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**Level 2 – 22nd September, 2022**

## **Ability to move to the beat of music is genetic**

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2209/220922-beat-of-music-2.html>

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**Please try Levels 0, 1 and 3. They are (a little) harder.**

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# THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2209/220922-beat-of-music-2.html>

We all love to move to music. We cannot stop tapping our foot or nodding our head when we listen to music. New research says moving our body to music is genetic. Our dancing ability is in our genes. Our parents pass their sense of rhythm down to us. The study is from a university and a genomics and biotechnology company in the USA. Researchers found 69 genes that change how we react to musical rhythms. The different genes affect our ability to move in sync with music beats. The genes also change other biological rhythms, such as breathing, walking and sleeping.

The researchers used data on over 600,000 people. A researcher said the large number of people gave a "unique opportunity" to get "even small genetic signals". He added: "This research represents a leap forward for scientific understanding of the links between genetics and musicality." Another researcher said: "Rhythm is not just influenced by a single gene. It is influenced by many hundreds of genes." She said tapping, clapping and dancing in sync with music beats "is at the core of our human musicality". Doctors could use music and rhythms to make us healthier.

Sources: <https://neurosciencenews.com/genetic-lmusic-movement-21443/>  
<https://newatlas.com/science/genes-beat-sync-music-study-nature/>  
<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41562-022-01359-x>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2209/220922-beat-of-music-2.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                             |                       |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. We all love to           | a. of rhythm          |
| 2. We cannot stop tapping   | b. head               |
| 3. nodding our              | c. in our genes       |
| 4. moving our body to music | d. and sleeping       |
| 5. Our dancing ability is   | e. move to music      |
| 6. sense                    | f. to musical rhythms |
| 7. how we react             | g. our foot           |
| 8. breathing, walking       | h. is genetic         |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                             |                        |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. data on                  | a. and dancing         |
| 2. he large number          | b. forward             |
| 3. a unique                 | c. healthier           |
| 4. a leap                   | d. over 600,000 people |
| 5. It is influenced by many | e. opportunity         |
| 6. clapping                 | f. human musicality    |
| 7. at the core of our       | g. of people           |
| 8. make us                  | h. hundreds of genes   |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2209/220922-beat-of-music-2.html>

We all (1) \_\_\_\_\_ to music. We cannot stop tapping our foot or nodding our head when we listen to music. New research says moving our body to (2) \_\_\_\_\_. Our dancing ability is in our genes. Our parents pass their (3) \_\_\_\_\_ down to us. The study is from a university and a genomics and biotechnology company in the USA. Researchers found 69 genes that change (4) \_\_\_\_\_ to musical rhythms. The different genes affect our ability to (5) \_\_\_\_\_ with music beats. The genes also change other biological rhythms, (6) \_\_\_\_\_, walking and sleeping.

The researchers used (7) \_\_\_\_\_ 600,000 people. A researcher said the large (8) \_\_\_\_\_ gave a "unique opportunity" to get "even small genetic signals". He added: "This research (9) \_\_\_\_\_ forward for scientific understanding of the links between (10) \_\_\_\_\_." Another researcher said: "Rhythm is not just influenced by a single gene. It (11) \_\_\_\_\_ many hundreds of genes." She said tapping, clapping and dancing in sync with music beats "is at the core of our human musicality". Doctors could use music and rhythms to (12) \_\_\_\_\_.

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2209/220922-beat-of-music-2.html>

We all love to move to music. We cannot stop tapping our foot or nodding our head when we listen to music. New research says moving our body to music is genetic. Our dancing ability is in our genes. Our parents pass their sense of rhythm down to us. The study is from a university and a genomics and biotechnology company in the USA. Researchers found 69 genes that change how we react to musical rhythms. The different genes affect our ability to move in sync with music beats. The genes also change other biological rhythms, such as breathing, walking and sleeping. The researchers used data on over 600,000 people. A researcher said the large number of people gave a "unique opportunity to get even small genetic signals". He added: "This research represents a leap forward for scientific understanding of the links between genetics and musicality." Another researcher said: "Rhythm is not just influenced by a single gene. It is influenced by many hundreds of genes." She said tapping, clapping and dancing in sync with music beats "is at the core of our human musicality". Doctors could use music and rhythm to make us healthier.

# RHYTHM SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2209/220922-beat-of-music-2.html>

Write five GOOD questions about rhythm 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) \_\_\_\_\_

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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) \_\_\_\_\_

