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it's music

information
+
sample activity



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it's activity books

introduction

IT'S MUSIC contains a collection of teaching activities related to music. All the activities can be used individually or as the basis of a class project.

In IT'S MUSIC students find out which musical instrument is right for them to learn. They then form their own groups, write the lyrics to a song, sign a recording contract, and design the cover of their first album. They go on a world tour, make a music video, and try to find fame and fortune in the music business. IT'S MUSIC also gives your students the chance to create their own song worksheets, write a rap and become a music television VJ.

The book comes with a CD of interactive exercises from the its-english Internet site, audio activities and ready-to-print pages from the book in PDF format.

LEVEL

The material in this book is suitable for different levels. Each activity has a level indicator that includes the COE level.

- A1** Elementary
- A2** Pre-intermediate
- B1** Lower- to mid-intermediate
- B2** Upper-intermediate

CD

On the IT'S MUSIC CD you will find:

- interactive exercises
- audio material
- PDF files of selected pages ready to print



how to use the material

All the activities in IT'S MUSIC are presented in an easy-to-use format. The material to photocopy appears on the right page, while the left page includes an activity key and step-by-step teaching notes. Selected activities can be printed in colour directly from the accompanying CD.

activity key includes

- ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION
- GRAMMAR/VOCABULARY
- LEVEL
- LENGTH OF ACTIVITY
 - short
 - medium
 - long
 - very long
- PREPARATION REQUIRED
- CD ACTIVITIES & PAGES TO PRINT FROM CD
- ANSWER KEY

teaching notes

CHOOSE AN INSTRUMENT 1 of 2 what to do

ACTIVITY

GRAMMAR/VOCABULARY

LEVEL

TIME

PREPARATION

1. Introduction

2. Students read the questions and discuss them in pairs using the key.

3. Explain that they are going to read about different instruments, the advantages and disadvantages of each one and then choose the one they would like to play.

4. Do a role-play exercise. Students read the questions and discuss them in pairs.

5. Students read about the advantages and disadvantages of different instruments and decide if they can be used in their own country.

6. Ask students to write a paragraph about the advantages and disadvantages of a particular instrument.

choose an instrument

If you want to make music, the first thing you have to do is find the right musical instrument. Complete the questions to find out which instrument is right for you.

A. Look at the illustrations of the musical instruments. How many can you identify? Write the names of each instrument in the correct space below.

B. Which of the instruments you have chosen would be the most difficult to learn?

C. Which of the instruments you have chosen would be the most difficult to learn?

D. How many of the instruments do you think you can learn to play without a teacher?

E. How many of these questions do you think you can answer?

F. Write a paragraph about the advantages and disadvantages of a particular instrument.

2

activity number

page to photocopy

activity index

level

1	NAME THAT INSTRUMENT	A2
2	CHOOSE AN INSTRUMENT	B1
3	FORM A BAND	A2
	Create a supergroup	A1
4	PRESS RELEASE	A1
5	U2 CAN HAVE A BODY LIKE MINE	A2
6	RAP	A2
7	WORDS	B1
8	WRITE A SONG	B1
9	SIGN A RECORDING CONTRACT	B1
10	DESIGN AN ALBUM COVER 1	B1
	Read about album covers	
11	DESIGN AN ALBUM COVER 2	A2
	Choose the best album cover ever	
12	DESIGN AN ALBUM COVER 3	B2
	Read about types of album cover	
13	DESIGN AN ALBUM COVER 4	A1
	Create an album cover	
14	MUSIC MIX	
	Name that picture	A1
	Music survey	A2
	Create your CD collection	A1
15	FROM DISC TO DVD	B1
16	COULD YOU ORGANISE A ROCK CONCERT?	B1
17	MY DREAM CONCERT	A1
18	WORLD TOUR GAME	A2
19	IS THERE A DJ IN THE HOUSE?	B1
	DJ collocations	B1
20	COULD YOU BE A VJ? 1	A2
21	COULD YOU BE A VJ? 2	B1
	PMTV music awards	A1
22	MAKE A MUSIC VIDEO	B1
23	THE FAME GAME	A1
24	THE PRESS CONFERENCE	B1
	The comeback	B1
25	20 WAYS TO USE A SONG	B1
26	WHO'S PEPE?	B1
27	NAMES	
	Group names	A1
	Name origins	B2
28	SOUNDTRACKS	A1
29	"AND IN THE END"	A2

activities by level

A1 Elementary

CREATE A SUPERGROUP 3

Create a supergroup with famous singers and musicians

PRESS RELEASE 4

Interview a band member
Prepare a press release

DESIGN AN ALBUM COVER 13

Create an album cover

NAME THAT PICTURE 14

Match words and pictures of music media

CREATE YOUR CD COLLECTION 14

Create your ideal music collection

MY DREAM CONCERT 17

Plan a dream concert

PMTV MUSIC AWARDS 21

Present music awards

THE FAME GAME 23

Play a game to become famous

GROUP NAMES 27

Match words to make names of groups

SOUNDTRACKS 28

Make a playlist of MP3 tracks

CD activities

Name that instrument: Play a game that will test your memory and your instrument vocabulary.

What's playing? Do have an ear for music? Listen and see if you can identify the instruments you hear.

Musicians: Match some legendary musicians with their instruments and musical styles.

Album covers: Who recorded these albums? Select a singer or group.

