

Unit 2

Culture Vulture

1

Vocabulary: adjectives for describing the arts

A Write the adjectives from the box in the correct column of the table.

amazingdullincomprehensibleincrediblemodern
newpopularsillystrangeterminableunusualwell-liked

| Positive | Neutral | Negative |
|----------|---------|----------|
| | | |

B Circle the correct adjective to complete the sentences.

- 1 I really liked the latest James Bond movie. The action scenes were ...
a) incredible. b) silly.
- 2 I don't understand this kind of art. What does it mean? It's ...
a) incomprehensible. b) well-liked.
- 3 This kind of video art is new and interesting. It's very ...
a) dull. b) modern.
- 4 Many people thought the art exhibition was amazing. It was very ...
a) well-liked. b) dull.
- 5 I never go to horror movies. They're not interesting, actually they're very ...
a) silly. b) popular.
- 6 This artist makes sculptures out of recycled car tires. It's definitely ...
a) terrible. b) unusual.

2

Grammar: comparatives with as ... as/not as ... as

A Write the words in the correct order to make sentences.

- 1 art galleries / aren't / Museums / as / as / interesting

- 2 isn't / easy / as / Painting / photography / as

- 3 TV shows / as / aren't / movies / interesting / as

- 4 dull / hip-hop / Country music / as / isn't / as



B Complete the sentences with the adjective in parentheses and as ... as or not as ... as.

- 1 horror movies (✓) / action movies (✓✓) (*interesting*)
Horror movies are not as interesting as action movies .
- 2 opera (✓) / rock music (✓✓) (*exciting*)
Opera is _____ .
- 3 classical music concerts (✓) / operas (✓) (*expensive*)
Classical music concerts are _____ .
- 4 modern art (✓) / classical art (✓✓) (*well-liked*)
Modern art is _____ .
- 5 photography (✓) / painting (✓) (*difficult*)
Photography is _____ .
- 6 online games (✓) / video games (✓✓) (*popular*)
Online games are _____ .

Watch out!

✗ Rock music CDs are expensive as pop music CDs.



3 Listening: identifying speakers' opinions

A **05** Listen and check (✓) the adjectives you hear in the conversation.

- | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> amazing | <input type="checkbox"/> boring | <input type="checkbox"/> unusual | <input type="checkbox"/> dull |
| <input type="checkbox"/> modern | <input type="checkbox"/> incredible | <input type="checkbox"/> silly | <input type="checkbox"/> funny |

B **06** Listen to two friends talking about a movie.
Circle *T* (true) or *F* (false).

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 The man liked the movie. | T | F |
| 2 The woman liked the movie. | T | F |
| 3 The man doesn't like comedies. | T | F |
| 4 The man thinks comedies aren't as good as action movies. | T | F |
| 5 The woman says the movie is as good as the director's last movie. | T | F |



4 Vocabulary: cultural activities

A Match the sentences with the two best endings. Write the numbers.

- 1 I'd like to see ...

2 I'd like to learn about ...

3 I'd like to join ...

4 I'd like to take ...

5 I'd like to go to ...
- a) ☐ photography.

b) ☐ a dance class.

c) ☐ an art club.

d) ☐ a book club.

e) ☐ a musical.
- f) ☐ the movie theater.

g) ☐ architecture.

h) ☐ a movie.

i) ☐ a language course.

j) ☐ a museum.

B Write what these people are going to do using phrases from Exercise A.

- 1 Helen would like to learn how to take excellent pictures with her digital camera.

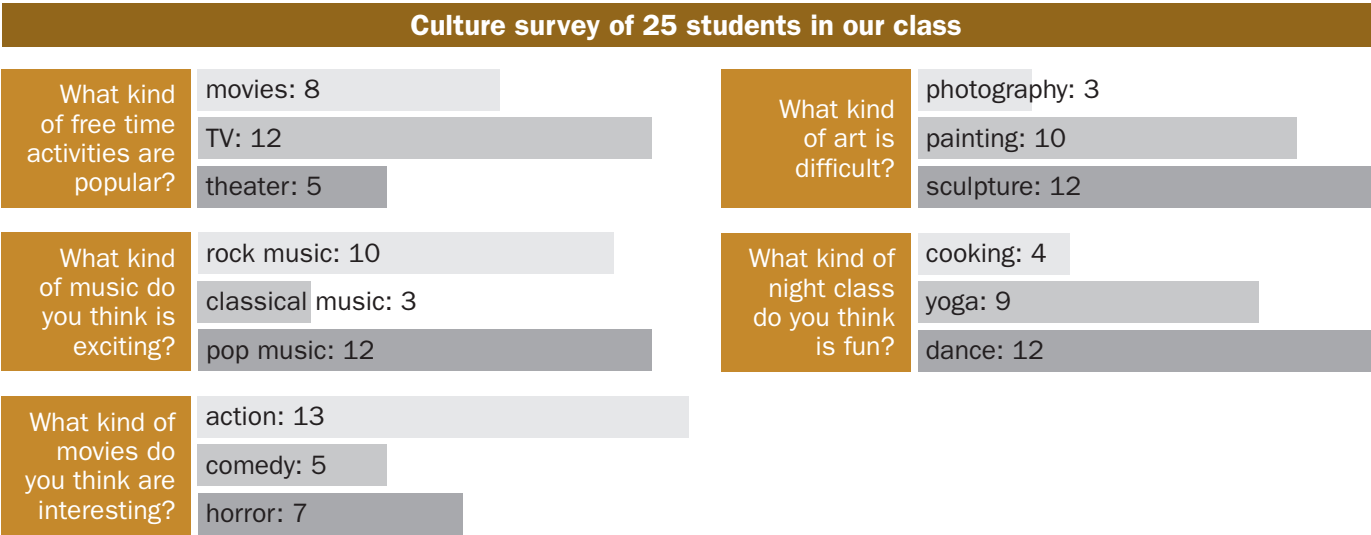
She's going to _____.
- 2 Yvonne would like to spend more time reading. She's going to _____.
- 3 Mike wants to learn salsa. He's going to _____.
- 4 Hiroshi wants to meet other artists. He's going to _____.

