

(d) Match 1 - 8 with the strongest collocations from i - viii.

1. house	[]	i. listening
2. indie	[]	ii. act
3. easy	[]	iii. album
4. booking	[]	iv. music
5. recording	[]	v. manager
6. studio	[]	vi. contract
7. road	[]	vii. band
8. supporting	[]	viii. agent

(e) Now use the completed phrases from (d) to fill in the blanks below. Use each phrase once only.

1. They were a top draw for this pub for many years, so it seemed a no-brainer to make them the official _____.
2. The _____ was, in my opinion, actually more entertaining than the headline band.
3. These guys are great; I can't wait until their first _____ is released next weekend.
4. What they play is more _____ than mainstream pop. Even so, they've built up a large fan base.
5. He's the king of _____; I can't think of any artist I'd chose over him if I just want to put my feet up and unwind.
6. The _____ has got us an extra gig on Sunday on account of how well the last one went down.
7. As _____s go, she's right up there with the best of them; she makes sure everything runs smoothly but you'd hardly even know she was there from beginning to end of tour.
8. They've somehow bagged a million-dollar _____ with Sony, despite the fact that they have yet to even have a top-ten hit.

The Critics and Reviews

(a) Chose an appropriate word from the box to complete each gap. Use each word once only.

lauded	authentic	compelling	amplify	frenetic	groundbreaking
interwoven	ensemble	hype	abysmal	virtuoso	finale
consensus	incoherent	acclaim	unanimous	unparalleled	suspense

1. The film has thus far met with almost universal _____, with many describing it as a modern-day masterpiece and director Cloud Bond's finest moment.
2. The _____ that surrounded the launch of Mile Down is about the best thing this film ever had going for it - this is a truly _____ dramatization of one of the most significant moment's in our nation's history.
3. This is a essentially two stories expertly _____ by the author into one utterly _____ novel.
4. _____ as one of the most successful remakes in cinematic history, fans of the original will love this film as director Willheim Nording has stayed true to the story here on almost every possible level while somehow creating something refreshingly original and new.
5. I would go along with the _____ on this one; while Yardie has punched above its weight at the box office and supplanted Maori Wave in the number-one position, it is at best lightweight and mediocre, and the director has played it very safe here.
6. This movie steams along at a _____ pace. It is full of _____ and the director produces some truly intense, edge-of-seat moments in the lead up to and during the big _____.
7. Stevens is _____ as an actor in his generation, and only he could have delivered the _____ performance the role of this particular protagonist demands.
8. Both the leading actor and director have received _____ praise for their parts in this production, praise which this critic believes is entirely justified, for it is rare indeed for two artists at their peak to _____ one another's gifts so brilliantly.
9. While hardly _____ in the sense that it sticks to tried and tested special effects methods, this film is technically brilliant and possessed of an _____ feel of which so many of its recent cinematic counterparts have been bereft.
10. The plot is largely _____ and there is more talent in my right thumb than is possessed by the entire _____ that makes up this sorry cast.