

A

Describing music

The Year in Review: Music

Bloom *Music from the Centre of the Earth* (Palm records 234655)

New arrivals on the rock **music scene**, Bloom are already making a big impact. If you're looking for **background music**, then this is not for you, but if you want music to **blast out from**¹ your hi-fi and annoy the neighbours, then Bloom's **debut**² album, with tracks from their **live performance** at the Delaya Stadium, may be just what you want.

Johnny MacRoy *Songs we loved* (Kase Phonograph 488792)

For fans of **easy listening**³ and **catchy**⁴ tunes, this is all you need. In fact it's so relaxing you might just fall asleep. MacRoy **gives a** sentimental **performance** of these old love songs. At 47, he's not exactly a **pop idol** but his **adoring fans** will love it.

The Divide *Amphibian* (Fono Corp 3321978)

This is a rock symphony, an extraordinary **piece of music**. After their **massive hit** in 2015 with Megalith, their record company has **released** this album

hoping for another **big hit**. The band themselves **wrote the music**. They have a **huge following** and are due to **go on tour** later this year.

The Oxbridge Symphonia *British classics old and new* (Rotor Records 775537)

Haunting melodies and the **occasional virtuoso**⁵ **performance** from its two soloists mark this collection of popular British classical music, which aims to **capture a wider audience** for the classics and to promote Britain's **musical heritage**. Roger Crow **conducts the orchestra**. Crow himself **composed** two of the **pieces**, hence the title. Good birthday present for your uncle and aunt. But if you're a real classical **music lover**, save your money.

BUST-OUT WITH JOLA V

BLAZE MAMA (Presto 58843)

Bust-out's new double album **features**⁶ **Jola V**, a young **rap**⁷ **artist** from Miami. Jola used to be with Chicago hip-hop band Frenzy, but **went solo** in 2015. The band have **remixed**⁸ four tracks from earlier albums and Jola's **up-tempo**⁹ numbers just add to the excitement.

¹ sound extremely loud

² presented to the public for the first time

³ music that is not serious or difficult

⁴ pleasant and easy to remember

⁵ extremely skilful

⁶ includes as an important part

⁷ rock music in which rhymed lyrics are spoken over rhythm tracks

⁸ made a new version of a musical track

⁹ played at a fast beat

B

Playing music

I saw Martin **strumming a guitar** the other day. I didn't know he could play.



He can't. He just likes people to think he can. He's got no **musical talent** whatsoever.

I've **taken up the guitar**. I've had three lessons so far.



That's great. I love **live music**. What can you play?

Well, the first week was all about **tuning the instrument**. I've got to **play a piece** for my teacher next week.

Exercises

24.1 Change the underlined words using collocations from A so that each sentence has the opposite meaning.

- 1 The band's last album was a minor hit. (give two answers)
- 2 There are some great slow numbers on this new album.
- 3 The band has a small following of dedicated fans.
- 4 Music was playing quietly on the hi-fi when I entered the house.
- 5 Maria Plurosa gave a poor performance of Heder's violin concerto last night.

24.2 Correct the eight collocation errors in this paragraph. The first one is done for you.

For all folk music likers, Johnny Coppin's new album, *The Long Harvest*, published last week, will be a great addition to their collection. Johnny recently got solo after five years with the folk band Blue Mountain. He is proud of the musical inheritance of his native Kentucky. Tracks 3 and 7 comprise his old friend Wiz Carter on guitar. With this album Coppin says he hopes to control a wider audience for folk music. His excellent living performance at the recent Lockwood Folk Festival suggests he has a good chance of succeeding. He makes a tour next month. Don't miss him.

1	<i>lovers</i>
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	

24.3 What word(s) mean ...?

- 1 ... music that is playing while you are doing something else and not really listening to it?
- 2 ... music that is not complicated or difficult to listen to?
- 3 ... a pop musician who is a very big star with many fans?
- 4 ... a type of performer who speaks rhymed lyrics over rhythm tracks?
- 5 ... to tighten or loosen the strings of an instrument till they make the correct note?

24.4 Complete these sentences with suitable collocations.

- 1 Hundreds of fans were waiting for Shamira to come out of the concert hall.
- 2 The orchestra gave a wonderful of some popular classics.
- 3 It was a very tune; you only had to hear it once and you were singing it.
- 4 I'd love to a musical instrument but I don't have time.
- 5 It is one of those melodies which you never forget, so beautiful, yet so sad.
- 6 There's a lot of musical in the family; all the children play an instrument.

Now, for twenty thousand dollars, who wrote Beethoven's Fifth Symphony?



A

Do, play and go

The table below gives examples of common sporting collocations with *do*, *play* and *go*.

