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First woman to conduct oldest music festival

20th April, 2013

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1304/130420-conductor.html>

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THE ARTICLE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1304/130420-conductor.html>

A woman will conduct an orchestra at the world's oldest and biggest music festival for the first time ever. The BBC Proms started 118 years ago, include 92 concerts over 8 weeks, but have never had a female conductor. American Marin Alsop will take charge of the orchestra for the final concert – the legendary Last Night of the Proms. This is a distinctly British occasion to celebrate the "pomp and circumstance" of Britain. Ms Alsop told the BBC: "I think the fact that I'm an American woman, conducting the last night of the Proms is really a statement." Talking of her achievement, she said: "I'm extraordinarily proud to be the first woman, but I'm also sad that it's 2013 and there still can be firsts for women."

The director of the Proms Roger Wright said he was happy to be part of changing the "man's world" of conducting. He said: "Marin hasn't been chosen because she is a woman conductor. She knows and loves the Proms." Ms Alsop said: "I always enjoy working with the British orchestral musicians and I'm particularly looking forward to interacting with the audience, who play such a crucial role in making this a night that is utterly unique and special. It is a great honour that I know will be a highlight for me." She added: "The whole world is watching you. You're addressing the biggest audience of your career. It's the nearest a classical musician gets to an acceptance speech at the Oscars."

Sources: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/entertainment-arts-22188201>
<http://www.independent.co.uk/arts-entertainment/classical/news/marin-alsop-to-be-first-woman-to-conduct-last-night-of-the-proms-after-119-years-8578532.html>

WARM-UPS

1. ORCHESTRAS: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about orchestras. Change partners often and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, decide which of these topics or words from the article are most interesting and which are most boring.

conduct / orchestra / music festival / legendary / celebrate / proud / achievement / man's world / musicians / interacting / audience / crucial role / unique / highlight

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

3. WOMEN AT WORK: Are women better than men at these jobs? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	Who's better?	Why?
Orchestra conductor		
Chef		
Psychologist		
Architect		
Company CEO		
Teacher		

4. THE SAME: Students A **strongly** believe men and women can do most jobs equally well; Students B **strongly** believe not. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

5. MUSICIAN: Rank these and share your rankings with your partner. Put the musician you would love to be at the top at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- orchestra lead violinist
- rock group drummer
- jazz saxophonist
- flamenco guitarist
- concert pianist
- classical sitar player
- Chinese flute
- Peruvian pan pipes

6. CONCERT: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word 'concert'. Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1304/130420-conductor.html>

1. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- | | | |
|----|---|-------|
| a. | A woman will conduct an orchestra at the world's oldest music festival. | T / F |
| b. | The 118-year-old festival comprises 92 concerts. | T / F |
| c. | The woman will conduct on the festival's important opening night. | T / F |
| d. | The woman said her conducting was nothing to be proud of. | T / F |
| e. | The festival director was happy to be changing the gender imbalance. | T / F |
| f. | This will be the first time for the woman to work with British musicians. | T / F |
| g. | The woman is looking forward to communicating with the audience. | T / F |
| h. | The woman once gave a speech accepting an Oscar in Hollywood. | T / F |

2. SYNONYM MATCH: Match the following synonyms from the article.

- | | | | |
|-----|--------------|----|----------------|
| 1. | include | a. | especially |
| 2. | legendary | b. | comprise |
| 3. | distinctly | c. | key |
| 4. | achievement | d. | selected |
| 5. | proud | e. | unmistakably |
| 6. | chosen | f. | speaking to |
| 7. | particularly | g. | famed |
| 8. | crucial | h. | overjoyed |
| 9. | addressing | i. | crowd |
| 10. | audience | j. | accomplishment |

3. PHRASE MATCH: (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- | | | | |
|-----|--------------------------------|----|-----------------------|
| 1. | the world's oldest and biggest | a. | I'm an American woman |
| 2. | a distinctly | b. | unique and special |
| 3. | the fact that | c. | musicians |
| 4. | extraordinarily | d. | firsts for women |
| 5. | there still can be | e. | speech |
| 6. | the "man's world" | f. | the audience |
| 7. | orchestral | g. | music festival |
| 8. | interacting with | h. | of conducting |
| 9. | a night that is utterly | i. | proud |
| 10. | acceptance | j. | British occasion |

