

MUSIC

MEM EDUCATION CENTER

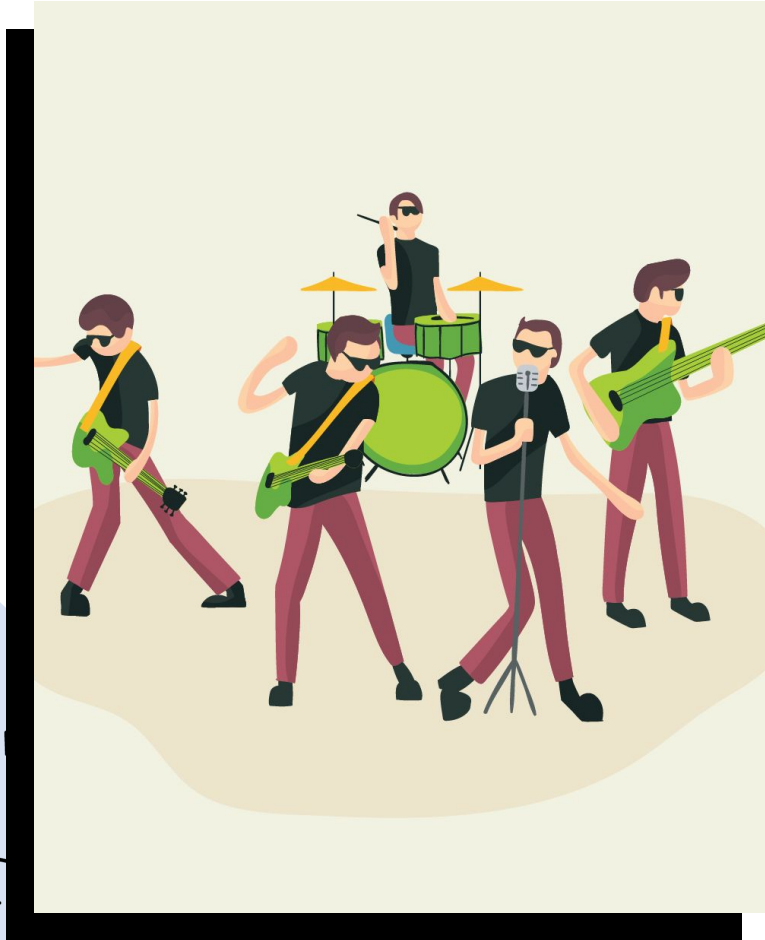
BASIC

- Music (uncountable noun) /'mju:zɪk/

What kind of music do you like?

- ✓ 'I like many types of music'
- ✓ All sorts
- ✓ Many different genres
- ✓ You name it, I like it





VOCABULARY

Musician (n. person) /mju:ˈzɪf.ən/

- Amateur musician
- Professional musician
- I wouldn't consider myself a musician, but I do play a bit.

