

Statement 3

While it may have some crazy artists, sometimes bordering on evil, metal is often the fastest and ⁸ of all the genres. This takes the most skill and creativity, and the only thing that matches metal is rock. It can go from your shredder bands to your metal / symphony bands, and if the band isn't screamo, then they ⁹. I don't see the appeal of pop, which tends to be focused on the singer, and I don't see the appeal in rap or hip hop which ¹⁰ a repetitive beat.

Statement 4

Hip hop to me, if performed by the right person, is very creative and can ¹¹ in a cooler way. Everybody is different, and some would oppose my opinion. In all honesty hip hop is ¹², but I still love other kinds of music like pop, jazz and country, especially because of the ¹³ do and the beats they use which they sample from other genres of music.

Statement 5

I'm 16. I'm heavily into music, all kinds, but classical works of great beauty and meaning are ¹⁴. After listening to everything, I've come to agree with the late Maestro Andres Segovia that "the only real music is beautiful music". Rap has been popular, but for me is not ¹⁵. It's just an art form that came out of ghetto culture and for me the singers are not really able to actually sing. Kanye West says it's the rock of the future, but I think rap is dying, simply because more teens are smarter and ¹⁶ real, great music these days.



Get the lyrics of your favourite song from the Internet and design a gap-fill activity for your classmates. Provide a translation of the most difficult words. Don't forget to bring the song for everybody to listen to.

Before you and your classmates listen to the song, give some information on

- the band/singer
- which genre it is
- why this is one of your favourite songs.



Writing

An e-mail to the editor



1 Have a look at the title of the newspaper article that you are going to read and guess what it is about. Take notes in the mind map.



2 Get in pairs and discuss your ideas.



3 Read the newspaper article and underline the most important information.

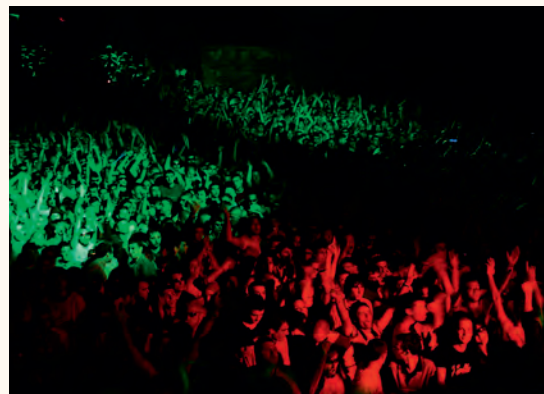
Music festival triggered numerous noise complaints



1 The third annual *West Beach Music & Arts Festival* over the weekend brought an unusually high number of noise complaints. “The 911 system was inundated with complaint calls”, said Sergeant Mike McGrew, who patrolled the festival at the weekend. According to Susan Jang-Bardick, a special events supervisor with the city of Santa Barbara *Parks and Recreation Department*, the festival is allowed to reach a volume of up to 95 decibels.

Until the full report is turned in, she said it would be difficult to know if festival organizers were following this noise restriction. Nevertheless, it was the first time they had got so many noise complaints even though the sound restrictions that had been negotiated with festival organizers this year were the same as in previous years.

Agreement or not, the city received a flood of noise complaints, as it did over the whole weekend, Jang-Bardick said. In fact, when noise complaints poured in on Friday, the festival’s opening day, she said city officials requested the decibel level be dropped to 80. Unfortunately, a telephone message left for a spokesperson at *Twiin Produc-*



tions, the company that organizes and promotes the festival, was not heard in time.

Along with noise, McGrew said he noticed an increase in illegal activity, like underage drinking and marijuana use. No official statistics for arrests were available yesterday, but McGrew called the event the “marijuana fest of the century.” The number of underage drinkers was also tremendously high, he added. McGrew also said that crowds, which were estimated at nearly 15,000 on Sunday, were much larger than in years past.



4

You live next to the area where the *West Beach Music & Arts Festival* took place and want to comment on the newspaper article. State your personal opinion. Use the phrases from the LanguageBox.

In your e-mail say

- who you are and where you live
- why you felt/why you did not feel disturbed by the loud music and the crowds
- whether you think the festival should be cancelled next year or not.