GAP FILL

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1304/130420-conductor.html>

A woman will conduct an orchestra at the world's oldest and biggest music festival for the first time (1) _____. The BBC Proms started 118 years ago, (2) _____ 92 concerts over 8 weeks, but have never had a female conductor. American Marin Alsop will take (3) _____ of the orchestra for the final concert – the (4) _____ Last Night of the Proms. This is a distinctly British (5) _____ to celebrate the "pomp and circumstance" of Britain. Ms Alsop told the BBC: "I think the fact that I'm an American woman, conducting the last night of the Proms is really a (6) _____." Talking of her achievement, she said: "I'm extraordinarily (7) _____ to be the first woman, but I'm also sad that it's 2013 and there still can be (8) _____ for women."

legendary
firsts
charge
ever
statement
include
occasion
proud

The director of the Proms Roger Wright said he was happy to be part of (9) _____ the "man's world" of conducting. He said: "Marin hasn't been (10) _____ because she is a woman conductor. She knows and loves the Proms." Ms Alsop said: "I always enjoy working with the British orchestral musicians and I'm particularly looking forward to (11) _____ with the audience, who play such a (12) _____ role in making this a night that is utterly (13) _____ and special. It is a great honour that I know will be a (14) _____ for me." She added: "The whole world is watching you. You're addressing the biggest (15) _____ of your career. It's the nearest a classical musician gets to an (16) _____ speech at the Oscars."

crucial
highlight
chosen
acceptance
changing
interacting
unique
audience

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1304/130420-conductor.html>

- 1) Alsop will _____ the orchestra for the final concert
 - a. take charged of
 - b. take charge of
 - c. take charges of
 - d. take charging of
- 2) a distinctly British occasion to celebrate the _____
 - a. pomp and circumstance
 - b. pomp or circumstances
 - c. pomp and circumstantial
 - d. pomp or circumstance
- 3) conducting the last night of the Proms is really _____
 - a. the statement
 - b. a state meant
 - c. a stated mend
 - d. a statement
- 4) Talking of her achievement, she said: "I'm _____..."
 - a. extraordinary proud
 - b. extraordinary bride
 - c. extraordinarily bride
 - d. extraordinarily proud
- 5) sad that it's 2013 and there still can be _____ women
 - a. fights for
 - b. fasts for
 - c. firsts for
 - d. photos for
- 6) happy to be part of changing the "_____" of conducting
 - a. man's worldly
 - b. men's worlds
 - c. man's world
 - d. men's world
- 7) I always enjoy working with the British _____
 - a. orchestra musicians
 - b. orchestrated musicians
 - c. orchestral musicals
 - d. orchestral musicians
- 8) looking forward to interacting with the audience, who play such _____
 - a. a crucial roll
 - b. a cruciate role
 - c. a crucial role
 - d. a crucially role
- 9) You're _____ the biggest audience of your career
 - a. a dress in
 - b. address in
 - c. add resting
 - d. addressing
- 10) the nearest a classical musician gets to _____ at the Oscars
 - a. an acceptance speech
 - b. an accepted speech
 - c. an accepting speech
 - d. an accept dance speech

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1304/130420-conductor.html>

A woman will conduct an orchestra at the world's oldest and biggest music festival (1) _____. The BBC Proms started 118 years ago, include 92 concerts over 8 weeks, but have never had a female conductor. American Marin Alsop (2) _____ orchestra for the final concert – the legendary Last Night of the Proms. This is a distinctly British (3) _____ "pomp and circumstance" of Britain. Ms Alsop told the BBC: "I (4) _____ an American woman, conducting the last night of the Proms (5) _____." Talking of her achievement, she said: "I'm extraordinarily proud to be the first woman, but I'm also sad that it's 2013 and (6) _____ women."

