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**Level 6 – 19th November, 2018**

## Elvis Presley gets Presidential Medal of Freedom

**FREE online quizzes, mp3 listening and more for this lesson here:**

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1811/181119-elvis-presley.html>

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**Please try Levels 4 and 5 (they are easier).**

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# THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1811/181119-elvis-presley.html>

The legendary rock 'n' roll singer Elvis Presley has been posthumously awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, 41 years after his death. Presley is known as the "King of rock and roll". He was one of seven recipients of the award. Other recipients included baseball great Babe Ruth and Supreme Court judge Antonin Scalia. The Presidential Medal of Freedom is bestowed by the President of the United States and is the highest award that can be given to a civilian. It recognizes those people who have made, "an especially meritorious contribution to the security or national interests of the United States, world peace, cultural or other significant public or private endeavors".

Speaking at the awards ceremony on Friday, President Trump said: "America is blessed to have the most skill, passion and talent of anywhere on earth. We are truly a great nation and we're a nation that is doing really, really well right now." The White House described Elvis as, "an enduring American icon". It added: "Presley defined American culture to billions of adoring fans around the world. Fusing gospel, country, and rhythm and blues, the star had created a sound all his own." Elvis is one of the most influential musicians of the 20th century. He is the best-selling solo artist in the history of recorded music. Other musical stars to get the award include Aretha Franklin, Bob Dylan and Stevie Wonder.

Sources: <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2018/11/16/president-trump-medals-freedom-elvis-babe-ruth/2025294002/>  
<https://www.bbc.com/news/entertainment-arts-46233352>  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Presidential\\_Medal\\_of\\_Freedom](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Presidential_Medal_of_Freedom)

# WARM-UPS

**1. ELVIS PRESLEY:** Students walk around the class and talk to other students about Elvis Presley. Change partners often and share your findings.

**2. CHAT:** In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

rock 'n' roll / medal / freedom / baseball / judge / award / contribution / peace / ceremony / blessed / passion / talent / nation / culture / billions / gospel / solo

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

**3. ROCK 'N' ROLL:** Students A **strongly** believe rock 'n' roll is the greatest form of music; Students B **strongly** believe it isn't. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**4. MEDAL:** Who would you give a medal to in these categories, and why? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	Who?	Why?
Music		
Environment		
Sport		
Business		
Politics		
Social Media		

**5. LEGEND:** Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "legend". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

**6. MUSIC:** Rank these with your partner. Put the best music genres at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- rock 'n' roll
- classical
- jazz
- folk
- electronic
- hip-hop
- country
- ambient

# VOCABULARY MATCHING

## Paragraph 1

- |                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| 1. legendary    | a. A public official appointed to decide cases in a court of law. |
| 2. posthumously | b. A person not in the armed services or the police force.        |
| 3. recipients   | c. Remarkable enough to be famous; very well known.               |
| 4. judge        | d. An attempt to achieve a goal.                                  |
| 5. civilian     | e. After the death of the creator or originator.                  |
| 6. meritorious  | f. A person or thing that receives or is awarded something.       |
| 7. endeavors    | g. Deserving reward or praise.                                    |

## Paragraph 2

- |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| 8. ceremony     | h. For or done by one person alone; unaccompanied.   |
| 9. blessed      | i. A formal religious or public occasion, typically one celebrating a particular event or anniversary. |
| 10. enduring    | j. Given a special quality; fortunate; privileged.   |
| 11. icon        | k. Love and respecting (someone) deeply.   |
| 12. adoring     | l. A person or thing regarded as a representative symbol of something.                                 |
| 13. influential | m. Continuing or long-lasting.   |
| 14. solo        | n. Having a great effect on someone or something.  |

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1811/181119-elvis-presley.html>

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

- a. Elvis Presley was posthumously awarded the medal of freedom. **T / F**
- b. Elvis Presley's nickname is the "Prince of rock 'n' roll". **T / F**
- c. A judge and a baseball star also got the medal of freedom. **T / F**
- d. The Medal of Freedom is awarded to civilians. **T / F**
- e. President Trump said America has the most talent on Earth. **T / F**
- f. The White House said Elvis Presley not iconic. **T / F**
- g. The White House said Elvis Presley confused gospel with country music. **T / F**
- h. Elvis Presley is the second best-selling solo artist in music history. **T / F**

## 2. SYNONYM MATCH:

Match the following synonyms. The words in **bold** are from the news article.