Write about 200 words.

LanguageBox

Dear Sir or Madam

Referring to the newspaper article *Music festival triggered numerous noise complaints* in ... on ... I would like to state my personal opinion.

My name is ... and I live within walking distance of the area where the festival has taken place in the last few years.

I felt/did not feel terribly disturbed by the loud music/by the crowd/by the litter/by the drunk teenagers because/as ...

I really appreciate the opportunity for teenagers in our area to attend this festival as it helps us to make new friends/to have a good time with people our age/to forget about the routine of everyday life.

As a matter of fact, I believe that ...

I am sure that many teenagers can see my point when I say that ...

Therefore, I am completely opposed to the idea of ...

Moreover, the organisers should bear in mind that stricter regulations should be made regarding ...

All in all, the festival should be cancelled/should take place again next year because ...

Kind regards

Please note: How to write an e-mail to the editor

- Start with: *Dear Sir/Madam*
- Pick a topic from the article that you want to comment on.
- Include your main points within the first few paragraphs.
- Present possible solutions to the problem.
- Sign your name and include your phone number and address if required.



5

Get in pairs and discuss the following questions.

- 1 Have you ever been to a music festival? If yes, which one? If not, why not?
- 2 What do teenagers like most about music festivals?
- 3 What are the most famous music festivals in your country?

Speaking

Going to a pop concert

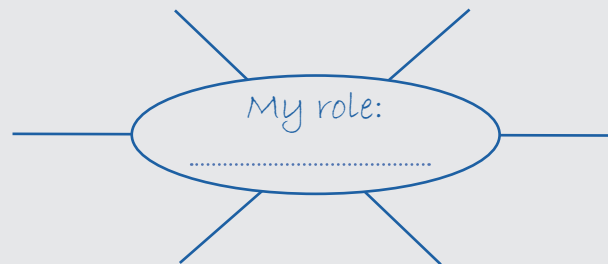
1

Mini-scenario

Get in groups of three. You want to go to a concert of a famous pop star in your area but unfortunately your parents do not want to let you go as they think you are too young.

- One of you is the 15-year-old teenager who wants to go to the concert.
- One of you is the mother who is strictly against it.
- One of you is the father who is willing to discuss the matter.

Before you start the discussion try to find good arguments to support your view. Collect your ideas in the mind map.



2

Now start your discussion. Use the phrases from the LanguageBox to express your view.

15-year-old teenager

I really want to go to the ... concert next weekend / on ... April / in July / ...
It would mean a lot to me because ...
If I am not allowed to go there, ...
I promise to ...

Parents

I can see your point but ...
I do believe that ...
In our view ...
You have to understand that ...
If you try to ...

LanguageBox

Language in use

After he had bought the CD, he enjoyed listening to it.

Trouble-free grammar: Past perfect tense simple (Grammar reference ⇨ p. 185)

The **past perfect tense simple** is used to refer to an **action in the past** that was **completed before another action in the past**.

After he **had bought** the CD, he **enjoyed** listening to it.

When the parents **came** home from the concert, the kids **had** already **gone** to bed.

The music teacher **had marked** the homework *before* Jack **handed** his book in.

After the song **had been released**, it **became** a number one hit in Great Britain.

- 1 Fill in the gaps. Use the past perfect tense simple.

Please note: Mind the word order.

I **had already cleaned** my room when my cousin **arrived**.

Last week I **spoke** to the principal, I **had never done** that before.

- 1 The storm destroyed the tents that we _____ (put up) in front of the stage.
- 2 He _____ (not be) to the *Frequency Festival* before 2015.
- 3 When she started playing the drums yesterday afternoon, she _____ (study / already) for her Biology test.
- 4 My brother played in the orchestra that our mum _____ (be / also) a member of when she was younger.
- 5 I remembered the lyrics that we _____ (learn) the week before.
- 6 Before they went to see the opera festival in Verona they _____ (be) on a sightseeing tour through the city.
- 7 Tina _____ (never / sing) in a karaoke bar until she was eighteen.
- 8 When she _____ (listen) to the CD, she took it round to Angie's to play it for her.

- 2 Decide which past action happened first. Fill in the gaps. Use the past tense simple or the past perfect tense simple.

