

The Swinging Sixties

Task One: Read the text below, **filling in the gaps** with words from the bank.

The 1960s was a decade of huge change in Britain. Improvements in people's working conditions and pay meant that many people had more disposable Also, mass production of products designed to help make household tasks easier resulted in extra time for many people.

Teenagers enjoyed much more during this decade than their parents did. Their parents had lived through World War Two and wanted their own children to enjoy their childhood and feel free. This new freedom for the youth of the 1960s helped fuel a in fashion and music.

Prior to the 1960s, most children and teenagers dressed in remarkably similar ways to their parents, but not anymore! The 1960s meant colour — lots of it! Fabrics were and, and clothing styles were becoming increasingly daring, including the introduction of the mini skirt in the first half of the decade. It wasn't just ladies' fashion that underwent this change — fashion for men changed during this decade too, with young men no longer dressing like their dads as they developed their own style!

The, from Liverpool, were the most famous band to come out of the 1960s. Their early music was inspired by the rock and roll sound of the 1950s mixed with Blues. Other famous bands of the decade include The Who, The Rolling Stones and The Kinks. Elvis Presley, who had been very popular during the 1950s, continued to capture the imaginations of teenagers worldwide during the 60s.



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Soul music also became popular during this decade. Motown Records, a record label set up in America, released music by artists such as The Jackson 5, Stevie Wonder and The Supremes.

People's lives at home became easier as appliances such as, washing machines and vacuum cleaners all became more affordable for the average household. Over 80% of households owned a television set at the beginning of the decade, rising to nearly 90% by the end of it. Pocket allowed people to listen to music away from their houses. By the end of the decade, around 50% of households owned or had access to a car, and Neil Armstrong had set foot on the !

In conclusion, the 1960s was a decade which allowed young people to themselves more than ever before in terms of what they wore, the music they chose to listen to and what they chose to do with their free time. These things, coupled with advances in, have rightfully earned the 1960s its reputation as 'The Swinging Sixties'!

Word Bank

colourful
express
moon

income
technology
freedom

revolution
leisure
refrigerators

radios
Beatles
vibrant



The Swinging Sixties

Task Two: Answer the following questions.

1. What do you think 'disposable income' is?

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2. What was the name of the most famous UK band of the 1960s?

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3. Name three things that became more popular during the 1960s that either made people's lives easier or improved the quality of their free time.

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4. Would you have liked to be a teenager in the 1960s? Why or why not?

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Answers

Task One: Read the text below, filling in the gaps with words from the bank.

The 1960s was a decade of huge change in Britain. Improvements in people's working conditions and pay meant that many people had more disposable **income** Also, mass production of products designed to help make household tasks easier resulted in extra **leisure** time for many people.

Teenagers enjoyed much more **freedom** during this decade than their parents did. Their parents had lived through World War Two and wanted their own children to enjoy their childhood and feel free. This new freedom for the youth of the 1960s helped fuel a **revolution** in fashion and music.

Prior to the 1960s, most children and teenagers dressed in remarkably similar ways to their parents, but not anymore! The 1960s meant colour — lots of it! Fabrics were **colourful** and **vibrant**, and clothing styles were becoming increasingly daring, including the introduction of the mini skirt in the first half of the decade. It wasn't just ladies' fashion that underwent this change — fashion for men changed during this decade too, with young men no longer dressing like their dads as they developed their own style!

The **Beatles**, from Liverpool, were the most famous band to come out of the 1960s. Their early music was inspired by the rock and roll sound of the 1950s mixed with Blues. Other famous bands of the decade include The Who, The Rolling Stones and The Kinks. Elvis Presley, who had been very popular during the 1950s, continued to capture the imaginations of teenagers worldwide during the 60s.



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Answers

Soul music also became popular during this decade. Motown Records, a record label set up in America, released music by artists such as The Jackson 5, Stevie Wonder and The Supremes.

People's lives at home became easier as appliances such as**refrigerators**....., washing machines and vacuum cleaners all became more affordable for the average household. Over 80% of households owned a television set at the beginning of the decade, rising to nearly 90% by the end of it. Pocket**radios**..... allowed people to listen to music away from their houses. By the end of the decade, around 50% of households owned or had access to a car, and Neil Armstrong had set foot on the**moon**..... !

In conclusion, the 1960s was a decade which allowed young people to**express**..... themselves more than ever before in terms of what they wore, the music they chose to listen to and what they chose to do with their free time. These things, coupled with advances in**technology**....., have rightfully earned the 1960s its reputation as 'The Swinging Sixties'!

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Answers

Task Two: Answer the following questions.

1. What do you think 'disposable income' is?

E.g. Spare money. To dispose of something means to get rid of it, so disposable income is money you can get rid of (spend) however you wish.

2. What was the name of the most famous UK band of the 1960s?

The Beatles

3. Name three things that became more popular during the 1960s that either made people's lives easier or improved the quality of their free time.

E.g. Refrigerators

Washing machines

Vacuum cleaners

4. Would you have liked to be a teenager in the 1960s? Why or why not?

Any sensible answer