- |                       |                  |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| <b>1. legendary</b>   | a. lasting       |
| <b>2. awarded</b>     | b. praiseworthy  |
| <b>3. recipients</b>  | c. big names     |
| <b>4. meritorious</b> | d. celebrated    |
| <b>5. endeavors</b>   | e. important     |
| <b>6. passion</b>     | f. admiring      |
| <b>7. enduring</b>    | g. efforts       |
| <b>8. adoring</b>     | h. gave          |
| <b>9. influential</b> | i. enthusiasm    |
| <b>10. stars</b>      | j. beneficiaries |

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

- |                                       |                             |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. The legendary                      | a. icon                     |
| 2. He was one of seven                | b. meritorious contribution |
| 3. the highest award that can         | c. ceremony                 |
| 4. people who have made an especially | d. artist                   |
| 5. national                           | e. recipients of the award  |
| 6. awards                             | f. fans                     |
| 7. America is                         | g. rock 'n' roll singer     |
| 8. an enduring American               | h. interests                |
| 9. billions of adoring                | i. be given to a civilian   |
| 10. the best-selling solo             | j. blessed                  |

# GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1811/181119-elvis-presley.html>

The (1) \_\_\_\_\_ rock 'n' roll singer Elvis Presley has been posthumously awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, 41 years after his death. Presley is (2) \_\_\_\_\_ as the "King of rock and roll". He was one of seven (3) \_\_\_\_\_ of the award. Other recipients included baseball great Babe Ruth and Supreme Court judge Antonin Scalia. The Presidential Medal of Freedom is (4) \_\_\_\_\_ by the President of the United States and is the highest award that can be given to a (5) \_\_\_\_\_. It recognizes those people who have made, "an especially meritorious (6) \_\_\_\_\_ to the security or national (7) \_\_\_\_\_ of the United States, world peace, cultural or other (8) \_\_\_\_\_ public or private endeavors".

*bestowed*  
*interests*  
*legendary*  
*recipients*  
*significant*  
*contribution*  
*known*  
*civilian*

Speaking at the awards (9) \_\_\_\_\_ on Friday, President Trump said: "America is blessed to have the most skill, (10) \_\_\_\_\_ and talent of anywhere on earth. We are truly a great (11) \_\_\_\_\_ and we're a nation that is doing really, really well right now." The White House described Elvis as, "an enduring American (12) \_\_\_\_\_". It added: "Presley defined American culture to billions of (13) \_\_\_\_\_ fans around the world. Fusing gospel, country, and rhythm and blues, the star had created a (14) \_\_\_\_\_ all his own." Elvis is one of the most (15) \_\_\_\_\_ musicians of the 20th century. He is the best-selling (16) \_\_\_\_\_ artist in the history of recorded music. Other musical stars to get the award include Aretha Franklin, Bob Dylan and Stevie Wonder.

*sound*  
*passion*  
*icon*  
*solo*  
*ceremony*  
*influential*  
*adoring*  
*nation*

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1811/181119-elvis-presley.html>

- 1) rock 'n' roll singer Elvis Presley has been posthumously \_\_\_\_\_ Presidential Medal
  - a. award it the
  - b. awarded the
  - c. a ward it the
  - d. a war did the
- 2) Presley is known as the "King of rock and roll". He was one of \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. seven receipts
  - b. seven recipients
  - c. seven recipe inns
  - d. seven rest a pints
- 3) President of the United States and is the highest award that can be given \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. to a civil inn
  - b. to a civil van
  - c. to a civic van
  - d. to a civilian
- 4) made an especially meritorious contribution to the security or \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. nationally interests
  - b. national interests
  - c. national interest
  - d. nationality interest
- 5) world peace, cultural or other significant public or \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. privately endeavors
  - b. private endeavor
  - c. private endeavors
  - d. privation endeavor
- 6) Speaking at the awards ceremony on Friday, President Trump said: " \_\_\_\_\_"
  - a. America is blessed
  - b. America is dressed
  - c. America is addressed
  - d. America is gest
- 7) have the most skill, passion and talent of \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. anywhere in earth
  - b. anywhere on earth
  - c. anywhere of earth
  - d. anywhere to earth
- 8) The White House described Elvis as, "an enduring \_\_\_\_\_"
  - a. American icon
  - b. American iron
  - c. American I gone
  - d. American a con
- 9) It added: "Presley defined American culture to billions of \_\_\_\_\_"
  - a. adore in fans
  - b. adore ring fans
  - c. a boring fans
  - d. adoring fans
- 10) Elvis is one of the most influential musicians of the 20th century. He is the \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. best-sell in so low artist
  - b. best-selling solo artists
  - c. best-selling so low artists
  - d. best-selling solo artist

# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1811/181119-elvis-presley.html>

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ 'n' roll singer Elvis Presley has been posthumously awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, 41 years (2) \_\_\_\_\_. Presley is known as the "King of rock and roll". He was one of seven (3) \_\_\_\_\_ award. Other recipients included baseball great Babe Ruth and Supreme Court judge Antonin Scalia. The Presidential Medal of Freedom (4) \_\_\_\_\_ the President of the United States and is the highest award that can be given to a civilian. It recognizes those people who have made, "(5) \_\_\_\_\_ contribution to the security or national interests of the United States, world peace, cultural (6) \_\_\_\_\_ public or private endeavors".

Speaking at the (7) \_\_\_\_\_ Friday, President Trump said: "America is blessed to have the most skill, (8) \_\_\_\_\_ of anywhere on earth. We are truly a great nation and we're a nation that is doing really, really well right now." The White House described Elvis as, "an (9) \_\_\_\_\_". It added: "Presley defined American culture to billions (10) \_\_\_\_\_ around the world. Fusing gospel, country, and rhythm and blues, the star had created a sound all his own." Elvis is one of (11) \_\_\_\_\_ musicians of the 20th century. He is the best-selling solo artist in the history of recorded music. Other musical stars to get (12) \_\_\_\_\_ Aretha Franklin, Bob Dylan and Stevie Wonder.



# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1811/181119-elvis-presley.html>

1. How long ago after Elvis Presley died did he get this award?
2. What is Elvis Presley's nickname?
3. Who is the Presidential Medal of Freedom awarded to?
4. What kind of contribution is required for someone to get the award?
5. What interests do people need to serve for someone to get the award?
6. What adjective did Donald Trump use to describe the USA?
7. How did Donald Trump say America was doing?
8. What did the White House say Elvis Presley was?
9. What did Presley do to gospel, country, and rhythm and blues?
10. How successful a solo recording artist was Elvis Presley?

# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1811/181119-elvis-presley.html>

- 1) How long ago after Elvis Presley died did he get this award?
  - a) 40 years ago
  - b) 41 years
  - c) 42 years ago
  - d) 39 years ago
- 2) What is Elvis Presley's nickname?
  - a) the "Daddy of rock 'n' roll"
  - b) the "Prince of rock 'n' roll"
  - c) the "Boss of rock 'n' roll"
  - d) the "King of rock 'n' roll"
- 3) Who is the Presidential Medal of Freedom awarded to?
  - a) singers
  - b) celebrities
  - c) civilians
  - d) dead people
- 4) What kind of contribution is required for someone to get the award?
  - a) a meritorious contribution
  - b) a healthy contribution
  - c) a modest contribution
  - d) a financial contribution
- 5) What interests do people need to serve for someone to get the award?
  - a) personal interests
  - b) U.S. national interests
  - c) global interests
  - d) business interests
- 6) What adjective did Donald Trump use to describe the USA?
  - a) blessed
  - b) huge
  - c) beautiful
  - d) nice
- 7) How did Donald Trump say America was doing?
  - a) hugely
  - b) wonderfully
  - c) really, really well
  - d) OK
- 8) What did the White House say Elvis Presley was?
  - a) an enduring icon
  - b) the best
  - c) an idol
  - d) a celebrity
- 9) What did Presley do to gospel, country, and rhythm and blues?
  - a) collect it
  - b) write it
  - c) criticise it
  - d) he fused it
- 10) How successful a solo recording artist was Elvis Presley?
  - a) the second best
  - b) quite successful
  - c) the best-selling in history
  - d) the USA's most successful singer

# ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1811/181119-elvis-presley.html>

## **Role A – Rock 'n' Roll**

You think rock 'n' roll is the best music genre. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their genres. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): classical, jazz or folk.

