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**Level 1** – 13th April, 2020

## 1991 was the best year for music

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200413-best-year-for-music-1.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 2 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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# THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200413-best-year-for-music-1.html>

We all have our favourite year for music. Some people say it was 1824, when Beethoven performed his Symphony No. 9. Other people say it was 1969 because of hits by The Beatles. A survey by a UK radio station found 1991 was the best year. This is because of bands like R.E.M. and Nirvana. The year 1991 could be the best because of the average age of the station's listeners. Many of them were teenagers in 1991 and have great memories of that year.

A scientist thinks we still like the songs we heard when we were teenagers. She said during our teenage years, we make many big life-changing decisions. We also start long-term relationships and form many of our beliefs. She added that music controls our emotions, so songs we hear in our teens stick with us. The scientist added: "People in their 80s and 90s show a better memory for things that they first experienced between the ages of 10 and 30."

Sources: <https://www.radiox.co.uk/features/1991-was-actually-the-best-year-for-music/>  
<https://www.bbc.com/news/entertainment-arts-52131818>  
<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/music/artists/greatest-year-pop-music-history-one-choice/>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200413-best-year-for-music-1.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                     |                   |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. We all have our favourite year   | a. was 1824       |
| 2. Some people say it               | b. of that year   |
| 3. Beethoven performed his          | c. station        |
| 4. A survey by a UK radio           | d. listeners      |
| 5. The year 1991 could              | e. in 1991        |
| 6. the average age of the station's | f. for music      |
| 7. Many of them were teenagers      | g. Symphony No. 9 |
| 8. have great memories              | h. be the best    |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                     |                   |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. songs we heard when we           | a. of 10 and 30   |
| 2. We also start long-term          | b. 80s and 90s    |
| 3. form many of our                 | c. were teenagers |
| 4. music controls                   | d. experienced    |
| 5. songs we hear in our teens stick | e. beliefs        |
| 6. People in their                  | f. with us        |
| 7. things that they first           | g. relationships  |
| 8. between the ages                 | h. our emotions   |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200413-best-year-for-music-1.html>

We all (1) \_\_\_\_\_ year for music. Some people say (2) \_\_\_\_\_, when Beethoven performed his Symphony No. 9. Other people say it was 1969 (3) \_\_\_\_\_ by The Beatles. A survey by a UK radio station found 1991 was the best year. This (4) \_\_\_\_\_ bands like R.E.M. and Nirvana. The year 1991 could be the best because of (5) \_\_\_\_\_ of the station's listeners. Many of them were teenagers in 1991 and have (6) \_\_\_\_\_ that year.

A scientist thinks we still like the (7) \_\_\_\_\_ when we were teenagers. She said during (8) \_\_\_\_\_, we make many big life-changing decisions. We also start long-term relationships and form many (9) \_\_\_\_\_. She added that music (10) \_\_\_\_\_, so songs we hear in our teens (11) \_\_\_\_\_. The scientist added: "People in their 80s and 90s show a better memory for things that they first experienced between (12) \_\_\_\_\_ 10 and 30."

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200413-best-year-for-music-1.html>

We all have our favourite year for music. Some people say it was 1824, when Beethoven performed his Symphony No. 9. Other people say it was 1969 because of hits by The Beatles. A survey by a UK radio station found 1991 was the best year. This is because of bands like R.E.M. and Nirvana. They say 1991 could be the best because of the average age of the station's listeners. Many of them were teenagers in 1991 and have great memories of that year. A scientist thinks we still like the songs we heard when we were teenagers. She said during our teenage years, we make many big life-changing decisions. We also start long-term relationships and form many of our beliefs. She added that music controls our emotions, so songs we hear in our teens stick with us. The scientist added: "People in their 80s and 90s have a better memory for things that they first experienced between the ages of 10 and 30."

# THE BEST YEAR FOR MUSIC SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200413-best-year-for-music-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about The best year for music 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.

## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

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

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

c) \_\_\_\_\_

d) \_\_\_\_\_

e) \_\_\_\_\_

f) \_\_\_\_\_

*1991 was the best year for music – 13th April, 2020*  
More free lessons at [breakingnewsenglish.com](http://breakingnewsenglish.com)

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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) \_\_\_\_\_

