Harry Mack

British singer Harry Mack started his career in a boy band called Big Time, *but he left last year to start work on his own album. We met him in California to ask him about his new life.*

Do you like California?
Yes. The weather's always warm and sunny and the people are great. But the thing I really love is that I can see the sea from my apartment and listen to it while I'm lying in bed at night.

How did you get ideas for your new album?
I did 150 concerts last year with *Big Time*, so I was on buses and planes a lot. There wasn't much to do on those journeys, except think about music. When I arrived at the hotel late at night, I often had something in my head.

Do you like writing songs?
Yes. I write every morning at home, because there's less noise then, and I can think. In the afternoons, I practise the new songs on my guitar for a few hours.

Has your music changed since you left *Big Time*?
Yes. *Big Time* did dance music, but I'm older now and so are my fans. I want to do music that's right for the age we are now. The fans all love it.

Do you enjoy playing concerts?
I always feel a bit scared before playing, it doesn't matter if the concert's big or small. However, my favourite is smaller concerts because I like chatting with fans before I start. It's like being in a room full of friends.

14 What does Harry like best about being in California?

A living by the water

B spending time in the sun

C meeting new people

15 Harry says he got ideas for his new album

A when he was playing concerts.

B when he was travelling.

C when he was sleeping.

16 Harry says that song writing is

A more fun than playing the guitar.

B harder to do at home.

C easier when it is quiet.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

17 Harry says that since he left *Big Time*

A he feels happier.

B he has got new fans.

C his music is more adult.

18 Why does Harry prefer playing small concerts to big ones?

A He can meet his fans.

B He can see all his friends there.

C He feels less afraid before playing.

Emma's camping trip in Namibia

Last summer Mum and I went camping in Namibia. It was my first time camping and my first visit to Namibia. My mum already knew the country. As a teenager she went travelling there with a cousin, and she always planned to go back one day. I knew Namibia was in Africa, but I had to check online to see exactly where.

The campsite was beautiful, with a big swimming pool. Campsites usually have showers, but when we got there, we found that this one had a real bath – I couldn't believe it. Also, we didn't need to make our own meals because there was a camp chef who cooked for us in an outdoor kitchen.

I was always tired in the evenings and I couldn't wait to get into my little camp bed. Every night I lay there listening to all the animals. They were really noisy, so it wasn't always easy to sleep. However, hearing them was one of the best things about the holiday.

We also saw a lot of animals. One day we found a lion family and stopped to watch them. Unfortunately, they were sleeping in long grass by a tree, and I couldn't get any good photos of them. They didn't look scary but our guide didn't let us get close.

It was a fantastic holiday and I loved camping. Now I know how much fun it is, I think I'll try it in my own country with some friends, maybe as soon as next summer.

14 Why did Emma's mum choose Namibia for their holiday?

A She wanted to visit it for a second time.

B She had a cousin who was from there.

C She saw a travel website about it.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

15 When they arrived at the campsite, Emma was surprised by

A the kitchen.

B the bathroom.

C the swimming pool.

16 What does Emma say about the nights?

A Her bed was not very comfortable.

B She enjoyed listening to the animals.

C She slept well because she was tired.

17 How did Emma feel when she saw the lion family?

A afraid because they looked dangerous

B upset because she didn't have her camera

C sorry because they were hard to see

18 What did Emma write in her diary about her holiday?

A 'I enjoyed camping with Mum, but I'd like to go with friends next time.'

B 'I loved watching the wild animals, but camping is hard work.'

C 'I'd like to try camping again, but in a warmer place.'

LIVEWORKSHEETS