

LISTENING:

ELVIS PRESLEY

Link:

https://www.linguahouse.com/esl-lesson-plans/general-english/elvis-presley/audioplayer/elvis_bemp3

1. Listen to the recording and choose the best option to complete the sentences.

1. Elvis came from a large family / was an only child / never knew his real parents.
2. A music producer at Sun Records recognised his talent after he heard Elvis play an original composition / after he saw Elvis performing in a bar / after Elvis sent him a letter and a recording he had made.
3. The musical style of Elvis' first hit is best described as church music / southern / rockabilly.
4. Elvis met Colonel Tom Parker, who became his manager, in 1958 / 1956 / 1957.
5. Elvis had to take a break from performing because he was in the army / sick from working too hard / didn't have a recording contract.
6. In the 1960s he appeared in over forty-three / thirty / twenty-three films.
7. In 1968, he found that he became more popular after he announced a world tour / appeared in advertisements for cars / made a television programme for the Christmas holiday.
8. When he wasn't performing, Elvis lived in his mansion Graceland / Gracefields / Gracewood.
9. Today, his home is owned by Dolly Parton, the country music star / popular with tourists / falling down.

2. Read the questions. Can you remember the answers? Listen again to check.

1. Describe Elvis' appearance as a teenager.
2. Where did Elvis and his first band learn the blues and country music songs that they played?
3. How did people in the south of the US get to hear his music?
4. What important thing did Colonel Tom Parker do for Elvis?
5. What important personal events took place for Elvis in the 1960s?

6. Where did Elvis put on a series of successful performances in the late 60s and early 70s?
 7. What was the problem with his lifestyle in the 1970s?
 8. What did Elvis do for black music?
3. There are thousands of phrasal verbs in English, and we use them in everyday speaking. Read these sentences from the recording and choose the correct preposition to complete the phrasal verbs. The meanings of the items are given in brackets.
1. Sam Phillips ... asked Elvis to come **in / to** for an audition. (attend a meeting after being invited)
 2. He offered Elvis a contract and put **up / together** a three-piece band for him. (organised)
 3. Their popularity took **out / off** in the southern states ... (became very popular quite quickly)
 4. As the hits kept **on / up** coming, he changed over to a more rock and roll sound ... (continued without stopping)
 5. However, in 1958, Elvis was drafted into the army and gave **out / up** performing for a couple of years. (stopped doing something completely)
 6. Between 1969 and 1976, he also put **on / over** hundreds of shows in Las Vegas, with tickets regularly selling **off / out**. (performed in / selling until none were left)
 7. His diet was poor, and he put **on / up** weight. (gained, increased in)
 8. He passed **away / out** from a heart attack at home in 1977. (died)
 9. Many people all over the world were very sad and found it difficult to take **up / in** the news of his death. (understand)
 10. Stories that he hadn't really died carried **on / out** in the media for years. (continued)