

# Music Festivals

di *Sarah Gudgeon*

## 1. Read

Sunshine with intermittent rain can only mean one thing in Britain; it's festival season. The summer showers mean that before you go to any music festival, usually held in a big muddy field, you should invest in a good pair of wellies, an umbrella and a raincoat. One of the biggest summer musical festivals, Glastonbury, is held in Shropshire, in August and yes... it's very often wet. Festival-goers however seem undeterred by meteorological conditions, not to mention the toilet facilities and generally have a great time listening to their favourite bands. The first festival was in 1970, the day after Jimi Hendrix died, with acts like Marc Bolan and Quintessence headlining. The entry fee to the hippy festival in a farmer's field was just £1.00, including a glass of milk from the farm cows. Over the years famous names like Coldplay, U2, The Who and The Foo Fighters have all performed at Glastonbury, although ticket prices have increased somewhat, and there's not even a free glass of milk.

For those looking for a more family friendly day out, Radio 2 Live in Hyde Park offers a day of live music entertainment from some of the best national and international acts, right in the heart of the city. Similar events are organised by the radio station around the country. Also at Hyde Park every summer is Proms in the Park- this is a more sedate affair for lovers of classical music and anyone under the age of 14 must be accompanied by an adult. The outdoor concert is a magical experience, especially the Last Night. The BBC also hosts Proms in the Park in Belfast, Glasgow and Swansea Do you love festivals but can't make it over to the UK this summer? Just tune into the BBC for full coverage of the events- on TV, radio or web.

### **1. True or False**

- a. Glastonbury is a concert.
- b. You should buy some wellies and an umbrella at Glastonbury.
- c. The performances take place inside a stadium.
- d. People still go to the festival, even if the weather is bad.
- e. Jimi Hendrix died whilst performing at the first Glastonbury Festival.
- f. You can watch Glastonbury on television, on the BBC.

### **2. Create your own music festival.**

Work in groups, choose a venue, the artists you want to headline the event, a date and agree on a price etc. Then, make a poster to advertise the festival.

## Teachers Notes

1 a. false b. false c. false d. true e. false f. true

2. Ask students to work in groups . Before starting the activity, elicit some functional language for agreeing/ disagreeing, making/rejecting suggestions, interrupting politely