

SINGING

Read the text and answer the questions.

Imagine if everyone in your street suddenly came out into the road one day and started singing together. Singing teacher Ruth Black believes it would make everyone so friendly that they would never walk past each other again without saying hello.

Singing helps people live in peace together, she says. All over the world people have always sung together and in most places, they still do, but in England, it is no longer traditional. Nowadays, says Ruth, people only sing together in churches and football games, although it could be done anywhere. Everyone is able to sing, she says, but most of us either think we can't or have forgotten what we learned as children.

However, as with everything musical, you need to practice and the same applies to your voice. Ruth believes that singing itself brings other benefits. It encourages good breathing, for example. Through singing, people often become more confident and also learn to control stress. But more than anything, it brings people together.

When Ruth first studied singing, there was little opportunity to sing with others. Then, through a friend, she discovered an excellent singing class and became so keen that she started running her own classes. These are held twice a month for all singers, whatever their level, and are now enormously successful.

1 What is the writing trying to do in this article?

- A explain why singing has become less popular everywhere
- B describe a teacher's ideas about the importance of singing
- C advertise a teacher's singing classes.
- D encourage children to learn to sing.

2 What can the reader find out from the article?

- A how singing is something anyone can do.
- B where the best places to learn to sing are
- C why traditional singing has disappeared.
- D how to improve your singing voice.

3 Ruth believes the main benefit of singing with other people is that

- A you learn to breathe more easily
- B you are able to improve your speaking.
- C you can get to know other people
- D you become a confident musician

4 What made Ruth start her own class?

- A She couldn't find a suitable class.
- B She was asked to teach people she knew.
- C She wanted to improve her own teaching.
- D She enjoyed going to a singing class herself.

5 Which is the best advertisement for Ruth's singing classes?

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| A | CALLING ALL SINGERS!
Want an opportunity to sing with others? We need professional singers to join our group. Come along. |
| C | SING WITH US
Think you can't sing? See how you improve with practice! Our popular class is for singers both with and without experience. |

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| B | THE SOUND OF MUSIC
Our class wants individual singers for a neighborhood street concert. Come and join us. |
| D | SONGS FOR ALL!
Can you sing? Try our "Singing for everyone" class every week and find out! Make new friends! |

