

## IELTS Speaking – Topic 1.7: Music

### 1. Do you like listening to music?

“Yes, of course, I’ve always been a big fan of music since I was a little girl. I often listen to it on my Walkman when I’m travelling from place to place or when I’m at home, relaxing, you know. Listening to music acts as my mood savior when it always helps me revitalize and recharge myself whenever I’m feel blue or stress.”

Đối với câu này thực chất bạn chỉ cần trả lời ngắn gọn: “1 câu trả lời yes/no + 1 câu giải thích lý do” = “Yes, of course, I’ve always been a big fan of music since I was a little girl because it always helps me revitalize and recharge myself whenever I’m feel blue or stress, you know.” (Vấn đủ các tiêu chí về từ vựng, ngữ pháp mà ngắn gọn, súc tích.)

Luôn nhớ đưa ra lý do đi kèm với câu trả lời và tận dụng sử dụng các cấu trúc phức trong đó.

#### Từ vựng:

be a big fan of st	= like = be into = be keen on st
savior	vị cứu tinh
revitalize	đem lại sức sống mới
recharge	nạp lại năng lượng
feel blue	cảm thấy buồn

### 2. What kinds of music do you like?

“I have an open mind when it comes to music. I mean I like a little of everything because I suppose it’s important enough to be open to enjoy all types, as long as it’s a good one. You know. Like for instance, rock music blows my mind with the energy it gives off or classical music touches my heart with its soothing rhythms, lyrics and its harmony, too. Anyway, all sorts of music comes easy to me but I do have my favorite singers, Taylor Swift and Christina Perri.”

Chú ý khi bạn sử dụng những từ linking ở trên, phải nói nhanh, tự nhiên, nếu không sẽ phản tác dụng. Và đặc biệt nhớ, dùng được những từ như vậy không có nghĩa là bạn đã có academic words. ĐÓ hoàn toàn sai lầm. Đây không phải từ vựng chúng ta cần, nó là từ chúng ta nên dùng để nói tự nhiên, trôi chảy, giúp ta có thêm thời gian để suy nghĩ và là bước đệm cho ý tiếp theo.

#### Từ vựng:

blow one’s mind	làm cho đầu óc sáng khoái
give off	phát ra

touch my heart	chạm đến trái tim
soothing	dịu dàng, êm dịu
rhythm	nhịp điệu, giai điệu
harmony	sự hòa hợp, cân đối

### 3. What kinds of music are popular in your country?

“Well, it depends coz everybody has different tastes, you know, but I think Love songs and Pop music are the ones that’re never out of date thanks to its catchy tune and seductive melody and also because they’re always played by people’s famous idols. Some kinds of trendy music like rap and EDM are getting pretty popular in my country, too although I don’t really know what it is.”

Ở câu hỏi này các bạn có thể trả lời “it depends”, rồi chia ra depends on độ tuổi (già thích nghe gì, trẻ thích nghe gì), giới tính (nam/nữ), vùng miền (thành phố/nông thôn)... như mình đã phân tích ở cấu trúc trả lời dạng câu hỏi như thế này. Các bạn có thể xem tại đây: [Topic 1.4: Hobbies and Interests](#) (câu 3).

#### Từ vựng:

taste	thị hiếu âm nhạc
out of date	lạc hậu, lỗi mốt
catchy	hấp dẫn, lôi cuốn
seductive	cuốn hút, quyến rũ

### 4. Have you ever learned to play a musical instrument?

“Yes, actually I have. I tried to learn how to play piano twice in my previous time, you know one time I was so determined that I bought a piano to home to practice but unfortunately, it never seems to last more than a week. You know, learning to play a musical instrument requires not only your passion but also patience and time which I didn’t have at that time. I wish I could go back like 4 years ago when I was still at high school, I would have spent more time doing what I like instead of being a bookworm as my school claims to be, which I feel pity now. But I’m definitely going to teach my kids to play if they have the gift.”

#### Từ vựng

determined	quyết tâm
passion	đam mê

patience	sự kiên nhẫn
bookworm	mọt sách
the gift	tài năng thiên phú
pity	đáng tiếc

### 5. Do you prefer listening to live performances or recorded music?

“I guess I have to go for recorded music. I know sometimes this type of music has often been modified and even totally different from the real voice of the singer but I don’t care that much. What I care is the ultimate effect this record brings to me, how much enjoyable moment I get when listening to it, how it can recover me and cheer me up. Live performance will never be that good although I cannot admit the atmosphere of excitement it bears. As well as that, what I find really cool about the recorded songs is that it’s portable, I mean, you can just copy it into your MP3 player and that’s it, can you enjoy it whenever you want, at your leisure.”

