

Music Matters

1 Warm Up Work with a partner.

- What kinds of music do you like to listen to? Why?

2 Conversation Practice #1 Practice with a partner.

Scene: Marco sees Erika, his friend, listening to her personal music player.

Marco Hey Erika! What're you listening to?
 Erika Um, Yo La Tengo. They're an American rock band. Have you heard of them?
 Marco No, I don't think so. What are they like?
 Erika They're fantastic. I think you'd like them.
 Marco What's your favorite Yo La Tengo song?
 Erika I like "Don't Have To Be So Sad". The lyrics are great.
 Marco Have you seen them play live?
 Erika Yeah, they were amazing!



3 Comprehension Check Ask and answer these questions with your partner:

- 1) What is the name of the band that Erika is listening to?
- 2) Has Marco heard of them before?
- 3) What is Erika's favorite Yo La Tengo song? Why?
- 4) Did Erika enjoy the concert?

4 Vocabulary #1 Think of some different kinds of music. Fill in the boxes.

Rock		Pop
	Soul	

5 Vocabulary #2 Think of some positive adjectives. Fill in the boxes.

Good		Awesome
	Great	
Fantastic		Brilliant

6 Vocabulary #3 Think of some vocabulary for parts of a song.

Lyrics		Guitar solo
	Drums	
Verses		Vocals

7 Conversation Practice #2 Practice the conversation.

Marco Hey _____! What're you listening to?
 Erika Um, _____. _____. Have you heard of _____?
 Marco No, I don't think so. What _____ like?
 Erika _____. I think you'd like _____.
 Marco What's your favorite _____ song?
 Erika I like "_____". The _____.
 Marco Have you seen _____ play live?
 Erika Yeah, _____.

8 Conversation Practice #3 Practice changing the conversation.

Practice again. This time, have a conversation without looking at the worksheet.

9 Discussion Discuss these questions in groups.

- What is your favorite band or group? Why?
- Who is your favorite singer? Why?
- Who is your favorite musician? Why?
- Can you play a musical instrument?
- Are there any kinds of music that you don't like? Why don't you like them?
- Where do you buy your music? Do you have a favorite store?
- Do you like to listen to music on vinyl, cassette, CD or some other format?
- Do you download music from the Internet? Which sites do you use?
- Do you have a personal music player? Why or why not? If you do, what kind do you have?
- Why is music so important to some people?
- Could you live without music? Why or why not?
- Your ideas!



Music Matters: Teaching Notes

Target Structure:	Vocabulary building / third-person pronouns / discussion
Vocabulary:	Music-related
Level:	Lower-Intermediate, but can be adjusted for other levels
Time:	45 minutes (depending on discussion)
Preparation:	None

Suggested Teaching Method

This worksheet is a great way to review basic tenses, third-person pronouns and more. There are also a number of vocabulary building exercises. If you have students who are interested in music, there are lots of discussion questions at the end, so make sure you leave plenty of time.

- ① Direct students to question one. Students should work in pairs. Don't spend too long here, since the discussion comes mainly at the end of the worksheet.
- ② Set the scene of the conversation. Students should practice the conversation aloud once, and then change roles. Answer any vocabulary questions the students have.
- ③ Students can work alone, and check in pairs.
- ④ } For these three exercises, students can work in pairs or small groups. Go through the answers with the group at the end. The answer key has many suggestions. However, accept anything that is sensible.
- ⑤ }
- ⑥ }
- ⑦ This exercise allows your students to personalise the music conversation by using some of the vocabulary from the last three exercises.
Demonstrate with a confident student. Then place students in new pairs. Encourage eye-contact when speaking.
- ⑧ Follow the instructions on the worksheet.
- ⑨ Maximize student talking time by putting students in pairs, or small groups. Students should read all the questions first, before beginning the discussion.
While the students are speaking, monitor the conversations, but try not to interrupt. When the discussion comes to a close, ask a few of the questions yourself, and go through any points of English you made a note of while monitoring.

The answer key can be found on the next page.

Music Matters: Answer Key

Other answers may be possible.

3

- 1) Yo La Tengo.
- 2) No, he hasn't.
- 3) "Don't Have To Be So Sad", because of the lyrics.
- 4) Yes, she did.

4

Rock	Jazz	Hip-Hop	Electronica	Heavy Metal
Blues	Classical	Ska	Pop	Punk
Reggae	Soul	R & B	Disco	House

5

Good	Wonderful	Cool	Marvelous	Amazing
Stupendous	Beautiful	Great	Magical	Excellent
Fantastic	Superb	Magnificent	Awesome	Brilliant

6

Lyrics	Intro	Instrumental	Verses	Guitar solo
Rhythm	Melody	Drums	Percussion	Tempo
Harmony	Vocals	Ending	Chorus	Bassline

Your Feedback



We're always pleased to hear about how this lesson went for you. Contact us!

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