

- 1) YOU ARE GOING TO READ TWO TEXTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE ARTS. READ THE TEXTS AND CHOOSE THE CORRECT OPTION.

GLASTONBURY FESTIVAL SCRAPPED

It has become an essential fixture of the British summer, as important as Wimbledon and more popular than Henley or Ascot. But while these will take place, this year hundreds of thousands of music lovers must forgo their traditional summer celebration, for the Glastonbury festival has been scrapped due to safety concerns.

Just over 30 years after the first festival was held at his farm in Pilton, Somerset, Michael Eavis announced he was cancelling the weekend concert. He is facing prosecution by the local council after more than 15,000 people sneaked into last year's event, which was already full with up to 100,000 ticket holders.

Glastonbury is a victim of its own popularity, cancelled because it was simply too popular. Strangely the more festivals appear the more unusual Glastonbury seems: an event not driven wholly by corporate sponsorship, but by an individual's passion for music and a sense of community. It is many years since it was free, but even now profits go to charities such as Greenpeace instead of into the organiser's pocket.

- 1) Wimbledon, Henley and Ascot are probably
- A. All names of other music festival.
 - B. Names of seaside resorts.
 - C. People who organize festivals
 - D. Places hosting well-known events.
- 2) The Glastonbury festival differs from other festivals in that
- A. It is sponsored by business.
 - B. It frequently fails to take place.
 - C. It is not motivated by profit.
 - D. It is more popular than the others.
- 3) Why is the Glastonbury festival described as "essential"? (Line 1)
- A. Because it is more popular than Henley or Ascot.
 - B. Because people who organize the festivals are famous.
 - C. Because it is in summer.
 - D. Because nobody liked it.

Rocking IN THE RAIN

It's high noon in Finsbury Park. Already thousands of Fleadh revellers have gathered, ready to brave the threat of a serious soaking. The promise of some good music is packing the crowds in anyway. In the Mojo tent I catch a glimpse of *Cousteau* – impassioned vocal delivery but slightly cabaretting pop. Zipping back to the main stage we catch the *Alice Band*, fronted by three female vocalists. The harmonies are beautiful but the songs are bland. Now comes the first of the bands that I am awaiting with eager anticipation. People are all stoked up for the *Afro-Celt Sound System*, and rightly so. This is a passionate set of pure percussive frenzy. The crowd begins to heave and gyrate to their glorious textured rhythms, and the sun even breaks through the clouds for a few golden moments. Next it's *Starsailor* ... the sky is rumbling and threatening to burst. Soon it's pelting down incessantly, real heavy rain, almost like a tropical storm. *Starsailor* play a set that holds the crowd, they are definitely a band to watch but that's not really possible now, unless you are willing to get soaked. I give in and run to the shelter of the Mojo tent. Muddy and bedraggled in a tent packed to the rafters with other mud refugees – the full-on festival experience is going on here ...

1) The writer seems to have

- A. A very positive reaction to all the music.
- B. An uncritical reaction to the music.
- C. An apathetic attitude to the bands.
- D. No reservation at all about one band.

2) The bad weather

- A. Means the festival will be cancelled.
- B. Has little effect on the success of the festival.
- C. Causes some bands to stop playing.
- D. Makes people muddy and unhappy.

3) What does the writer mean by the phrase "the full-on festival experience is going on here"?
(Line 21-22)

- A. Means that the fans did not enjoy the concert because of the rain.
- B. Means the concert was postponed.
- C. Means that people enjoyed the rest of the concert muddy and bedraggled in a tent.
- D. Means there were thousands of people.

(Texts and exercises taken from *UPSTREAM Proficiency Students book page 129*)