

REVIEW WRITING

Practice 1: Vocabulary for Music Review (Level 1)

Match the vocabulary definitions (a-h) with the vocabulary (1-8).

1.b... catchy	a. moving quickly
2. a melody	b. easy to like and remember
3. bitterness	c. a song or tune
4. fast-paced	d. the feeling of being angry at the world
5. fundamental	e. to feel inspired by something, making you act or behave like it
6.chart-topping	f. a basic part of life
7.to channel something	g. strongly or fanatically devoted admirer
8.die-hard fan	h. selling the most copies of a song or album in a particular week

Practice 2: Writing a Music Review (Level 2)

Fill in the blanks with correct answers to complete the music review

A sample of music review (Advanced C1)

is ruined.	bitterness	catchy	rock	die-hard
fundamental	top	relevant	best-selling	extraordinary

I'm certainly not alone with my choice of favourite album. In fact, Bruce Springsteen's *Born in the USA* has sold 30 million copies worldwide since its release in 1984. Nearly 30 years later, in 2013, Springsteen performed the complete album in concert to the delight of some of his many _____ (1) fans.

A fast-paced, foot-tapping _____ (2) album, *Born in the USA*'s lyrics nevertheless carry emotional weight. Behind the _____ (3) rock melodies that drive these powerhouse classics are stories of the dark side of the American dream. Many tracks deal with the struggles of hard-working ordinary people and the _____ (4) and anger they feel as life doesn't bring them riches or glory. The song *Glory Days*, for example, is about people in a small town looking back at when they were young and had the world at their feet while *Downbound Train* tells the story of a young man whose life

_____ (5) when he loses his job. It's not hard to imagine that the artist is channelling real people he knew and the life he might have had if he hadn't become a star. The album will leave you in no doubt of the unique and _____ (6) talent of the Boss.

Unlike many other _____ (7) album artists, Springsteen is still releasing chart-topping, stadium-filling new music and remains at the _____ (8) of his game in his late 60s. It doesn't surprise me at all. This is a man who tells us our most _____ (9) stories about ourselves and, when you listen to *Born in the USA*, those stories are as _____ (10) today as they ever were. This album definitely deserves a rating of 9/10.