

## Reading Comprehension.

### Read the text and complete the activities

#### *Learning a new skill*

Hi, I'm Matthew. Last year I decided to learn how to play the guitar. My friend lent me his old guitar and I started to look for a teacher. I didn't have much money, so I looked on the Internet and found some websites with free lessons. They were really good! I practised every day for about an hour and after a few months I could play some songs.



Then my friend asked me if I wanted to join his band. I was very excited. I went to their next rehearsal and it was great. But after a few weeks, the singer left and the band stopped. I was disappointed but I didn't stop playing. I started to write my own songs and put them on the Internet. I got a lot of positive comments from people all over the world. Now I'm in another band and we're recording our first CD. It's a dream come true!

I think learning to play a musical instrument is a bit like learning a language. You need to practise every day and you need to listen to other people. When I started to play the guitar, I listened to a lot of music and copied what I heard. Then I started to write my own songs and now I have my own style.

So, if you want to learn a new skill, here are my tips:

- 1- Look for free lessons on the Internet. There are lots of great teachers out there who can help you.
- 2- Practise every day, even if it's only for ten minutes.
- 3- Listen to other people.
- 4- Be patient. Don't expect to be perfect straight away. Remember that everyone makes mistakes.
- 5- Have fun! Learning a new skill should be enjoyable, not just hard work.

I hope my tips help you. Good luck!

#### **1) TRUE OR FALSE. Read and decide whether the sentences are true or false:**

1. Mathew decided to learn how to play the guitar many years ago. **TRUE - FALSE**
2. He bought a new guitar and immediately found a teacher. **TRUE - FALSE**
3. Practising every day for about an hour helped Matthew to play songs after a few months. **TRUE - FALSE**
4. His friend invited him to play in his band. **TRUE - FALSE**
5. He wasn't interested in joining the band. **TRUE - FALSE**
6. The band stopped after the singer left a few weeks later. **TRUE - FALSE**
7. He was devastated and stopped playing immediately. **TRUE - FALSE**
8. He began composing their own songs and sharing them online. **TRUE - FALSE**
9. Matthew received negative feedback from people in the local area. **TRUE - FALSE**
10. He is not longer involved in music. **TRUE - FALSE**

**2) MULTIPLE CHOICE. Read the questions and choose the correct answer.**

1. What did Mathew's friend lend him? \_\_\_\_
  - A. A keyboard
  - B. A drum kit
  - C. An old guitar
  - D. A new guitar
2. How long did he practise the guitar each day? \_\_\_\_
  - A. 10 minutes
  - B. 30 minutes
  - C. 1 hour
  - D. 2 hours
3. What happened when he joined his friend's band? \_\_\_\_
  - A. They became very famous
  - B. The singer left and the band stopped
  - C. They made their first CD
  - D. They had a lot of rehearsals
4. What did Matthew start to do after the band stopped? \_\_\_\_
  - A. He started learning a new instrument
  - B. He stopped playing the guitar
  - C. He started writing his own songs
  - D. He gave up on music
5. What is the best way to learn a new skill according to the passage? \_\_\_\_
  - A. Get an expensive teacher
  - B. Practise every day
  - C. Listen to a lot of music
  - D. All of the above