Write your own song: Use a special technique to create your own song lines.

Frank Sinatra: Sinatra was the first teen pop idol. Finish the titles of some of his best-known songs.

A2 Pre-intermediate

NAME THAT INSTRUMENT 1

Name musical instruments
Describe how to play musical instruments
Listen to and identify musical instruments

FORM A BAND 3

Create a supergroup

U2 CAN HAVE A BODY LIKE MINE 5

Complete sentences using the names of famous artists
Write sentences using song titles

RAP 6

Read about the history of rap music
Practise singing a rap song
Write a rap song

DESIGN AN ALBUM COVER 11

Choose the best album cover ever

MUSIC SURVEY 14

Answer questions in a music survey

WORLD TOUR GAME 18

Play a world tour game

COULD YOU BE A VJ? 21

Create a music video show

"AND IN THE END" 29

Write a short story including Beatles song titles

CD activities

The instrument for you: Use our questionnaire to find out which musical instrument is best for you to learn.

Build an orchestra: Where does a trumpet player sit in a symphony orchestra? Find out here.

The classical quiz: Are you into classical music? Test what you know.

U2 can have a body like mine: Some group names really mean something. Find out if you understand them.

The jukebox: In which year was "Gangsta's Paradise" released? Do a music and history quiz.

B1 Lower- to mid-intermediate

CHOOSE AN INSTRUMENT 2

Name musical instruments
Complete a questionnaire to find out the best instrument for you

WORDS 7

Guess the song from the lyrics
Read and talk about song lyrics
Write song lyrics

WRITE A SONG 8

Read about songwriting
Write some song lyrics

SIGN A RECORDING CONTRACT 9

Read and understand a record contract

DESIGN AN ALBUM COVER 10

Read about album covers

FROM DISC TO DVD 15

Complete the history of recording using key words

COULD YOU ORGANISE A ROCK CONCERT? 16

Put paragraphs about concert tours in order
Design a concert ticket

IS THERE A DJ IN THE HOUSE? 19

Read 10 facts about DJs

DJ COLLOCATIONS 19

Make DJ collocations

COULD YOU BE A VJ? 21

Read about a rock group
Interview a rock star for a TV music programme

MAKE A MUSIC VIDEO 22

Read about making a music video
Prepare a storyboard from lyrics
Prepare a music video

THE PRESS CONFERENCE 24

Identify quotes from a press conference
Role-play a press conference about splitting up

THE COMEBACK 24

Read about comebacks

20 WAYS TO USE A SONG 25

Create a worksheet for a song

WHO'S PEPE? 26

Describe pictures from a song
Read lyrics and put verses in order
Write a verse of a song

CD activities

The big music crossword: Do the amateur and professional crosswords and learn the words you need to talk about the music world.

Kurt Cobain: Reconstruct the biography of Nirvana's lead singer. Then test what you found out.

John Lennon: Complete the story of one of the greatest singer-songwriters ever. Then complete lines from some of his most famous songs.

Alicia Keys: Choose the correct option to continue the text about the life of Alicia Keys.

Sex Pistols: Test your knowledge of the Sex Pistols and then restore some order to the story of the band that invented punk rock.

Eminem: Put the four-letter words back into the life of the world's most famous rap artist.

All shook up: Elvis Presley or David Bowie? Moby or Eminem? See if you know who's who.

B2 Upper-intermediate

DESIGN AN ALBUM COVER 12

Read about and identify types of album covers

NAME ORIGINS 27

Read about the origins of famous group names

ACTIVITY

- Make a playlist of MP3 tracks for different situations

GRAMMAR/VOCABULARY

- MP3 culture

LEVEL

A1

TIME



1. Talk about the different ways people listen to music. How many students have an MP3 player? If they have a player, what do they listen to? How do they get music onto their player?

2. Use the first paragraph of the teaching material as a dictation. Give out copies of the teaching material. Students work in pairs and check their partner's dictation.

3. Tell students they are going to create the soundtrack to their life – a list of the perfect songs to listen to in a number of different situations. They should complete the chart in as much detail as they can. When they finish, get them to tell the rest of the class the songs they chose for each situation and explain why they chose them. Do their lists have any track in common? Is it possible to make a class soundtrack, with one song for each situation that everyone would have on their MP3 player?

soundtracks

The music business is changing rapidly as fewer people buy CDs from shops and more people buy music online. The way people listen to music is also changing. Until recently people bought CDs and listened to them from start to finish on a music system or portable Walkman. Today most people prefer to buy single tracks and listen to them on MP3 players.

With an MP3 player you can listen to music in lots of different situations. This means the music you listen to is like the music soundtrack to a film.

Here's your chance to make a soundtrack to your life. Look at the different situations in the survey and think of a song or a piece of music that's perfect for each situation. Complete the form in as much detail as you can.



The soundtrack to your life survey

Situation	Song	Artist	Album	Genre	Rating
Waking up					☆☆☆☆☆
Travelling by car or train					☆☆☆☆☆
Getting ready for a date					☆☆☆☆☆
Dancing at a club					☆☆☆☆☆
Walking in the rain					☆☆☆☆☆
Doing nothing					☆☆☆☆☆
Singing in the shower					☆☆☆☆☆
Studying					☆☆☆☆☆
Feeling sad					☆☆☆☆☆
Falling asleep					☆☆☆☆☆