

Reading

Level: Intermediate; Time: 10 min

Read statements 1-6 and the text that follows them. Establish the correspondence between the statements and the content of the text. Write the number 1 if the statement is correct, the number 0 if the statement is incorrect. Enter your answers in the table.

- 1 *Elvis Presley's family were quite rich.*
- 2 *Elvis's first hit record and first film were made in the same year.*
- 3 *Elvis had a brother who lived longer than he did.*
- 4 *John Lennon never saw his mother after the age of five.*
- 5 *John Lennon and Paul McCartney both played in The Quarry Men.*
- 6 *John Lennon died a few years after Elvis Presley did.*

Elvis Presley was born into a working class family in Mississippi in 1935. Although there was never much money, his family was very close and went to church together. The music he heard there had a big influence on his future sound. Elvis recorded his first songs in 1953, but it wasn't until January 1956 that he produced his first hit, *Heartbreak Hotel*. In August of that year, he also filmed his first movie, *Love Me Tender*. He would go on to make 33 films and sell over 500 million records around the world.

Despite this enormous success, there was also tragedy in Elvis's life. He had a twin brother who died at birth and his mother died at the young age of 46. He himself suffered a heart attack and died in 1977, aged just 42.

Born in 1940, John Winston Lennon was brought up by his Aunt Mimi. His father left his mother when John was five and his mother, Julia, didn't feel able to look after him. They kept in touch, though, and it was in fact Julia who taught him to play banjo, starting one of the most amazing careers in pop music. Lennon went to art college, although he left before finishing the course to concentrate on his music. He had already formed a group called The Quarry Men and they performed at various places in Liverpool. Lennon was introduced to Paul McCartney, who joined the band. They changed the name of the band a few times, finally settling on The Beatles by 1960.

The band became very famous and had 20 number one hits in America. They introduced a serious, poetic side to pop music and influenced many performers. Various artistic differences led to the group splitting up in 1970.

Lennon continued to make music on his own and with his wife, Yoko Ono, until he retired in the mid-70s to spend more time with his family. He started to make music again in 1980 and had released a new album, *Double Fantasy*, when he was shot and killed by a fan in December of that year. He was 40 years old.

1	2	3	4	5	6