#### Từ vựng:

modify	chỉnh sửa
ultimate effect	hiệu quả cuối cùng
cheer me up	làm ai phấn khích, phấn khởi
Live performance	biểu diễn trực tiếp
portable	dễ dàng mang đi, dễ dàng di chuyển
at your leisure.	thời gian rảnh

### 6. What benefits do children gain by studying music or learning to play a musical instrument?

“There are many benefits indeed. I definitely think that playing an instrument makes you smarter and teaches you self-disciplines, determination and patience as well. It also relieve your stress, give you a sense of achievement of most of all, it’s fun. Besides, it’s proven that people playing at least one instrument since they were kids become smarter, flexible and have a higher chance of having successful life in the future.”

Thực chất trả lời một câu hỏi trong đề thi IELTS ngoài việc trả lời yes/no, bạn hãy cố gắng trả lời thêm why/ how nữa là ok rồi.

#### Từ vựng:

indeed	thực sự
self-disciplines	tính kỷ luật
determination	tinh thần quyết tâm
relieve your stress	giảm căng thẳng
sense of achievement	tâm giác thành tựu
prove	chứng minh

Một số từ vựng khác về chủ đề này các bạn có thể dùng cho câu trả lời riêng của mình. Các bạn hãy tự tra từ điển các từ này để biết nghĩa và cách đọc, cách phát âm của nó nhé. Hãy cố gắng đặt một câu với một từ, một câu có nghĩa nhé, không đặt đối phó!

### Nouns

harmony	synthesizer	album	MP3 player
melody	concert	tune	a hit record
lyric	gig (= concert)	CD player	

### Verbs

download (MP3's)	burn CD's	put on CD / piece of music
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### Adjectives

funky	catchy	soothing	atmospheric	portable
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### Idioms

blow one's mind	The music was so amazing it blew my mind.
set st. to music	The composer managed to set the lyrics to music.
chill out to (= relax)	I often chill out to atmospheric ambient music.

## IELTS Music Vocabulary

### Part 1-style questions

#### Examiner: What kind of music do you listen to?

Katherine: I'm a big fan of classical music ... it doesn't make me very popular with my children ... their taste in music is completely different ... they always want to listen to their favourite rock bands ...

**Examiner: Do you play any instruments?**

Jamie: No I don't ... I've always wished I'd taken up a musical instrument ... I'd love to be able to play the guitar ... but I think I'm a bit tone deaf so perhaps I'd find it hard ...

**Examiner: Have you got any hobbies or interests?**

Marco: I'm really into live music ... I go to a lot of music festivals ... I think a live performance always sounds more exciting than a recorded version ... as long as the performers can sing and play well of course ...

**Part 2-style task**

Describe a song you like to listen to. You should say

Millie: Well ... I'm a little older than most students and when I was young Abba the Swedish pop group were very famous ... I don't think it was cool to like them even though they had a huge following but I think now people have realised what wonderful songs they wrote ... one piece of music in particular is called 'Slipping through my fingers' ... it wasn't a massive hit but I love it ... it's a song for parents and it's all about how quickly our children grow up ... it's a slow number and like a lot of their songs it's a very catchy tune ... the two women in Abba had great voices and it's the kind of music you can also sing along to easily ... even if you don't have a great voice ... I listen to Abba when I feel like a sing-song ... and I especially like to listen when I'm doing the housework ... it stops me thinking about the hard work ...

**Part 3-style questions**

**Examiner: Is the Internet a good or bad thing for the music industry?**

Thomas: On the one hand it's good for marketing new musical talent or particular bands but it's so easy to share and download tracks for free I think it is costing the industry a lot of money ...

**Examiner: Should music be treated as seriously as subjects like maths or sciences at school?**

Carla: I think it should ... I don't think it should be taught in a boring way ... I mean making children read music ... but I do think they should be encouraged to play instruments and to play things by ear perhaps ... to keep the lessons fun ...

**Examiner: Where do people usually enjoy listening to music?**

Sally: In lots of ways or places ... as background music when they are doing something else ... at concerts when a band goes on tour ... or in clubs or discos ...

**Definitions**

adoring fans: people who love a particular band or singer

background music: music that is played while something else is happening

a catchy tune: a song that is easy to remember and makes you want to sing it

classical music: music that is regarded as part of a long, formal tradition

to download tracks: to obtain music from the Internet

to have a great voice: to sing well

to go on tour: to go on a planned series of performances around a region or country

a huge following: a large number of fans

live music: music that is listened to while it is performed (not recorded)

live performance: (see live music)

a massive hit: a record that sells lots of copies

a music festival: music performances at a venue often over several days

musical talent: skilled at music

to be/sing out of tune: to not be in harmony/to sing the wrong notes

a piece of music: an item of music

to play by ear: to play without reading the musical notes

a pop group: a small group of people who play or sing pop music together

to read music: to understand and follow written musical notes

a rock band: a group of musicians that play rock music

to sing along to: to join in singing

a sing-song: to sing informally, often with other people

a slow number: a song with a slow tempo

to take up a musical instrument: to begin learning a musical instrument

taste in music: the music someone likes

to be tone deaf: to be unable to distinguish the different notes in music