## **Role B – Classical**

You think classical is the best music genre. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their genres. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): rock 'n' roll, jazz or folk.

## **Role C – Jazz**

You think jazz is the best music genre. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their genres. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): classical, rock 'n' roll or folk.

## **Role D – Folk**

You think folk is the best music genre. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their genres. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): classical, jazz or rock 'n' roll.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1811/181119-elvis-presley.html>

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

<b>rock</b>	<b>roll</b>
-------------	-------------

- 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"><li>• legendary</li><li>• known</li><li>• included</li><li>• bestowed</li><li>• highest</li><li>• especially</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• ceremony</li><li>• skill</li><li>• nation</li><li>• added</li><li>• sound</li><li>• stars</li></ul>
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# ELVIS PRESLEY SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1811/181119-elvis-presley.html>

Write five GOOD questions about Elvis Presley 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.

# ELVIS PRESLEY DISCUSSION

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

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'rock and roll'?
3. What do you know about Elvis Presley?
4. What do you think of rock and roll?
5. Who would you give an award to?
6. What do you think of the idea of national medals?
7. Have you ever received an award?
8. What do you think it's like to be a rock star?
9. What is the highest award in the world?
10. What should you get an award for?

*Elvis Presley gets Presidential Medal of Freedom – 19th November, 2018*  
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# ELVIS PRESLEY DISCUSSION

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

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'award'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. What is the difference between rock and roll, and rock music?
15. How blessed is your country?
16. Is the USA a truly great nation?
17. How has rock 'n' roll changed the world?
18. Who is the most influential musician ever?
19. How have your musical tastes changed?
20. What questions would you like to ask a rock star?

## 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. \_\_\_\_\_

# LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1811/181119-elvis-presley.html>

The (1) \_\_\_\_\_ rock 'n' roll singer Elvis Presley has been posthumously awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, 41 years after his (2) \_\_\_\_\_. Presley is known as the "King of rock and roll". He was one of seven (3) \_\_\_\_\_ of the award. Other recipients included baseball great Babe Ruth and Supreme Court judge Antonin Scalia. The Presidential Medal of Freedom is bestowed by the President of the United States and is the highest award that can be given to a (4) \_\_\_\_\_. It recognizes those people who have made, "an especially meritorious contribution to the security or national interests (5) \_\_\_\_\_ the United States, world peace, cultural or (6) \_\_\_\_\_ significant public or private endeavors".

(7) \_\_\_\_\_ at the awards ceremony on Friday, President Trump said: "America is blessed to have the most skill, passion and talent of anywhere on earth. We are (8) \_\_\_\_\_ a great nation and we're a nation that is doing really, really well right now." The White House described Elvis as, "an enduring American (9) \_\_\_\_\_ ". It added: "Presley defined American culture to billions of adoring fans around the world. (10) \_\_\_\_\_ gospel, country, and rhythm and blues, the star had created a sound all his own." Elvis is one of the most (11) \_\_\_\_\_ musicians of the 20th century. He is the best-selling solo artist in the history of recorded music. Other (12) \_\_\_\_\_ stars to get the award include Aretha Franklin, Bob Dylan and Stevie Wonder.

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

- |     |                  |                 |                 |                |
|-----|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| 1.  | (a) legend       | (b) legendarily | (c) legends     | (d) legendary  |
| 2.  | (a) die          | (b) deadly      | (c) dead        | (d) death      |
| 3.  | (a) receipts     | (b) recipients  | (c) receives    | (d) receptors  |
| 4.  | (a) civil        | (b) civility    | (c) civilian    | (d) civic      |
| 5.  | (a) by           | (b) at          | (c) of          | (d) on         |
| 6.  | (a) other        | (b) another     | (c) others      | (d) the others |
| 7.  | (a) Spoken       | (b) Speaking    | (c) Speech      | (d) Speakers   |
| 8.  | (a) truly        | (b) true        | (c) truth       | (d) truism     |
| 9.  | (a) iron         | (b) icon        | (c) acorn       | (d) econ       |
| 10. | (a) Fission      | (b) Fusion      | (c) Fusing      | (d) Frisking   |
| 11. | (a) content      | (b) spatial     | (c) influential | (d) holding    |
| 12. | (a) musicianship | (b) musicality  | (c) musician    | (d) musical    |



# SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1811/181119-elvis-presley.html>

## Paragraph 1

1. The eedglnyar rock 'n' roll singer
2. He was one of seven tcprnieeis
3. that can be given to a lianvcii
4. It zgecseinro those people
5. an especially meritorious onrtbuiincot
6. public or private avoneesrd

## Paragraph 2

7. Speaking at the awards eernmocy
8. have the most skill, psnsioa and talent
9. described Elvis as an eindgurn American icon
10. Presley edndfei American culture
11. billions of riognda fans
12. one of the most netiuflinla musicians

# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1811/181119-elvis-presley.html>

**Number these lines in the correct order.**

- ( ) peace, cultural or other significant public or private endeavors".
- ( ) 41 years after his death. Presley is known as the "King of rock and roll". He was one of seven
- ( **1** ) The legendary rock 'n' roll singer Elvis Presley has been posthumously awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom,
- ( ) award that can be given to a civilian. It recognizes those people who have made, "an especially
- ( ) recipients of the award. Other recipients included baseball great Babe Ruth and Supreme Court
- ( ) blessed to have the most skill, passion and talent of anywhere on earth. We are truly a great
- ( ) meritorious contribution to the security or national interests of the United States, world
- ( ) Speaking at the awards ceremony on Friday, President Trump said: "America is
- ( ) enduring American icon". It added: "Presley defined American culture to billions of adoring
- ( ) judge Antonin Scalia. The Presidential Medal of Freedom is bestowed by the President of the United States and is the highest
- ( ) in the history of recorded music. Other musical stars to get the award include Aretha Franklin, Bob Dylan and Stevie Wonder.
- ( ) fans around the world. Fusing gospel, country, and rhythm and blues, the star had created
- ( ) a sound all his own." Elvis is one of the most influential musicians of the 20th century. He is the best-selling solo artist
- ( ) nation and we're a nation that is doing really, really well right now." The White House described Elvis as, "an

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1811/181119-elvis-presley.html>

1. seven of of One award . the recipients
2. great baseball Ruth . Other Babe recipients included
3. award highest can The given . that be
4. national the The interests security US . of or
5. private or public significant Cultural or other endeavors .
6. the at Friday . ceremony awards Speaking on
7. blessed is the skill . to have America most
8. Elvis icon . an American as It described enduring
9. of American fans . billions to Defined culture adoring
10. of the influential most 20th The musicians century .

# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1811/181119-elvis-presley.html>

The *legendary* / *legend* rock 'n' roll singer Elvis Presley has been posthumously awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, 41 years after his death. Presley is *knowing* / *known* as the "King of rock and roll". He was one of seven *receipts* / *recipients* of the award. Other recipients *inclusive* / *included* baseball *great* / *good* Babe Ruth and Supreme Court judge Antonin Scalia. The Presidential Medal of Freedom is *borrowed* / *bestowed* by the President of the United States and is the highest *reward* / *award* that can be given to a civilian. It recognizes *them* / *those* people who have made, "an especially meritorious contribution *at* / *to* the security or national interests of the United States, world peace, cultural or other *significant* / *significance* public or private endeavors".

Speaking at the awards *ceremonial* / *ceremony* on Friday, President Trump said: "America is *blessed* / *blessing* to have the most skill, passion and *talent* / *talented* of anywhere on earth. We are *truly* / *truth* a great nation and we're a nation that is doing really, really well right now." The White House described Elvis as, "an *endurance* / *enduring* American icon". It added: "Presley *defined* / *definition* American culture to billions of adoring fans around the world. Fusing gospel, country, and *rhythm* / *rhythmical* and blues, the star had created a sound all his own." Elvis is one of the most *influential* / *influence* musicians of the 20th century. He is the best-selling *solo* / *sorrow* artist in the history of recorded music. Other musical stars to *forget* / *get* the award include Aretha Franklin, Bob Dylan and Stevie Wonder.

