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mixes and **manipulates** the rhythms and **beats** using different creative methods. Although the style **varies** depending on the DJ, the result is usually a high-energy sound that's perfect for dancing.

The term *DJ* comes from the words *disc* and *jockey*. The word *disc* refers to a vinyl record. Records may seem old-fashioned to people who download music from the Internet, but many DJs today still use them to spin. At a club a DJ might mix on a computer, a tablet, a turntable or any combination of the three.

DJs don't just work at clubs. They play at events, such as weddings and birthday parties. DJs also play and discuss music on a podcast or at a radio station. In fact, DJs have been on the radio for more than a century. The very first DJ, Ray Newby, was only 16 when he played music on a small radio in 1909. Over the years, radio DJs chose what music to **expose** audiences to. Hearing their own songs on the radio brought musicians **satisfaction**. More importantly, a DJ playing your song was an indication that **fame** was on the way!

Today, DJs themselves are international stars. For example, Dutch-born DJ Tiësto **gained recognition** performing at the 2004 Summer Olympics. By 2012, he was earning millions of dollars a year. Some DJs use their fame to be **influential**. For example, DJ Spooky composed the *Terra Nova/Sinfonia Antarctica* to raise awareness about environmental issues. This is not your typical symphony. This music mix is the portrait of a continent threatened by climate change. For DJ Spooky, being a DJ is more than just playing music – it's about making others think!

Music is an essential part of many people's lives. Whether it's live or recorded, music is a **means of entertainment** to almost everyone. But for musicians, music is about more than just enjoyment: it's a form of **self-expression**. When we think of creating music, we think of the **composers** who write music and **lyrics** and the **performers** who play these songs. But a different kind of musical self-expression has become popular over the last few decades: being a DJ. A DJ chooses and plays pre-recorded music for an audience. He or she