Musical (adj.) /ˈmju:zɪ.kəl/

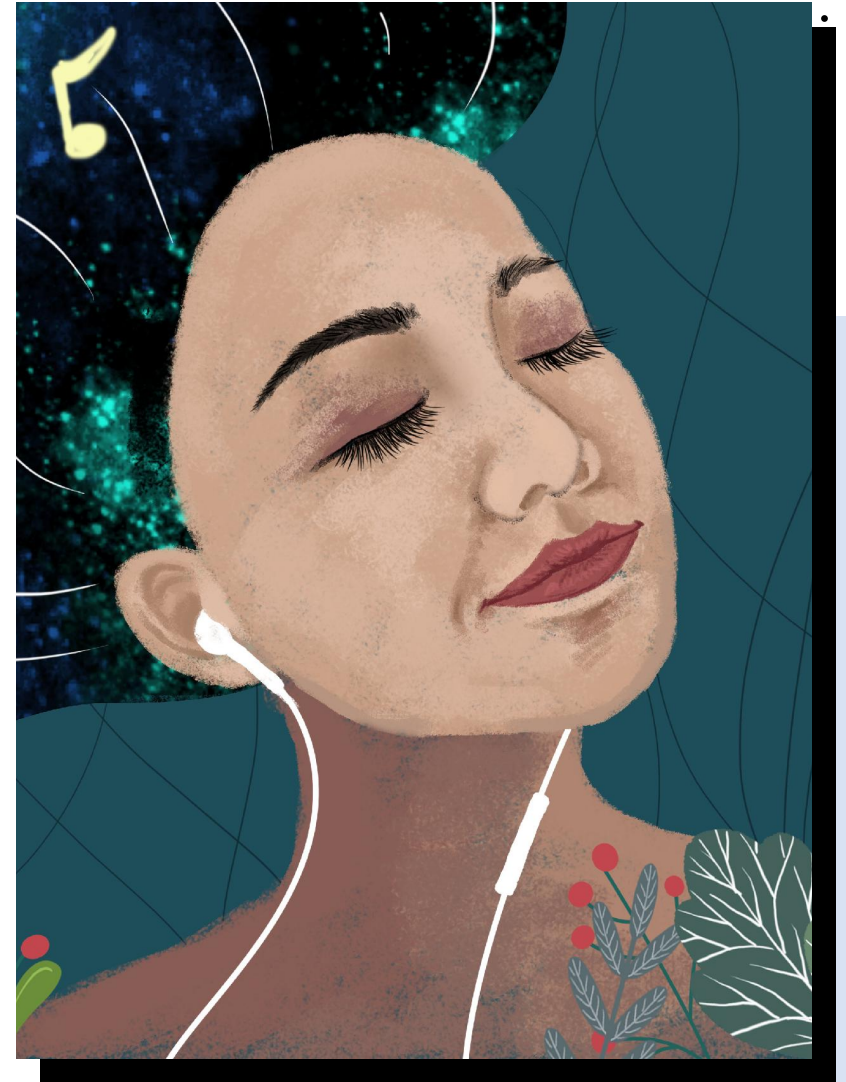
- A musical instrument
- A musical family
- I'm a musical person, I play the piano and guitar.

A musical (n.) = a show with music and singing

- A Broadway musical
- *Phantom of the Opera* was a hit musical.

COLLOCATIONS

- Play music (usually play an instrument but could be listening to music).
- Put on music (in the background)
- Listen to music
- Read (sheet) music
- Write music
- Compose music (formal)



CONTEMPORARY GENRES

pop	– popular music; music liked by a broad range of the population
rock	– music that is based on amplified instruments, especially the electric guitar and electric bass, and characterized by a strong bass line and strong rhythms
rap	– a type of music in which the words are not sung but are spoken in a rapid, rhythmic way
folk	– traditional music which included songs written a long time ago and new songs written in the old style
blues	– African-American music that expresses grief or sorrow about injustice and a longing for a better life
jazz	– a style of music that is generally loud and rhythmic, where the musicians often make the music up as they go along
country	– a form of popular music originating in the rural southern US. It is a mixture of ballads and dance tunes played characteristically on fiddle, banjo, guitar, and pedal steel guitar



TYPES OF INSTRUMENTS

□ String

□ piano, harp, guitar, violin, cello, mandolin

□ Brass

□ trumpet, trombone, horn, tuba

□ Woodwind

□ flute, oboe, clarinet, bassoon, saxophone

□ Percussion

□ drums, rattles, gongs, castanets, xylophone



LIKES

- *I am a big fan of jazz*
- *I am really into blues*
- *I am one for pop*
- *I'm a die-hard fan of rock*
- *I can't get enough of classical music*
- *I really dig electronic music*
- *I am passionate about reggae*



DISLIKES

- *I hate musicals*
- *I can't stand musical dramas*
- *I can't bear listening to this song*
- *I can't be doing with* sugar-coated love songs
- *I have no taste for jazz music*



TO DESCRIBE MUSIC

- Fast tempo/ Upbeat/ Groovy
- Soft/ Soothing/ Relaxing
- Poetic/ Lyrical
- Piercing/ Chaotic
- Warm/ Heartfelt
- Harmonic/ Bright
- Monophonic
- Emotional/ Melodramatic
- Lively/ Vigorous/ Cheerful
- Melancholic/ Gloomy
- Rhythmic/ Cadenced
- Catchy/Singable
- Uplifting/ Inspirational
- Dissonant/ Cacophonous
- Dynamic/ Progressive
- Nostalgic/ Rejuvenating



VOCABULARY

- **easy listening:** a type of music not complicated, but pleasant to listen, not need much of your attention
- *When I get home in the evening, I put on some easy listening to help me relax after a busy day.*
- **background music:** music that is playing while something else is happening
- *My friend likes to have background music on while she's studying but I need a quiet place to work.*
- **traditional instruments:** a type of instrument that has been played for many generations or that was popular in the past, often unique to a country or region
- *A sitar is a traditional Indian musical instrument.*
- **to take up** (a musical instrument): to begin learning a musical instrument
- *I'm going to take up the guitar.*
- **to read music:** to understand and follow written musical notes
- *I'm so glad I learnt to read music when I had piano lessons as a child.*
- **have a knack/ a talent/ a flair/ an aptitude for:** to have a natural ability or skill to be at something
- *He realised he had a knack for picking up tunes really quickly.*



