

Music is life!



READING

14a **K** Read the text and choose a title for each paragraph.

1)
When teenagers listen to music, do they feel depressed or happy? When they are in a bad mood or they aren't feeling very well, if they listen to some relaxing or upbeat music they are in a better mood. Music is a part of their life: they study music, they play an instrument, they listen to songs on the radio or their iPods and music always arouses emotions.

2)
Music is around them and they love it. They don't like all music, but they love the kind of music which best represents what they are and what they feel. If teenagers, in particular boys, have feelings of rage or frustration, they listen to heavy metal music; on the contrary, if girls have feelings of love or tenderness, they scream at their pop idols' concerts.

3)
Music is a shared bond between teenagers, it gives them a feeling of belonging to a group. Unfortunately their parents don't always love their music, especially if played at maximum volume. As a consequence, when they hear "Turn off that ghastly noise!" they feel it's an attack on them and their friends.

4)
However what is true now, was also true in the past. When rock'n'roll enjoyed great popularity in the '50s, parents complained about that new fashion. In the 1960s, when rock'n'roll generated English pop music and young people's hair became longer, the battle between generations got even worse. When in the early 1970s students opened the way to techno music, adults couldn't understand them. Today the "new music" composed using electronic instruments and technological machines isn't very popular with an adult audience. Anyway, can we live without music?

- a. Teenagers' favourite music is often music their parents hate
- b. Music helps social relations among teenagers
- c. Music can change teenagers' emotions
- d. A teenager has his/her own kind of music

14b **ES** Read the text again and answer the questions.

1. How is music part of teenagers' lives?
2. What kind of music do teenagers like?
3. Why have boys and girls generally got different musical tastes?
4. Does music help a teenager be part of a group?
5. When was rock'n'roll very popular with young people?
6. What was young people's hair like in the 60s?
7. What kind of music was born in the 1970s?
8. What do musicians use to compose "new music"?



upbeat = vivace
arouse = suscitare
rage = rabbia
scream = urlare
shared bond = legame comune/
 condiviso
belonging = appartenenza
ghastly = orribile
complain = lamentarsi



LISTENING

15a **ES** (2.05) Listen to the conversation between George and his friend Laura about musical tastes and correct the wrong information in the table.

	KIND OF MUSIC	WHO	WHEN
GEORGE'S DAD	Punk	Led Zeppelin	He relaxes
LAURA	Hip hop	Britney Spears	She has to calm down
GEORGE	Acid House	Chopin	He has to concentrate

15b **K** (2.05) Listen again and write if the sentences are right (R) or wrong (W).

- Led Zeppelin were a popular band in the 1960s and 1970s.
- Their rock music was musical and melodic.
- George likes listening to them with his father.
- Acid House, Jungle and Goth are different styles of new rock music.
- Laura is mad about Britney Spears.
- Mozart is a German composer for piano.

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15c How does the relationship between George and his father differ from the relationship between teenagers and their parents described in the reading text?

SPOKEN INTERACTION

16 **K T** Work in groups of three. In turn, ask and answer, using the following prompts. Take notes of your answers.

- What music or songs / listen to / if
 - happy
 - down
 - angry
 - nervous
 - at a party
 - in love
 - melodic
 - soft
 - powerful
 - fun
 - relaxing
 - upbeat
- What / favourite kind of music
- Why
 - energetic
 - aggressive
 - buy CDs
 - download from the Internet
 - listen on the radio
 - watch videos on music TV network
 - from friends' mobile phones
- How / get music



WRITING

17 **ES** Write a letter to your penfriend. Use your answers in exercise 16 to talk about you as a music consumer. Don't forget to give your opinion about what music means for you and for the teens of your age. Start like this: Dear..., how are you? Today, I'm really..., because... Luckily I can listen to...