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## **Level 0**

# **Britney Spears' music scares off pirates**

**31st October, 2013**

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1310/131031-loud-music-0.html>

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**Please try Levels 1, 2 and 3. They are (a little) harder.**

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# THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1310/131031-loud-music-0.html>

Ships near Somalia play Britney Spears songs to keep Somali pirates away. The ships' security teams play loud pop music because the pirates hate Western culture and music. They thought the pirates would hate Britney songs most. They stop pirate attacks. Each security team chooses its own music for the pirates.

Loud music scares people. It was used for torture in Guantanamo Bay. Prisoners listened to loud music for many weeks non-stop. They could not sleep. One prisoner said it was worse than being beaten up. He said: "It makes you feel like you are going mad." A charity asked pop stars to stop prisons using music for torture.

Sources: <http://www.ibtimes.com/britney-spears-scares-somali-pirates-hit-songs-used-fend-thieves-1443454>  
<http://www.mirror.co.uk/news/weird-news/britney-spears-music-blasted-out-2646660#ixzz2j6E6qXZh>  
[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/andy-worthington/a-history-of-music-tortur\\_b\\_151109.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/andy-worthington/a-history-of-music-tortur_b_151109.html)

# VOCABULARY MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1310/131031-loud-music-0.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |   |                      |
|---|----------------------|
| 1. ships near                           | a. most              |
| 2. keep Somali pirates                  | b. attacks           |
| 3. play loud                            | c. culture and music |
| 4. Western                              | d. away              |
| 5. the pirates would hate Britney songs | e. Somalia           |
| 6. stop pirate                          | f. own music         |
| 7. security                             | g. pop music         |
| 8. chooses its                          | h. team              |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                    |                   |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Loud music scares               | a. weeks non-stop |
| 2. It was used                     | b. going mad      |
| 3. listened to loud music for many | c. for torture    |
| 4. They could not                  | d. people         |
| 5. worse than being                | e. stars          |
| 6. It makes you feel like you are  | f. sleep          |
| 7. pop                             | g. torture        |
| 8. stop prisons using music for    | h. beaten up      |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1310/131031-loud-music-0.html>

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ play Britney Spears

(2) \_\_\_\_\_ Somali pirates away. The ships'

security teams play loud pop music because

(3) \_\_\_\_\_ Western (4) \_\_\_\_\_.

They thought the pirates would hate Britney songs most. They

(5) \_\_\_\_\_. Each security team chooses

(6) \_\_\_\_\_ for the pirates.

Loud music scares people. It (7) \_\_\_\_\_ torture

in Guantanamo Bay. Prisoners (8) \_\_\_\_\_ music

for many weeks non-stop. They (9) \_\_\_\_\_. One

prisoner said it was worse than (10) \_\_\_\_\_. He

said: "It makes you feel like you (11) \_\_\_\_\_." A

charity asked pop (12) \_\_\_\_\_ prisons using

music for torture.

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1310/131031-loud-music-0.html>

Ships near Somali play Britney Spears songs to keep Somali pirates away. The ships' security teams play loud pop music because the pirates hate Western culture and music. They thought the pirates would hate Britney songs most. They stop pirate attacks. Each security team chooses its own music for the pirates. Loud music scares people. It was used for torture in Guantanamo Bay. Prisoners listened to loud music for many weeks non-stop. They could not sleep. One prisoner said it was worse than being beaten up. He said: "It makes you feel like you are going mad." A charity asked pop stars to stop prisons using music for torture.

## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

- a) \_\_\_\_\_
- b) \_\_\_\_\_
- c) \_\_\_\_\_
- d) \_\_\_\_\_
- e) \_\_\_\_\_
- f) \_\_\_\_\_

*Britney Spears' music scares off pirates – 31st October, 2013*  
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## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

- a) \_\_\_\_\_
- b) \_\_\_\_\_
- c) \_\_\_\_\_
- d) \_\_\_\_\_
- e) \_\_\_\_\_
- f) \_\_\_\_\_