VOCABULARY

- **vocals:** a part of a piece of music that is sung
 - *My parents met in a band. Dad was a guitarist and Mum sang vocals.*
- **foster:** to encourage the development or growth of ideas or feelings:
 - *I'm trying to foster an interest in classical music in my children.*
- **renowned:** famous
 - *He became a **renowned** recording artist, collaborating with big names in the music industry.*
- **see something in a new light:** see it in a new way
 - Influenced by conversations with other parents, my mom began to see music in a new light.*
- **pay off:** to give good results
 - Years passed, and Liam's talent and hard work paid off.*
- **sense of accomplishment:** to feel like you've achieved something you can be proud of
 - *Bernie felt a real sense of accomplishment at passing his Grade 2 flute exam.*



IDIOMS

- To **face the music** = to face a difficult situation you have created
If she lied to me, then she'll just have to face the music.
- To **play** a song **by ear** = to play it without sheet music, just by listening and repeating
He never learnt to read music; he just plays songs by ear.
- I **can't do** something **for toffee** = I am really bad at it (*always in negative*)
I can't sing for toffee / I can't play the piano for toffee
- It's **going for a song** = cheap
I'm going to buy this television in the sale, it's going for a song.
- To **blow your own trumpet** = to boast and say you are the best.
I don't like Tom; he is always blowing his own trumpet.



IDIOMS

- **To belt out a tune** = to sing a tune with vigour / loudly
Jack is a great singer, yet he can really belt out a tune.
- **Can't** do something **for peanuts** = I can't do it at all
I can't sing for peanuts.
- It **runs in the family** = Everyone in the family is good at it.
I love singing, it runs in the family.
- To **carry a tune** = to sing well
Don't ask me to sing, I really can't carry a tune.
- To **change your tune** = to change your idea/mind
Why are you watching Netflix? I thought you didn't like TV, it seems you've changed your tune.
- It's **music to my ears** = I'm pleased to hear that



PART 1

- *What types of music do you like to listen to?*
- *Are there any kinds of music that you dislike?*
- *Do you ever go to music gigs?*
- *Have you ever been in a music group or a band?*
- *Does your country have a traditional type of music or dance?*
- *Do you play any instruments?*
- *Have you got any musical hobbies or interests?*



PART 1

- *How much time do you spend listening to music every day?*
- *What kinds of music are popular in your country?*
- *Do you ever listen to music at work?*
- *Is there an instrument you would like to learn to play?*
- *Do you like listening to the music on a regular basis?*
- *Have you ever been interested in singing?*
- *Can you say that music is a very important part of your life?*



PART 2

Describe a song you like to listen to.

You should say:

- what the piece of music is called
- how long you have liked it
- when you like to listen to it
- and say why you like it so much.

Now, have a look at the card and prepare a monologue.



PART 2

Describe a musical instrument you would like to play.

You should say:

- what the instrument is
- how you would learn it
- what sort of music you would play with it
- and explain why you would choose it.



PART 2

Describe your favourite music group or band.

You should say:

- what group or band it is
- what type of music they play
- how long you have been listening to their songs
- and explain why you like this music group or band.