The director of the Proms Roger Wright said he was happy to be part of (7) _____ of conducting. He said: "Marin hasn't been chosen because she is a woman conductor. She knows and loves the Proms." Ms Alsop said: "I always enjoy working (8) _____ musicians and I'm (9) _____ to interacting with the audience, who (10) _____ making this a night that is utterly unique and special. It is a great honour that I know will be a highlight for me." She added: "The (11) _____ you. You're addressing the biggest audience of your career. It's the nearest a classical musician (12) _____ at the Oscars."

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1304/130420-conductor.html>

1. How old is the music festival?

2. Which of the 92 concerts will Ms Alsop conduct?

3. How did Ms Alsop describe the occasion?

4. What was Ms Alsop proud of?

5. What was Ms Alsop sad about?

6. What was the director happy to be changing?

7. Why was Ms Alsop selected?

8. What is Ms Alsop looking forward to?

9. Who did Ms Alsop say would be watching her?

10. What did she liken conducting at the Proms to?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1304/130420-conductor.html>

1. How old is the music festival?
 - a) hundreds of years old
 - b) 118 years old
 - c) no one knows for sure
 - d) 100 years old this year
2. Which of the 92 concerts will Ms Alsop conduct?
 - a) the opening one
 - b) the American one
 - c) the one with the all-female orchestra
 - d) the final one
3. How did Ms Alsop describe the occasion?
 - a) very conservative
 - b) full of circumstances
 - c) distinctly British
 - d) the greatest concert ever
4. What was Ms Alsop proud of?
 - a) being the first woman to conduct at the Proms
 - b) her baton
 - c) being American
 - d) the BBC Proms
5. What was Ms Alsop sad about?
 - a) that she cannot be in the orchestra
 - b) that in 2013 there were still firsts for women
 - c) that the Proms are not in the USA
 - d) that it's already 2013
6. What was the director happy to be changing?
 - a) the "man's world" of conducting
 - b) musical styles
 - c) his job
 - d) musical instruments
7. Why was Ms Alsop selected?
 - a) she's American
 - b) she's a great violinist
 - c) she knows and loves the Proms
 - d) she won a competition
8. What is Ms Alsop looking forward to?
 - a) chatting to the audience
 - b) the end
 - c) the applause
 - d) British music
9. Who did Ms Alsop say would be watching her?
 - a) astronauts on the International Space Station
 - b) her students in America
 - c) her music teacher
 - d) the whole world
10. What did she liken conducting at the Proms to?
 - a) singing at the Super Bowl
 - b) the Olympics
 - c) giving an Oscar speech
 - d) heaven

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ROLE PLAY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1304/130420-conductor.html>

Role A – Traditionalist

You think a man should always conduct the world's oldest music festival. Tell the others three reasons why. Some traditions should never change. There are plenty more chances for women to conduct other orchestras.

Role B – Normal person

You think it should be normal for a woman to conduct an orchestra. Tell the others three reasons why. You also think tradition is silly – it gets in the way of progress. You think Ms Alsop will do a better job than a man.

Role C – Ms Alsop

You hate the fact that conducting is so male dominated. Tell the others three reasons why. You are shocked at why there have been so few women conductors and composers in history. You are shocked people want to stick to tradition – that only encourages sexism.

Role D – Concert goer

You don't care whether a man or woman conducts the orchestra. Tell the others three reasons why. You think it's great Ms Alsop is conducting. You hope she is the first of many conductors. You know women will bring something new and wonderful to conducting.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1304/130420-conductor.html>

1. WORD SEARCH: Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'music' and 'festival'.

music	festival
--------------	-----------------

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS: Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

3. GAP FILL: In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

4. VOCABULARY: Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

5. TEST EACH OTHER: Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• include• charge• occasion• fact• proud• sad	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• changing• chosen• enjoy• forward• special• nearest
--	---

ORCHESTRAS SURVEY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1304/130420-conductor.html>

Write five GOOD questions about orchestras in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

ORCHESTRAS DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

- a) What did you think when you read the headline?
- b) What springs to mind when you hear the word 'orchestra'?
- c) Would you like to play in a world-famous orchestra?
- d) What do you think of the fact no woman conducted at the Proms for 118 years?
- e) Do you think Alsop conducting at the Proms will change anything?
- f) Do you think it's difficult to conduct an orchestra?
- g) What do conductors do before a concert?
- h) Do you like listening to orchestras?
- i) What things are distinctly British?
- j) Is it sad that in 2013 there are still firsts for women?