- 1 Cindy _____ (go) to town before I _____ (arrive).
- 2 Jenny _____ (cannot) go out with me last weekend because she _____ (already / promise) Jerry to go out with him.
- 3 After I _____ (speak) to my best friend about the problem, I _____ (feel) much better.
- 4 Kim's birthday party _____ (go) on for three more hours after we _____ (leave).

- 5 Ms Fuller _____ (not recognise) me because she _____ (only / see) me once.
- 6 Henry _____ (be) very nervous before his date because he _____ (never / go out) with Sally before.
- 7 Before he _____ (can) apologise she _____ (run) away.
- 8 When they _____ (come) home from their holidays, they _____ (notice) that somebody _____ (break) the kitchen window.

3 Biography of *The Beatles*

Fill in the active or passive form of the past tense simple or the past perfect tense simple.

Please note: How to form passive constructions of the past perfect tense simple:

had been + 3rd form of the verb

The music **had been turned up** louder *when* the guests **entered** the party room.



- 1 *The Beatles* _____¹ (be) a British music group whose songs are among the most universally accepted music recordings of the 20th century. Before the *Beatles* _____² (revolutionise) popular music all around the world, they _____³ (be) at the forefront of a movement in rock music known as the *British Invasion*. The *British Invasion* _____⁴ (be) a name referring to the tremendous effect that British rock 'n' roll bands _____⁵ (have) in the United States during the 1960s. *The Beatles* _____⁶ (adore) by the world in the 1960s and 1970s, and even today their music is loved by millions.
- The group _____⁷ (form) in the 1960s, and _____⁸ (break up) in 1970. It consisted of four Liverpool-born musicians, namely John Winston Lennon, James Paul McCartney, George Harrison, and Ringo Starr. After Pete Best _____⁹ (leave) the band, Ringo Starr _____¹⁰ (replace) him as drummer. *The Beatles* _____¹¹ (create) a unique sound that fans continue to enjoy and bands continue to model them-

selves on, even today. One of their greatest albums _____¹² (be) the creative *Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band*.

The *British Broadcasting Corporation* _____¹³ (ban) this song after it _____¹⁴ (release) for the first time because it supposedly had references to drugs. After 10 years of being together, *The Beatles* _____¹⁵ (break up) in 1970.

When McCartney _____¹⁶ (realise) that each member was getting tired of the band and becoming busy with their own lives, he tried to bring the magic back and the other members _____¹⁷ (think) he was being too bossy. John Lennon, who was involved with Yoko Ono at the time, _____¹⁸ (walk) into the studio one day and told everyone he wanted a "divorce", meaning he _____¹⁹ (want) out of the band. Finally, they all just _____²⁰ (give up), and *The Beatles* _____²¹ (separate). Although *The Beatles* are no longer a band, their music lives on. They have touched the world, and their music is immortal.

Reading



- 1 Get in pairs. Have a look at the phrases in the VocabBooster taken from the text below and guess their meaning. Use a dictionary if necessary.

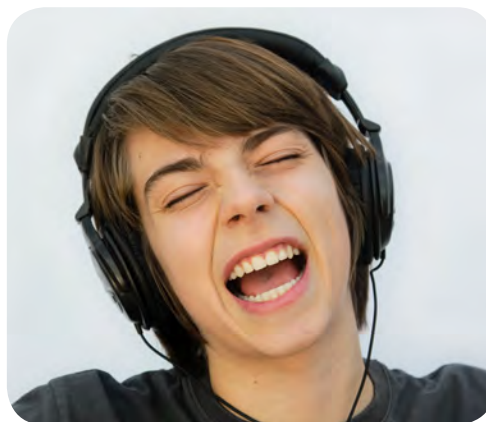
VocabBooster

to contribute to sth. ■ to be poised to make a problem much worse ■ to blast the volume ■ to desensitise the user ■ to pose an additional danger ■ noise-induced hearing loss ■ to place a large noise burden on so.'s hearing ■ to refuse to do sth. ■ to restore so.'s hearing ■ to harm so.'s hearing ■ to deny the danger of sth. ■ to sound muffled ■ to reveal mild hearing loss ■ to be resistant to warnings ■ to accelerate the aging of ears ■ to cause permanent damage to sth.



