
BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

6 Minute English worksheet

Becoming a musician



1. Look at the cover image and title of the episode. What do you think this episode is about? What do you know about this topic already? What vocabulary do you associate with this topic?
2. Now listen to the first two minutes of the episode.
 - What do the presenters say the episode is about?
 - What is this week's question? What do you think the answer is?
3. Now listen to the whole episode. As you listen, write down the six items of vocabulary. What do they mean?

a) Word/phrase: _____

It means: _____.

b) Word/phrase: _____

It means: _____.

c) Word/phrase: _____

It means: _____.

d) Word/phrase: _____

It means: _____.

e) Word/phrase: _____

It means: _____.

f) Word/phrase: _____

It means: _____.

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g) Word/phrase: _____

It means: _____.

h) Word/phrase: _____

It means: _____.

4. What did you learn that was surprising or new in this episode?

5. Answer the quiz questions. Listen again or use the transcript to help you.

1. What is the top selling song of the week called?

- a) the number one
- b) the best song
- c) the biggest hit

2. Where in the UK is St Ives?

- a) the south-west coast
- b) the north-east coast
- c) the West Midlands

3. "I would sit in a circle with a _____ of old men."

- a) lunch
- b) crunch
- c) bunch

4. Which expression means to protect or guide someone?

- a) put someone under your foot
- b) take someone under your wing
- c) move someone over your head

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5. What is a busker?
- a) someone who plays music every day
 - b) someone who makes musical instruments
 - c) someone who performs on the street for money
6. Which word means 'musical concerts'?
- a) gigs
 - b) rigs
 - c) jigs

6. Write your own sentences using the vocabulary.

7. Answer the following questions.

- What are three things you have learnt from this episode?
- How does this topic make you feel?
- Give three examples relevant to your life using the vocabulary.

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Answers

3.

- a. Open mic nights – events where anyone can sing or play music
- b. Songwriters' circles – meetings for people interested in writing their own music
- c. a bunch of people – a group of people
- d. take someone under your wing – protect or guide someone
- e. busking – performing in a public place for money
- f. main earner – main source of income
- g. gigs – musical concerts
- h. owe a lot to something or someone – have success or happiness because of that person or thing

5. 1a, 2a, 3c, 4b, 5c, 6a

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Teacher's notes

This worksheet is standardised so that you can amend and use it as appropriate with your classes.

Some topics may be difficult for learners, especially those which could be upsetting or cause offence. Please be mindful of this when using this worksheet, and adapt it as necessary.

Expansion activities

- Role-play an interview with an 'interviewer' and an 'expert' on this topic.
- Write a short story or article using the vocabulary from this episode.
- Read original articles on this topic.
- For homework: If it is available in your country, download and listen to the original podcast these extracts were taken from.