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ORCHESTRAS DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

- a) Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
- b) Why are there so few female conductors?
- c) Why are most (all) famous composers men?
- d) What differences do you think a woman conductor can bring to music?
- e) What other men's worlds need changing?
- f) What kind of person makes a good conductor?
- g) Which is better, an orchestral concert or a pop concert?
- h) Which is the world's best orchestra?
- i) What advice would you give to Marin Alsop?
- j) What questions would you like to ask Marin Alsop?

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

MULTIPLE CHOICE - LANGUAGE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1304/130420-conductor.html>

A woman will conduct an orchestra at the world's oldest and biggest music festival for the first time ever. The BBC Proms started 118 years ago, (1) ____ 92 concerts over 8 weeks, but have never had a female conductor. American Marin Alsop will (2) ____ charge of the orchestra for the final concert – the legendary Last Night of the Proms. This is a (3) ____ British occasion to celebrate the "pomp and circumstance" of Britain. Ms Alsop told the BBC: "I think the fact that I'm an American woman, conducting the last night of the Proms is really a (4) ____." Talking of her achievement, she said: "I'm (5) ____ proud to be the first woman, but I'm also sad that it's 2013 and there still can be (6) ____ for women."

The director of the Proms Roger Wright said he was happy to be part of changing the "(7) ____ world" of conducting. He said: "Marin hasn't been chosen because she is a woman conductor. She knows and loves the Proms." Ms Alsop said: "I always enjoy working with the British (8) ____ musicians and I'm particularly looking forward to (9) ____ with the audience, who play such a crucial role in making this a night that is (10) ____ unique and special. It is a great honour that I know will be a highlight for me." She added: "The whole world is watching you. You're (11) ____ the biggest audience of your career. It's the nearest a classical musician gets to an (12) ____ speech at the Oscars."

Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

1. (a) include (b) included (c) inclusive (d) inclusion
2. (a) be (b) have (c) take (d) do
3. (a) succinctly (b) punctually (c) distinctly (d) factually
4. (a) affirmed (b) proof (c) witness (d) statement
5. (a) extraordinarily (b) extraordinaire (c) extraordinary (d) extraordinariness
6. (a) this (b) firsts (c) roles (d) conducting
7. (a) closed (b) sexist (c) mainstream (d) man's
8. (a) musical (b) orchestral (c) tonal (d) rhythmical
9. (a) interpreting (b) interrogating (c) interacting (d) intersecting
10. (a) uniquely (b) utterly (c) ubiquitously (d) untimely
11. (a) undressing (b) dressing (c) redressing (d) addressing
12. (a) accept (b) acceptance (c) accepting (d) accepts

SPELLING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1304/130420-conductor.html>

Paragraph 1

1. conduct an rhcosrtea
2. the andreeyg Last Night of the Proms
3. a dtlciisnyt British occasion
4. a etmeastnt
5. talking of her tecievhnaem
6. ixirtadenaloryr proud

Paragraph 2

7. the drrioect of the Proms
8. lryarupitcal looking forward to
9. play such a liauccr role
10. utterly neuqiu and special
11. the biggest encuaied
12. an ptceaeccan speech

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1304/130420-conductor.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () audience of your career. It's the nearest a classical musician gets to an acceptance speech at the Oscars."
- () proud to be the first woman, but I'm also sad that it's 2013 and there still can be firsts for women."
- () of conducting. He said: "Marin hasn't been chosen because she is a woman conductor. She knows and
- () ever. The BBC Proms started 118 years ago, include 92 concerts over 8 weeks, but have
- () musicians and I'm particularly looking forward to interacting with the audience, who play such a crucial role in making this a
- () the last night of the Proms is really a statement." Talking of her achievement, she said: "I'm extraordinarily
- () circumstance" of Britain. Ms Alsop told the BBC: "I think the fact that I'm an American woman, conducting
- () loves the Proms." Ms Alsop said: "I always enjoy working with the British orchestral
- (**1**) A woman will conduct an orchestra at the world's oldest and biggest music festival for the first time
- () The director of the Proms Roger Wright said he was happy to be part of changing the "man's world"
- () night that is utterly unique and special. It is a great honour that I know will be a
- () Last Night of the Proms. This is a distinctly British occasion to celebrate the "pomp and
- () highlight for me." She added: "The whole world is watching you. You're addressing the biggest
- () never had a female conductor. American Marin Alsop will take charge of the orchestra for the final concert – the legendary

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PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1304/130420-conductor.html>

1. orchestra final Take the the of for concert charge.

