an album] or albums from the Internet.

Exercises

44.1 Match the words on the left with the words on the right.

- | | | |
|-------------|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| 1 classical | ☒ | a studio |
| 2 solo | ☐ | b singer |
| 3 recording | ☐ | c music |
| 4 musical | ☐ | d dancer |
| 5 opera | ☐ | e artist |
| 6 ballet | ☐ | f instrument |



44.2 Complete the sentences.

- There was a very big audience for their last concert – nearly 10,000 people.
- I think their new is a great song.
- The new has songs written by other people. It out next week.
- I've listened to a lot of their music but I've never seen them perform
- Their new album was in a studio near my home.
- The band has a new album out and it's being on TV.

44.3 Find five more pairs of words. Why are they pairs?

flute ballet audience album dancing orchestra concert
conductor flautist composer classical music recording studio

A flautist is a person who plays a flute.

44.4 Can you complete this music quiz with words from the opposite page?

- Florence Welch is the main singer and songwriter for her group Florence + the Machine.
- The Berlin Philharmonic is an Herbert von Karajan was the from 1955 to 1989.
- Plácido Domingo and Luciano Pavarotti were both great
- Waterloo* was Abba's first Number 1 hit
- Sergeant Pepper* is the most famous by The Beatles.
- Eric Clapton is a great rock
- Yo Yo Ma is a great classical
- Rachmaninoff is a famous
- Puccini composed such as *La Bohème*.
- Who was the very famous artist who sang *Thriller*?

44.5 Over to you

Answer the questions. If possible, ask someone else the same questions.

- What music do you like? Is your taste in music different from your parents'?
- Who's your favourite solo artist, group or composer?
- What was the last single or album you bought or downloaded?
- When was the last time you heard or saw a group or orchestra perform live?
- Are you usually more interested in the tune or the lyrics of a song?
- Do you play a musical instrument? What do you play?