

MUSIC VOCABULARY

A Musical instruments and musicians



1 trumpet



2 saxophone



3 flute



4 organ



5 keyboard



6 piano



7 violin



8 cello



9 guitar

spotlight The suffix -ist

We often use this suffix for the person who plays a particular instrument, e.g. guitarist, violinist, pianist, saxophonist, cellist, organist. But we say trumpeter, drummer, and usually keyboard player. The word for a flute player is flautist: note the change in spelling.

Franz Liszt was a **composer** but also a great **pianist**.

Chris Martin is the **lead singer** and main **songwriter** in the rock **band** Coldplay.

Mark Elder is the **conductor** of the Hallé **Orchestra**.

Glossary

musical instrument a thing that is used for playing music.

musician a person who plays a musical instrument.

composer a person who writes music. **compose** v.

lead singer the main singer in a band.

songwriter a person who writes the words and music for a song.

band a number of people who play music together.
SYN **group**.

conductor the person in an orchestra who directs the musicians.

orchestra a large group of musicians who play music together.

1 Complete the words for the musical instruments, then write the person who plays them.

▶ piano / pianist

1 vi _____ / _____

2 or _____ / _____

3 tr _____ / _____

4 gu _____ / _____

5 sax _____ / _____

6 ce _____ / _____

7 fl _____ / _____

2 Complete the words in the sentences.

▶ They both play in a rock band.

1 My brother plays the violin in an o_____.

2 Noel Gallagher plays the g_____ in the rock b_____ 'Oasis', and his brother Liam is the l_____ singer.

3 Do you play a musical i_____?

4 I don't like modern c_____ such as Bartók and Stockhausen.

5 Paul Simon sings and plays the guitar but is most famous as a s_____.

6 Mike's playing guitar, but who is the keyboard p_____?

7 There are five in the band and they're all good m_____.

8 Sir Georg Solti was the c_____ of several wonderful orchestras.

B Who do you admire?

Music questionnaire

- Write the name of a modern band or **solo artist** that you **admire**. _____
- Has their music been **influenced** by anyone/anything? _____
- Do they write and **record** their own music or play other people's? _____
- Do they often do **live** concerts? Have you seen them play **live**? _____
- What was the last **album** they **released**? _____
- Why does their music **appeal** to you? Is it because of:
a great **voice** / **talented** musicians / lovely **melodies** / good **lyrics**? _____

Glossary

solo artist a singer or musician who is not part of a band.

admire sb like sb and think they have achieved a lot. **admiration** N.

influence sb/sth make a change to the way sb thinks. **influence** N.

record sth put music, a film, etc. onto a CD or tape. **recording** N.

album a collection of songs (often eight or ten).

release sth put an album onto the market so people can buy it. **release** N.

appeal to sb be attractive or interesting to sb. **appeal** N.

voice the sound a person makes when they talk or sing.

talented having a lot of ability. **talent** N.

melody a series of musical notes in a particular order. **SYN tune** INF.

lyrics the words of a song.

spotlight *living, alive, live*

Living and **alive** mean 'not dead', but **alive** is not used before a noun.

*He's one of the greatest **living** composers. Mozart isn't **alive** today.*

Live ADJ, ADV (sounds like five) means 'seen or heard as it is happening'.

*We saw the band play **live**, then watched a recording of the concert on TV.*

4 Circle the correct answer.

- James Brown isn't live(alive) any longer.
- I like the tune but not the lyrics/melody.
 - Is he a solo/single artist?
 - I've never seen the band live/alive.
 - Katie Melua has a great tune/voice.
 - He's one of the best living/alive songwriters.
 - The song has a beautiful melody/voice.
 - His music appeals/influences to me.

5 Complete the text with words from the box.

albums influenced talented ✓ release appeals solo recorded admire recording

Gilberto Gil is a Brazilian singer and guitarist, and one of his country's most ► talented songwriters. As a young musician in the 1950s, he was (1) _____ by the bossa nova style of João Gilberto, but he didn't (2) _____ his first album, *Louvação*, until 1967. He travelled in the 1970s, (3) _____ an album in English, and, in 1980, introduced reggae to Brazil with his (4) _____ of the Bob Marley song, 'No woman, no cry'. He has played with many musicians, while continuing his career as a (5) _____ artist. In all he has produced over 40 (6) _____. His music (7) _____ to people because of the rhythm and melodies, but people also (8) _____ him for his work in politics and for social causes.