2. is distinctly occasion This a British.

3. is statement night Proms a last the really The of .

4. woman to be I'm the extraordinarily first proud.

5. and there still can be firsts for women It's 2013.

6. of "world man's" the changing of part Be conducting.

7. chosen is been she woman hasn't because a Marin.

8. the with interacting to forward Looking audience.

9. this a night that is utterly unique and special Making.

10. addressing your the career biggest audience You're of.

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1304/130420-conductor.html>

A woman will conduct an orchestra at the world's oldest and biggest music festival *for / in* the first time ever. The BBC Proms started 118 years ago, *inclusion / include* 92 concerts over 8 weeks, but have never had a female conductor. American Marin Alsop will *take / have* charge of the orchestra for the final concert – the *legend / legendary* Last Night of the Proms. This is a *distinctly / distinction* British occasion to celebrate the "*pump / pomp* and circumstance" of Britain. Ms Alsop told the BBC: "I think the *facts / fact* that I'm an American woman, conducting the last night of the Proms is *really / reality* a statement." Talking of her achievement, she said: "I'm extraordinarily *pride / proud* to be the first woman, but I'm also sad that it's 2013 and there still can be *firsts / first* for women."

The director of the Proms Roger Wright said he was happy to be part of *changing / charging* the "man's world" of conducting. He said: "Marin hasn't been chosen because she is a woman *conductor / conductress*. She knows and loves the Proms." Ms Alsop said: "I always enjoy working with the British *orchestral / orchestrate* musicians and I'm *peculiarly / particularly* looking forward to interacting *with / on* the audience, who *play / match* such a *cruciate / crucial* role in making this a night that is *utterly / utter* unique and special. It is a great honour that I know will be a highlight for me." She added: "The whole world is watching you. You're *redressing / addressing* the biggest audience of your career. It's the nearest a classical musician gets to an *acceptance / acceptable* speech at the Oscars."

Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.

INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1304/130420-conductor.html>

_ w _ m _ n _ w _ l _ l _ c _ n _ d _ c _ t _ _ n _ _ r _ c _ h _ s _ t _ r _ _ t _ t _ h _ _ w _ r _ l _ d _ ' _ s
_ l _ d _ s _ t _ _ n _ d _ b _ g _ g _ s _ t _ m _ s _ c _ f _ s _ t _ v _ l _ f _ r _ t _ h _ _ f _ r _ s _ t _ t _ m _
_ v _ r . T _ h _ _ B _ B _ C _ P _ r _ m _ s _ s _ t _ r _ t _ d _ 118 _ y _ _ r _ s _ _ g _ , _ _ n _ c _ l _ d _ 92
c _ n _ c _ r _ t _ s _ _ v _ r _ 8 _ w _ _ k _ s , b _ t _ h _ v _ _ n _ v _ r _ h _ d _ _ f _ m _ l _
c _ n _ d _ c _ t _ r . _ m _ r _ c _ n _ M _ r _ n _ _ l _ s _ p _ w _ l _ l _ t _ k _ _ c _ h _ r _ g _ _ f
t _ h _ _ r _ c _ h _ s _ t _ r _ _ f _ r _ t _ h _ _ f _ n _ l _ c _ n _ c _ r _ t _ - _ t _ h _ _ l _ g _ n _ d _ r _ y
L _ s _ t _ N _ g _ h _ t _ _ f _ t _ h _ _ P _ r _ m _ s . T _ h _ s _ _ s _ _ d _ s _ t _ n _ c _ t _ l _ y _ B _ r _ t _ s _ h
_ c _ c _ s _ _ n _ t _ c _ l _ b _ r _ t _ t _ h _ _ " p _ m _ p _ _ n _ d _ c _ r _ c _ m _ s _ t _ n _ c _ " _ f
B _ r _ t _ _ n . M _ s _ _ l _ s _ p _ t _ l _ d _ t _ h _ _ B _ B _ C : " _ t _ h _ n _ k _ t _ h _ _ f _ c _ t _ t _ h _ t
_ ' m _ _ n _ m _ r _ c _ n _ w _ m _ n , c _ n _ d _ c _ t _ n _ g _ t _ h _ _ l _ s _ t _ n _ g _ h _ t _ _ f
t _ h _ _ P _ r _ m _ s _ _ s _ r _ _ l _ l _ y _ _ s _ t _ t _ m _ n _ t . " T _ l _ k _ n _ g _ _ f _ h _ r
_ c _ h _ _ v _ m _ n _ t , s _ h _ _ s _ _ d : " _ ' m _ _ x _ t _ r _ _ r _ d _ n _ r _ l _ y _ p _ r _ _ d _ t _
b _ _ t _ h _ _ f _ r _ s _ t _ w _ m _ n , b _ t _ _ ' m _ _ l _ s _ _ s _ d _ t _ h _ t _ _ t _ ' s _ 2013
_ n _ d _ t _ h _ r _ _ s _ t _ i _ l _ c _ n _ b _ _ f _ r _ s _ t _ s _ f _ r _ w _ m _ n . "