**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 <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1811/181119-elvis-presley.html>

Th\_ l\_g\_n\_d\_r\_y r\_c\_k 'n' r\_ll s\_n\_g\_r Elv\_s P  
r\_s\_l\_y h\_s b\_\_n p\_s\_t\_h\_m\_\_s\_l\_y \_w\_r\_d\_d th\_ P  
r\_s\_d\_n\_t\_\_l M\_d\_l \_f Fr\_\_d\_m, 41 y\_\_rs \_f\_t\_r  
h\_s d\_\_th. Pr\_s\_l\_y \_s k\_n\_w\_n \_s th\_ "K\_n\_g \_f  
r\_c\_k \_n\_d r\_ll". H\_ w\_s \_n\_ \_f s\_v\_n r\_c\_p\_\_n\_t  
s \_f th\_ \_w\_r\_d. O\_t\_h\_r r\_c\_p\_\_n\_t\_s \_n\_c\_l\_d\_d  
b\_s\_b\_ll g\_r\_\_t B\_b\_ R\_t\_h \_n\_d S\_p\_r\_m\_ C\_\_r\_t  
j\_d\_g\_ A\_n\_t\_n\_n S\_c\_l\_\_\_. Th\_ P\_r\_s\_d\_n\_t\_\_l M\_d\_l  
\_f Fr\_\_d\_m \_s b\_s\_t\_w\_d by th\_ P\_r\_s\_d\_n\_t \_f t  
h\_ U\_n\_t\_d S\_t\_t\_s \_n\_d \_s th\_ h\_g\_h\_s\_t \_w\_r\_d t  
h\_t c\_n b\_ g\_v\_n t\_\_c\_v\_l\_\_n. It r\_c\_g\_n\_z\_s  
t\_h\_s\_ p\_\_p\_l\_ w\_h\_ h\_v\_ m\_d\_, "n \_s\_p\_c\_\_lly  
m\_r\_t\_r\_\_s c\_n\_t\_r\_b\_t\_\_n t\_ th\_ s\_c\_r\_t\_y \_r  
n\_t\_\_n\_l \_n\_t\_r\_s\_t\_s \_f th\_ U\_n\_t\_d S\_t\_t\_s, w\_r\_l  
d p\_\_c\_, c\_l\_t\_r\_l \_r\_t\_h\_r s\_g\_n\_f\_c\_n\_t p\_b\_l\_c \_r  
p\_r\_v\_t\_ \_n\_d\_\_v\_r\_s".

S\_p\_\_k\_n\_g \_t th\_ \_w\_r\_d\_s c\_r\_m\_n\_y \_n Fr\_d\_y,  
P\_r\_s\_d\_n\_t T\_r\_m\_p s\_\_d: "A\_m\_r\_c\_\_s b\_l\_s\_s\_d  
t\_ h\_v\_ th\_ m\_s\_t s\_k\_l\_l, p\_s\_s\_\_n \_n\_d t\_l\_n\_t \_f  
\_n\_y w\_h\_r\_ \_n \_\_r\_t\_h. W\_\_r\_ t\_r\_l\_y \_g\_r\_\_t  
n\_t\_\_n \_n\_d w\_'r\_ \_n\_t\_\_n th\_t \_s\_d\_\_ng r\_\_l  
l\_y, r\_\_lly w\_ll r\_g\_h\_t n\_w." Th\_ W\_h\_t\_ H\_\_  
s\_ d\_s\_c\_r\_b\_d Elv\_s \_s, "n \_n\_d\_r\_n\_g A\_m\_r\_c\_n  
\_c\_n". It \_d\_d\_d: "P\_r\_s\_l\_y d\_f\_n\_d A\_m\_r\_c\_n  
c\_l\_t\_r\_ t\_ b\_l\_l\_\_n\_s \_f \_d\_r\_n\_g f\_n\_s \_r\_\_n\_d th\_  
w\_r\_l\_d. F\_s\_n\_g g\_s\_p\_l, c\_\_n\_t\_r\_y, \_n\_d r\_h\_y\_t\_h  
m \_n\_d b\_l\_\_s, th\_ s\_t\_r\_h\_d c\_r\_\_t\_d \_s\_\_n\_d  
\_l\_l h\_s \_w\_n." Elv\_s \_s \_n\_ \_f th\_ m\_s\_t \_n\_f  
l\_\_n\_t\_\_l m\_s\_c\_\_n\_s \_f th\_ 20th c\_n\_t\_r\_y. H\_  
\_s th\_ b\_s\_t-s\_l\_l\_n\_g s\_l\_ \_r\_t\_s\_t \_n th\_ h\_s\_t\_r\_y  
\_f r\_c\_r\_d\_d m\_s\_c. O\_t\_h\_r m\_s\_c\_l\_s\_t\_r\_s t\_g\_t  
th\_ \_w\_r\_d \_n\_c\_l\_d\_ A\_r\_t\_h\_ Fr\_n\_k\_l\_n, B\_b\_ D\_y\_l\_n  
\_n\_d S\_t\_v\_\_ W\_n\_d\_r.

