

ABBA to release first new music in 39 years

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The pop group ABBA are making a comeback. They will release five new songs, a new album, and they have a new stage show. It is the first time in 39 years the group will release any new music. The Swedish group

formed in Stockholm in 1972 and became one of the most popular and successful pop groups in the history of pop music. They are famous for songs such as Dancing Queen and The Winner Takes It All. A musical romantic comedy film called Mamma Mia! was released in 2008. This showcased many of their biggest hits. The movie later became a stage show, which is currently the seventh longest-running show in London's musicals history. It is also the ninth longest-running show on New York's Broadway.

ABBA's millions of fans have been hoping for a comeback for many years. The group just launched a website called ABBA Voyage. The site invites fans to register their interest in a new mystery project that will be announced on September the 2nd. However, ABBA's guitarist accidentally revealed that a new album is coming in the autumn. Fans will be disappointed to learn that the stage show will not include ABBA in the flesh. Instead, there will be holograms of the group. These will be digitally-created lifelike avatars of each group member. The avatars have been nicknamed "ABBAstars". There will be eight shows a week that will take place in a newly-built theatre in London.

Sources: [msn.com](https://www.msn.com) / [the-sun.com](https://www.the-sun.com) / [variety.com](https://www.variety.com)

Writing

Pop music is the best form of music. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

pop group / ABBA / comeback / album / new songs / history / musical / romantic / fans / many years / mystery / project / autumn / holograms / nickname / theatre

True / False

- 1) ABBA will release 11 new songs on their new album. T / F
- 2) ABBA was formed in Stockholm, Sweden 39 years ago. T / F
- 3) ABBA recorded a famous song called Dancing King. T / F
- 4) The show Mamma Mia! is the ninth longest-running show on Broadway. T / F
- 5) The band launched a website called ABBA Comeback. T / F
- 6) ABBA's guitarist accidentally told people about a new album. T / F
- 7) No band member will take part in a new stage show. T / F
- 8) The new ABBA stage show will be in New York. T / F

Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------|
| 1. comeback | a. made public |
| 2. release | b. success |
| 3. popular | c. followers |
| 4. hit | d. issue |
| 5. show | e. upset |
| 6. fans | f. return |
| 7. register | g. constructed |
| 8. revealed | h. record |
| 9. disappointed | i. well liked |
| 10. built | j. performance |

Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you know about ABBA?
- b) What do you think about pop music?
- c) What is your favourite form of music?
- d) What group would you like to make a comeback?
- e) What do you think of musical movies?
- f) What do you think of stage shows?
- g) Does the music pop groups create get better as they age?
- h) What is the best band ever?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|--|-----------------------|
| 1. The pop group ABBA are making | a. pop groups |
| 2. They will release | b. the flesh |
| 3. one of the most popular and successful | c. running show |
| 4. This showcased many of | d. to learn that |
| 5. the seventh longest- | e. their biggest hits |
| 6. The site invites fans to register | f. a comeback |
| 7. a new mystery | g. built theatre |
| 8. Fans will be disappointed | h. project |
| 9. the stage show will not include ABBA in | i. five new songs |
| 10. take place in a newly- | j. their interest |

Discussion – Student B

- What do you think about what you read?
- What does a music fan do?
- What instrument would you play if you were in a pop group?
- What do you think of music concerts?
- Is a musical or a concert better?
- Would you like to see the new ABBA show?
- What do you think of the idea of avatars instead of real musicians?
- What questions would you like to ask ABBA?

Spelling

- The pop group ABBA are making a oecabmck
- They will elarse five new songs
- the most popular and sseucsfcul pop groups
- They are ouasfm
- A musical romantic deocym film
- cytrrlune the seventh longest-running show
- The group just ceuldnh a website
- The site invites fans to ietresrg their interest
- a new msertyy project
- ABBA's tuagisirt
- the stage show will not eiculdn ABBA
- yadlitlig-created lifelike avatars

Answers – Synonym Match

1. f	2. d	3. i	4. b	5. j
6. c	7. h	8. a	9. e	10. g

Role Play

Role A – Pop

You think pop is the best kind of music. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their genres. Also, tell the others which is the least listenable of these (and why): classical, folk or ambient.

Role B – Classical

You think classical is the best kind of music. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their genres. Also, tell the others which is the least listenable of these (and why): pop, folk or ambient.

Role C – Folk

You think folk is the best kind of music. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their genres. Also, tell the others which is the least listenable of these (and why): classical, pop or ambient.

Role D – Ambient

You think ambient is the best kind of music. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their genres. Also, tell the others which is the least listenable of these (and why): classical, folk or pop.

Speaking – Music

Rank these with your partner. Put the best music genre at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|-------------|-----------|
| • Pop | • Rock |
| • Reggae | • Electro |
| • Folk | • Opera |
| • Classical | • Ambient |

Answers – True False

1 F	2 F	3 F	4 T	5 F	6 T	7 T	8 F
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.