T _ h _ _ d _ r _ c _ t _ r _ _ f _ t _ h _ _ P _ r _ m _ s _ R _ g _ r _ W _ r _ g _ h _ t _ s _ _ d _ h _ _ w _ s
h _ p _ p _ y _ t _ _ b _ _ p _ r _ t _ _ f _ c _ h _ n _ g _ n _ g _ t _ h _ _ " m _ n _ ' s _ w _ r _ l _ d " _ f
c _ n _ d _ c _ t _ n _ g . H _ _ s _ _ d : " M _ r _ n _ h _ s _ n _ ' t _ b _ _ n _ c _ h _ s _ n
b _ c _ _ s _ _ s _ h _ _ s _ _ w _ m _ n _ c _ n _ d _ c _ t _ r . S _ h _ _ k _ n _ w _ s _ _ n _ d
l _ v _ s _ t _ h _ _ P _ r _ m _ s . " M _ s _ _ l _ s _ p _ s _ _ d : " _ _ l _ w _ y _ s _ _ n _ j _ y
w _ r _ k _ n _ g _ w _ t _ h _ t _ h _ _ B _ r _ t _ s _ h _ _ r _ c _ h _ s _ t _ r _ l _ m _ s _ c _ _ n _ s _ _ n _ d
_ ' m _ p _ r _ t _ c _ l _ r _ l _ y _ l _ _ k _ n _ g _ f _ r _ w _ r _ d _ t _ _ n _ t _ r _ c _ t _ n _ g _ w _ t _ h
t _ h _ _ _ d _ _ n _ c _ , w _ h _ _ p _ l _ y _ s _ c _ h _ _ c _ r _ c _ _ l _ r _ l _ _ n _ m _ k _ n _ g
t _ h _ s _ _ n _ g _ h _ t _ t _ h _ t _ s _ _ t _ t _ r _ l _ y _ _ n _ q _ _ _ n _ d _ s _ p _ c _ _ l . _ t _ s
_ _ g _ r _ t _ h _ n _ _ r _ t _ h _ t _ _ k _ n _ w _ w _ l _ l _ b _ _ _ h _ g _ h _ l _ g _ h _ t _ f _ r
m _ . " S _ h _ _ _ d _ d : " T _ h _ _ w _ h _ l _ _ w _ r _ l _ d _ _ s _ w _ t _ c _ h _ n _ g _ y _ _ .
Y _ _ ' r _ _ _ d _ d _ r _ s _ s _ n _ g _ t _ h _ _ b _ g _ g _ s _ t _ _ _ d _ _ n _ c _ _ _ f _ y _ _ r
c _ r _ _ r . _ t _ ' s _ t _ h _ _ n _ _ r _ s _ t _ _ c _ l _ s _ s _ c _ l _ m _ s _ c _ _ n _ g _ t _ s _ t _
_ n _ _ c _ c _ p _ t _ n _ c _ _ s _ p _ _ c _ h _ _ t _ t _ h _ _ _ s _ c _ r _ s . "