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1811/181119-elvis-presley.html>

the legendary rock 'n' roll singer elvis presley has been posthumously awarded the presidential medal of freedom, 41 years after his death. presley is known as the "king of rock and roll". he was one of seven recipients of the award. other recipients included baseball great babe ruth and supreme court judge antonin scalia. the presidential medal of freedom is bestowed by the president of the united states and is the highest award that can be given to a civilian. it recognizes those people who have made, "an especially meritorious contribution to the security or national interests of the united states, world peace, cultural or other significant public or private endeavors".

speaking at the awards ceremony on friday, president trump said: "america is blessed to have the most skill, passion and talent of anywhere on earth. we are truly a great nation and we're a nation that is doing really, really well right now." the white house described elvis as, "an enduring american icon". it added: "presley defined american culture to billions of adoring fans around the world. fusing gospel, country, and rhythm and blues, the star had created a sound all his own." elvis is one of the most influential musicians of the 20th century. he is the best-selling solo artist in the history of recorded music. other musical stars to get the award include aretha franklin, bob dylan and stevie wonder.

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1811/181119-elvis-presley.html>

The legendary rock'n'roll singer Elvis Presley has been posthumously awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, 41 years after his death. Presley is known as the "King of rock and roll". He was one of seven recipients of the award. Other recipients included baseball great Babe Ruth and Supreme Court judge Antonin Scalia. The Presidential Medal of Freedom is bestowed by the President of the United States and is the highest award that can be given to a civilian. It recognizes those people who have made, "a especially meritorious contribution to the security or national interests of the United States, world peace, cultural or other significant public or private endeavors". Speaking at the awards ceremony on Friday, President Trump said: "America is blessed to have the most skill, passion and talent of any where on earth. We are truly a great nation and we're a nation that is doing really, really well right now." The White House described Elvis as, "an enduring American icon". It added: "Presley defined American culture to billions of adoring fans around the world. Fusing gospel, country, and rhythm and blues, the star had created a sound all his own." Elvis is one of the most influential musicians of the 20th century. He is the best-selling solo artist in the history of recorded music. Other musical stars to get the award include Aretha Franklin, Bob Dylan and Stevie Wonder.







# 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 this news story. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. ELVIS PRESLEY:** Make a poster about Elvis Presley. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

**4. AWARDS:** Write a magazine article about giving awards to normal people instead of stars. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against this.

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 an expert on Elvis Presley. Ask him/her three questions about him. Give him/her three of your opinions on Elvis. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## VOCABULARY (p.4)

1. c    2. e    3. f    4. a    5. b    6. g    7. d  
8. i    9. j    10. m    11. l    12. k    13. n    14. h

## TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

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

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

- |                |                  |
|----------------|------------------|
| 1. legendary   | a. celebrated    |
| 2. awarded     | b. gave          |
| 3. recipients  | c. beneficiaries |
| 4. meritorious | d. praiseworthy  |
| 5. endeavors   | e. efforts       |
| 6. passion     | f. enthusiasm    |
| 7. enduring    | g. lasting       |
| 8. adoring     | h. admiring      |
| 9. influential | i. important     |
| 10. stars      | j. big names     |

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

- 41 years
- The "King of rock 'n' roll"
- Civilians
- A meritorious contribution
- U.S. national interests
- Blessed
- Really, really well
- An enduring icon
- He fused it
- The best-selling solo artist in history

## WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.20)

- One of seven recipients of the award.
- Other recipients included baseball great Babe Ruth.
- The highest award that can be given.
- The security or national interests of the US.
- Cultural or other significant public or private endeavors.
- Speaking at the awards ceremony on Friday.
- America is blessed to have the most skill.
- It described Elvis as an enduring American icon.
- Defined American culture to billions of adoring fans.
- The most influential musicians of the 20th century.

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

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 ;-)