

# Use of English

## GEORGE GERSHWIN

George Gershwin, who was born in Brooklyn in 1898, (0)  one of the world's most popular composers today. He lived and worked in the perfect era for his unique talent to (1) . It was at a time when the Jazz Age coincided with composers like Berg, and the first Broadway musicals. Although a gifted pianist, he had only basic reading skills in music, but due to his regular attendance at concerts, he was able to (2)  up his own repertoire. In 1924, Gershwin worked with his brother Ira on a musical comedy called *Lady Be Good*. This proved to be a successful (3)  that continued for the rest of his life.

George Gershwin was determined to (4)  an impression as a serious composer, which he also achieved in 1924. At its New York premiere, one of his most famous (5) , *Rhapsody in Blue*, received wild applause from an audience that included musical celebrities such as the Russian composers Rachmaninov and Stravinsky. Gershwin (6)  this success with innovative orchestral works such as *An American in Paris* and, in 1935, the memorable opera *Porgy and Bess*.

No one has been able to match Gershwin's ability to write original works that (7)  the boundaries of jazz, opera and classical music and his (8)  on modern music has been enormous. Sadly, Gershwin died at the early age of 38.

0 A remains    B keeps    C stays    D continues

1 A become    B develop    C result    D invent

2 A grow    B pull    C move    D build

3 A company    B teamwork    C pair    D partnership

4 A make    B get    C put    D take

5 A writings    B exercises    C designs    D compositions

6 A brought    B followed    C adopted    D led

7 A enter    B split    C cross    D carry

8 A power    B direction    C control    D influence