5 Grammar: superlatives

A Complete the table with the superlative form of the adjectives.

| Adjective | Superlative | Adjective | Superlative |
|-----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| good | | strange | |
| bad | | popular | |
| funny | | happy | |
| fat | | interesting | |
| beautiful | | important | |

B Read the information in the bar chart. Then complete the sentences on the next page with the superlative form of the adjective in parentheses.



- Going to the theater is the least popular (popular) free time activity for these students.
- These students think that pop music is the _____ (exciting) kind of music.
- These students think that action movies are the _____ (boring) kind of movies.
- These students think that classical music is the _____ (exciting) kind of music.
- These students think that comedies are the _____ (interesting) kind of movies.
- These students think that sculpture is the _____ (difficult) kind of art.
- Watching TV is the _____ (popular) free time activity for these students.
- These students think that dance is the _____ (fun) kind of class.

C Complete the sentences about art and entertainment in your country. Use the superlative form for each of the adjectives from the box. You can use each adjective more than once.

exciting funny good famous popular

Watch out!

✗ Photography is the most easiest kind of art.
✓ _____

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| 1 <u>Lost</u> is <u>the most popular</u> TV show. | 4 _____ is _____ actor. |
| 2 _____ is _____ TV show. | 5 _____ is _____ writer. |
| 3 _____ is _____ singer. | 6 _____ is _____ sport. |

6 Writing: linking sentences

A Match to make complete sentences.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 Phone calls can be expensive so ... | a) it helps you feel more relaxed and happier. |
| 2 Music is important because ... | b) I go to the gallery once a month. |
| 3 I love modern art so ... | c) I prefer to send text messages. |
| 4 Foreign movies are well-liked because ... | d) they are a great way to learn another language. |



B Complete the conversation with *because* or *so*.

Pamela: Why weren't you at art class last night?
Mike: (1) _____ I went to the theater with my family. It was my sister's birthday. She loves musicals (2) _____ we went to see *Mary Poppins*.
Pamela: Ah, interesting! Was it good?
Mike: It wasn't as bad as I remembered it, but I really wanted to come to class (3) _____ we had a sculpture lesson yesterday, right?
Pamela: Actually the teacher was ill (4) _____ we all went to the gallery.
Mike: Cool!

Over to you

A Read Max's opinion about MP3 players. Then answer the questions.

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Topic: Inventions as a symbol of culture

Comment: posted March 19

I think the MP3 player is one of the most amazing inventions ever. It's smaller than a cell phone, and all my favorite music is stored on it (1,000 tracks!). I use my MP3 player to listen to music almost everywhere. I listen to it in the car on my way to work. Then I listen to it in the office, using the earbuds, so it doesn't annoy anyone. Then I head to the gym and listen to it while I'm working out. And I listen to it again on the way home in the car. It's great when you travel by train or bus, too, because it creates a feeling of personal space around you. You don't hear annoying conversations of people around you, and you don't feel irritated if the train is late. I think this invention really had a big impact on our lives and the way we listen to music. — **Max**

Comment: posted March 20

- 1 What is the MP3 player for? _____
- 2 Where does Max use his MP3 player? _____
- 3 Do you think MP3 players are a useful invention? Why or why not? _____

B Choose an invention that is popular in people's lives now. Write three adjectives that describe the invention.

_____ is popular now because it is
_____, _____,
and _____.

C  Write a paragraph describing an important invention.

Writing tutor

I think this invention changed the way we ...

This invention is important in modern culture because ...

mindStrategy

Strategy: Learn other word forms of the same word family.

A Look at the examples. Notice how the word endings change the meaning of the words.

act—act*or*
write—write*r*
art—art*ist*
music—mus*ician*



B Complete the missing words. Use your dictionary to help you.

- 1 This person paints pictures. A p_____
- 2 This person writes books. A w_____
- 3 This person makes sculpture. A s_____
- 4 This person takes pictures. A p_____
- 5 This person designs fashion clothing. A d_____
- 6 This person sings songs. A s_____
- 7 This person studies science. A s_____
- 8 This person works in politics. A p_____

C Write the words in each group according to the ending. Then add more words of your own.

-er

-or

-ist

-ician

Strategy Bank

- Learn other words of the same word family.