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1304/130420-conductor.html>

a woman will conduct an orchestra at the world's oldest and biggest music festival for the first time ever the bbc proms started 118 years ago include 92 concerts over 8 weeks but have never had a female conductor american marin also will take charge of the orchestra for the final concert – the legendary last night of the proms this is a distinctly british occasion to celebrate the "pomp and circumstance" of britain ms also told the bbc "i think the fact that i'm an american woman conducting the last night of the proms is really a statement" talking of her achievement she said "i'm extraordinarily proud to be the first woman but i'm also sad that it's 2013 and there still can be firsts for women"

the director of the proms roger wright said he was happy to be part of changing the "man's world" of conducting he said "marin hasn't been chosen because she is a woman conductor she knows and loves the proms" ms also said "i always enjoy working with the british orchestral musicians and i'm particularly looking forward to interacting with the audience who play such a crucial role in making this a night that is utterly unique and special it is a great honour that i know will be a highlight for me" she added "the whole world is watching you you're addressing the biggest audience of your career it's the nearest a classical musician gets to an acceptance speech at the oscars"

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1304/130420-conductor.html>

A woman will conduct an orchestra at the world's oldest and biggest music festival for the first time ever. The BBC Proms started 118 years ago, include 92 concerts over 8 weeks, but have never had a female conductor. American Marin Alsop will take charge of the orchestra for the final concert – the legendary Last Night of the Proms. This is a distinctly British occasion to celebrate the "pomp and circumstance" of Britain. Ms Alsop told the BBC: "I think the fact that I'm an American woman, conducting the last night of the Proms is really a statement." Talking of her achievement, she said: "I'm extraordinarily proud to be the first woman, but I'm also sad that it's 2013 and there still can be firsts for women." The director of the Proms Roger Wright said he was happy to be part of changing the "man's world" of conducting. He said: "Marin hasn't been chosen because she is a woman conductor. She knows and loves the Proms." Ms Alsop said: "I always enjoy working with the British orchestral musicians and I'm particularly looking forward to interacting with the audience, who plays such a crucial role in making this a night that is utterly unique and special. It is a great honour that I know will be a highlight for me." She added: "The whole world is watching you. You're addressing the biggest audience of your career. It's the nearest a classical musician can get to an acceptance speech at the Oscars."

FREE WRITING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1304/130420-conductor.html>

Write about **orchestras** for 10 minutes. Comment on your partner's paper.

HOMework

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find out more about orchestras. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. ORCHESTRAS: Make a poster about orchestras. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. MARIN ALSOP: Write a magazine article about Marin Alsop and her appointment to be the first female conductor at the BBC Proms. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against that.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT? Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

6. LETTER: Write a letter to Marin Alsop. Ask her three questions about getting to conduct at the BBC Proms. Give her three of your opinions on her appointment. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

TRUE / FALSE (p.4)

a T b T c F d F e T f F g T h F

SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1. include | a. comprise |
| 2. legendary | b. famed |
| 3. distinctly | c. unmistakably |
| 4. achievement | d. accomplishment |
| 5. proud | e. overjoyed |
| 6. chosen | f. selected |
| 7. particularly | g. especially |
| 8. crucial | h. key |
| 9. addressing | i. speaking to |
| 10. audience | j. crowd |

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

- 118 years old
- The Last Night of the Proms
- She said it was "distinctly British"
- Being the first woman to conduct at the Proms
- That in 2013 there were still firsts for women
- The "man's world" of conducting
- She knows and loves the Proms
- Interacting with the audience
- The whole world
- Giving an acceptance speech at the Oscars

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

1. b 2. d 3. c 4. a 5. b 6. a 7. c 8. a 9. d 10. c

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.
(It's good for your English ;-)