- 2 Read the article. Eleven sentence parts have been removed. Choose from the sentence parts (A–K) which one fits each gap best.

- A** medical technology will find a way to restore their hearing
- B** desensitize the user to dangerously high sound levels
- C** they continued to expose themselves to loud music even though they knew it was harming their hearing
- D** placing a large noise burden on his hearing even if he turns it down
- E** the ringing can get so loud that it interferes with sleep
- F** any type of headphone has the potential to cause noise-induced hearing loss
- G** is a program designed to train children, parents, and teachers about the threat of noise-induced hearing loss
- H** are much more likely than adults to blast the volume in their MP3 players
- I** before people realize they're having serious difficulty hearing
- J** can damage the delicate hair cells in the inner ear that transmit sound impulses to the brain
- K** hearing loss will end only when young people themselves recognize the dangers



The earbud generation: At risk for hearing loss?

- 1 **Experts discuss the possible risk to hearing from listening to music on smartphones or on MP3 players for long periods of time.**

New surveys from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association highlight that risk, noting that high school students ¹, raising the risk of hearing loss later on.

- These devices, which pump music through headphones directly into the ear canal, enable the user to overcome the rumble of the subway or the drone of an airplane engine without drawing angry shouts of “turn it down!”

As a result, they easily ². An external device does too, but earbuds connected to a smart-

phone or MP3 player pose an additional danger. 15 Because they hold thousands of songs and can play for hours without recharging, users tend to listen continuously for hours at a time.

Longer listening, more damage

Since damage to hearing caused by high volume is determined by its duration, continuous listening to music through earbuds, even at a seemingly reasonable level, ³.

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) did some research to find out about the potentially 25 devastating effects posed by earbud headphones. The result of this research was that ⁴ if used improperly in terms of absolute level of the

sounds, the length of exposure time to sound,
30 and the fit of the earphone or headphone. They
add that more research is still needed to deter-
mine if a particular type of earphone increases
the risk. Moreover, studies have shown that peo-
ple exposed to 85 decibels for eight hours tend
35 to develop hearing loss.

Longer listening, more damage continued ...

Every time you increase a sound level by three
decibels, listening for half as long will produce
the same amount of hearing loss. The kid who
40 cuts my grass uses an iPod. The lawn mower
noise is about 80 to 85 decibels. If he likes lis-
tening to his iPod 20 decibels above that, he's in
the range of 100–105 decibels. At that sound
level he shouldn't listen for more than eight to
45 15 minutes. But if he's like millions of other
iPod owners, the boy probably listens for several
hours a day, [redacted]⁵ when he's not cutting grass.

Dealing with denial

The simple fact is that young people like their
50 music loud and seldom believe that hearing loss
is a serious danger.

A recent study in *Pediatrics* reported that of the
nearly 10,000 people who responded to a sur-
vey posted on the MTV web site, only 8% con-
55 sidered hearing loss “a very big problem.”

That was below sexually transmitted diseases
(50%), alcohol and drug use (47%) and even
acne (18%). While 61% said that they had ex-
perienced ringing in their ears or other hearing
60 problems after attending rock concerts, only
14% said they had used ear protection.

Even when they believe hearing loss is a danger,
many young people still refuse to turn down the
music.

65 Music dependency

“When I ask kids why they're not worried about
hearing loss, they say they have faith that [redacted]⁶,”
says Deanna Meinke, chairwoman of the Na-
tional Hearing Conservation Association's Task
70 Force on Children and Hearing.

Mary Florentine, an audiologist at Northeastern
University, suspects that some young people ac-
tually have what she calls a loud music depend-
ency disorder (LMDD). “I asked people why
75 [redacted]⁷, and they said they couldn't stop listen-

ing,” says Florentine. “They said, ‘When I stop
listening I get sad and depressed, and then I go
back to it because I can't take it after a while.
I start listening again at moderate levels, but it
doesn't do anything for me, so I start to listen at 80
high levels.’”

Hearing loss goes unnoticed

Denying the danger of noise-induced hearing
loss would not be so easy if loud music made
the ears bleed, but the early symptoms tend to 85
come on gradually.