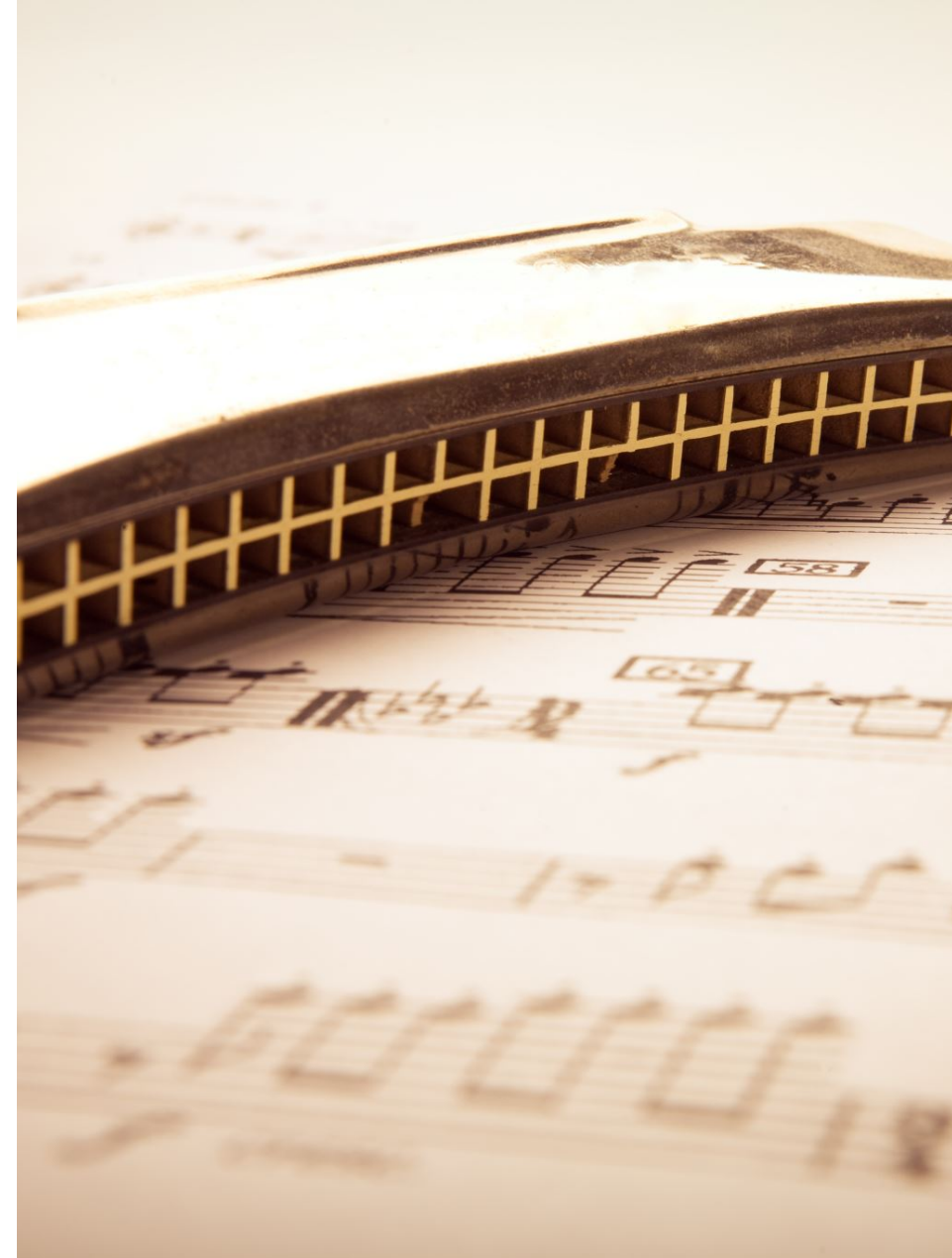


PART 2

Describe the role that music plays in your life.

You should say:

- what type of music or musical activities you enjoy
- how often you listen to music or play music
- what effect music has on you
- and explain why music is important or unimportant to you.



PART 2

Describe a musical event in your country.

You should say:

- what the event it was
- where it took place
- what kind of music was played
- and explain why you enjoyed it.



PART 3

- *Is it important to listen to music with other people?*
- *Why do you think older and younger generations prefer different types of music?*
- *Do you think that music should be a compulsory subject in schools?*
- *Do you think music is getting better as time goes on?*
- *Where do you think, people enjoy listening to music the most?*
- *Is it better to go to a live concert or to listen to a CD?*
- *Do you like the same music as your parents?*
- *Is the Internet a good or bad thing for the music industry?*
- *Should music be treated as seriously as subjects like maths or sciences at school?*



PART 3

- *Where do people usually enjoy listening to music?*
- *Should music be treated as seriously as subjects like maths or sciences at school?*
- *Where do people usually enjoy listening to music?*
- *Do you think music has an effect on people's lives? How?*
- *Which is more important to the young generation in your country- music or TV programmes? Why?*
- *Does music have a relation with dancing? How?*
- *Has the type of music people used to like 20 years ago changed? Why?*
- *What changes in terms of young people's choice of music will occur in the next 20 years?*
- *Do you think anyone can be a musician? Why/why not?*





“Music is a higher
revelation than all
wisdom and
philosophy.”

– Ludwig van
Beethoven

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