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**Level 1 – 5th February 2026**

## **Legendary singer Fela Kuti wins major Grammy**

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2602/260205-fela-kuti-1.html>

### **Contents**

The Reading	2
Phrase Matching	3
Listening Gap Fill	4
No Spaces	5
Survey	6
Writing and Speaking	7
Writing	8

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

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# THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2602/260205-fela-kuti-1.html>

The legendary musician Fela Kuti has been awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award at the Grammys. He is the first African to get the award. Kuti died in 1997, but he left an amazing legacy. His daughter said the award was "better late than never". She said her father didn't care about awards. She said: "He played music because he loved music. It was to be acknowledged by his people...that made him happy."

Fela Kuti was born in 1938. He revolutionized African music and pioneered the Afrobeat music genre. This mixed traditional rhythms, jazz, and funk to make a powerful sound. He was an amazing live performer and toured the world. His concerts were a celebration of rhythm and African identity. He fought against corruption and colonial influence. Because of this, he was arrested, beaten, and imprisoned. His influence on music is still alive today.

Sources: <https://www.okayafrica.com/fela-kuti-becomes-the-first-african-artist-to-receive-a-grammys-lifetime-achievement-award/1420138>  
<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2026/2/1/fela-kuti-becomes-first-african-to-get-grammys-lifetime-achievement-award>  
<https://www.france24.com/en/culture/20260131-fela-kuti-first-african-honored-grammys-lifetime-achievement-award-afrobeat>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2602/260205-fela-kuti-1.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                            |                       |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. The legendary           | a. late than never    |
| 2. a Lifetime Achievement  | b. happy              |
| 3. He is the first African | c. Award              |
| 4. he left an amazing      | d. musician Fela Kuti |
| 5. the award was better    | e. legacy             |
| 6. her father didn't care  | f. music              |
| 7. he loved                | g. to get the award   |
| 8. that made him           | h. about awards       |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                    |                   |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. He revolutionized               | a. sound          |
| 2. pioneered the Afrobeat music    | b. corruption     |
| 3. This mixed traditional          | c. genre          |
| 4. make a powerful                 | d. of rhythm      |
| 5. He was an amazing               | e. rhythms        |
| 6. His concerts were a celebration | f. alive today    |
| 7. He fought against               | g. African music  |
| 8. His influence on music is still | h. live performer |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2602/260205-fela-kuti-1.html>

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ Fela Kuti has been awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award at the Grammys. He is the first African to (2) \_\_\_\_\_. Kuti died in 1997, but he left (3) \_\_\_\_\_. His daughter said the award was "(4) \_\_\_\_\_ never". She said her father didn't (5) \_\_\_\_\_. She said: "He played music because he loved music. It was to be acknowledged by his people...that (6) \_\_\_\_\_."

Fela Kuti was born in 1938. (7) \_\_\_\_\_ music and pioneered the Afrobeat music genre. This mixed traditional rhythms, jazz, and funk to make (8) \_\_\_\_\_. He was an amazing live performer and (9) \_\_\_\_\_. His concerts were a celebration of rhythm and African identity. (10) \_\_\_\_\_ corruption and colonial influence. (11) \_\_\_\_\_, he was arrested, beaten, and imprisoned. His influence on music is (12) \_\_\_\_\_.

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2602/260205-fela-kuti-1.html>

The legendary musician Fela Kuti has been awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award at the Grammys. He is the first African to get the award. Kuti died in 1997, but he left an amazing legacy. His daughter said the award was "better late than never". She said her father didn't care about awards. She said: "He played music because he loved music. It was to be acknowledged by his people... that made him happy." Fela Kuti was born in 1938. He revolutionized African music and pioneered the Afrobeat music genre. This mixed traditional rhythms, jazz, and funk to make a powerful sound. He was an amazing live performer and toured the world. His concerts were a celebration of rhythm and African identity. He fought against corruption and colonial influence. Because of this, he was arrested, beaten, and imprisoned. His influence on music is still alive today.

# MUSIC LEGENDS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2602/260205-fela-kuti-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about music legends 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) \_\_\_\_\_

# WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2602/260205-fela-kuti-1.html>

Write about **music legends** for 10 minutes. Read and talk about your partner's paper.

[illegible]