People may notice that voices sound muffled,
and that they have a reduced ability to follow a
conversation in a noisy environment such as a
restaurant or a party. They might hear ringing in 90
their ears. In its worst form, [redacted]⁸.

While a routine hearing test administered by a
doctor can reveal mild hearing loss, the problem
may become advanced [redacted]⁹.

Kids with old ears

95

An article in the journal *Pediatrics* estimated
that 12.5% of children aged 6 to 19 – about 5.2
million – have noise-induced hearing loss. “Our
own research shows that 16% of 6- to 19-year-
olds have early signs of hearing loss at the range 100
most readily damaged by loud sounds,” says
William Martin, PhD, of the Oregon Health
and Science University Tinnitus Clinic in Port-
land.

Because adolescents are so resistant to warn- 105
ings about loud music, Martin is trying to raise
awareness among younger children. He is co-
director of the Dangerous Decibels Project,
which [redacted]¹⁰. It stresses the three most practi-
cal ways to deal with loud noise: turn it down, 110
walk away, or protect your ears.

But education merely raises awareness of the
problem. As with the epidemic of obesity among
the young, [redacted]¹¹ and change their behavior.
“People have to use personal stereo systems 115
wisely or they will rapidly accelerate the aging
of their ears,” says Martin. “You can't toughen
your ears by listening. Some people think you
can. But if it's loud enough for long enough,
you're going to cause permanent damage to 120
your hearing.”



3

Get in pairs and discuss the following questions.

- 1 How many times a day do you listen to really loud music and for how long? Give reasons.
- 2 Are you aware of the fact that listening to loud music can seriously damage your hearing? Why do you mind? / Why do you not mind?
- 3 Can you describe situations in your life when it is especially important to you to listen to loud music? Explain.
- 4 Have you ever noticed any early symptoms of hearing loss yourself? If yes, which ones?

Listening

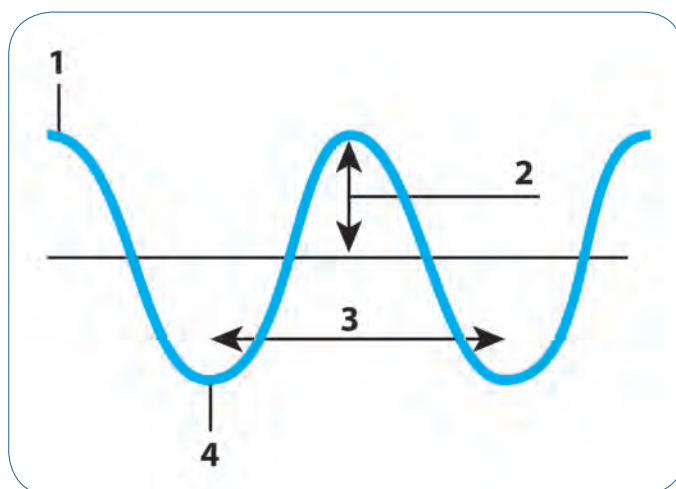
Being exposed to noise

1

Have a look at the diagram and label the numbers (1–4) correctly. Use the words from the VocabBooster.

VocabBooster

wavelength ■ peak ■ trough ■ amplitude



- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4



2

Get in pairs and read through the following questions dealing with facts about sound. Five questions need to be answered with yes. Which are they? If your answer is *no*, provide the correct answer.

- 1 Do you think that vibrations cause sound waves that move through mediums such as air and water before finally reaching our ears? Yes | No
- 2 Do you think that our ears vibrate in a similar way to the original source of the vibration, allowing us to hear many different sounds? Yes | No
- 3 Do you think that dogs can hear sound at a lower frequency than humans? Yes | No
- 4 Do you think that sound is used by animals to detect danger, warning them of possible attacks before they actually happen? Yes | No
- 5 Do you think that sound can travel through a vacuum (an area empty of matter)? ... Yes | No
- 6 Do you think that the speed of sound is around 750 kilometres per hour? Yes | No
- 7 Do you think that when travelling through water, sound moves around two times faster than when it travels through air? Yes | No
- 8 Do you think that the scientific study of sound waves is also called acoustics? Yes | No
- 9 Do you think that although music can be hard to define, it is often described as a pleasing or meaningful arrangement of sounds? Yes | No