You do	gymnastics, judo, weightlifting, aerobics, yoga, wrestling, circuit training, archery, athletics
You play	games, badminton, billiards, hockey, bowls, rugby, golf, (table) tennis, cricket, baseball, chess,
	darts, cards, dominoes
You go	fishing, skiing, bowling, cycling, skateboarding, surfing, snowboarding, hang-gliding, climbing,
	hill walking, sailing, jogging, swimming

You can also say you **go to aerobics/judo/yoga/karate** – this means that you go to a class in this sport.

Common mistakes

Learners often make mistakes with some common collocations connected with sport.

Make a point of learning these commonly used collocations.

- You **do** or **play sport**. (NOT ~~make~~ sport)
- You **do exercises**. (NOT ~~make~~ exercises)
- You **play computer** or other **games**. (NOT ~~do~~ games)
- You **have/play a game of** cards. (NOT ~~make~~ a game)
- You **go skiing**. (NOT ~~make~~ skiing)
- You **do activities**. (NOT ~~make~~ or ~~practise~~ activities)

If you are a serious sportsperson, you will certainly practise your sport, but that has a specific meaning, which is to do something again and again in order to get better at it, in other words **to train**.

If you are a footballer you might **practise taking a penalty**, for example.

The conversation has no errors, but the changes will improve it.

Matthew: Have you downloaded that new e-book that has just appeared about Ireland?

Camilla: No, I don't use my e-book reader app much and I don't visit websites with articles discussing new books. What's it about?

Matthew: Well, it concerns the Irish War of Independence. It's very authentic and it manages to give the atmosphere of Ireland at the beginning of the 20th century.

Camilla: Is it just historical facts, then?

Matthew: No, the main people are two brothers who have different opinions about the war and this divides their family. In the first chapters they're happy and do everything together, but by the last chapter they have become enemies.

Camilla: Mm, it sounds a bit depressing to me.

Matthew: Well, it certainly doesn't finish in a happy way, but I liked it, and it's recommended very much by all the critics.

Camilla: So, a book with a pleasant start and a sad finish. Not for me, I'm afraid. I prefer the opposite.

23.2 Complete the crossword.

1				2								
3									4			

Across

3 I was completely — in my book and didn't realise how late it had got.

5 An alternative to 3 across.

6 He wants to go on the —. He's always

23.3 Match the words in the box on the left with their collocations on the right.

full big bedtime
female box-office

screen reading
lead hit house

23.4 Complete these collocations.

- 1 shoot / star in / make a
- 2 download an
- 3 flick / skim through a
- 4 compulsive / bedtime

Over to you

Online bookshops, as well as book and film review websites, often have mini-reviews and descriptions of books and films. Find a review of a book or film that you know and note down any interesting collocations in it.

Exercises

22.1 Match the words on the left with their collocations on the right.

- | | |
|---------|-----------|
| 1 set | additives |
| 2 food | food |
| 3 junk | produce |
| 4 ready | menu |
| 5 fresh | meals |

22.2 Complete these sentences using the collocations from exercise 22.1 to fill the gaps.

- 1 such as artificial flavours and colouring can cause allergies.
- 2 may be unhealthy, but it's quick and easy and fills you up.
- 3 People who don't have much time to cook often buy from the supermarket.
- 4 It's always better to buy instead of canned or frozen foods.
- 5 The is usually cheaper than ordering dishes separately in a restaurant.

22.3 Read these remarks by different people, then answer the questions.

- Logan: I've got some cheese and milk. Is there a fridge here I could put them in?
Connor: I feel so hungry! I can't believe it!
Layla: I've been sick and my stomach is aching. Must be something I ate.
Michael: No matter how much I eat, I always want more.
Scarlett: All these vegetables have been grown without any chemicals at all.
Bella: I always enjoy my food and look forward to it.

	name
1 Who has organic food?	
2 Who has an insatiable appetite?	
3 Who has perishable food?	
4 Who has a healthy appetite?	
5 Who has food poisoning?	
6 Who is dying of hunger?	

22.4 Replace the underlined words with suitable collocations from the opposite page.

- 1 Foods which are changed or treated as part of an industrial operation may damage our health in the long term.
- 2 Some people always have three full, satisfying meals a day, but I prefer a large breakfast and then a small meal around midday and a more sizeable meal in the evening.
- 3 There are some overpriced restaurants in the city centre, but down at the beach, there are some nice, not too expensively priced ones.
- 4 On my birthday my parents took me out for a big, good meal. They wanted to go for a very high quality meal but I said I'd prefer something more ordinary.
- 5 Iced tea is a drink that cools you and makes you feel less tired on a hot day, and is probably better for you than non-alcoholic drinks such as cola or lemonade.
- 6 Let me take you out to dinner on your birthday. Or would you prefer a meal prepared at home? I could make dinner for you at my place.