

SKILLS TEST 5

Standard

READING

1 Read the article. Match the questions (1–7) to the numbers in (a–g).

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Radiohead – Rock’s most environmentally friendly musicians?

Radiohead have been writing songs since they got together in 1985. After their big hits in the 1990s, like *Creep* in 1992, they have continued releasing albums, selling more than 30 million copies, in total. They are one of the most successful bands from the UK, but what makes them different from other stars is that they try to be as environmentally friendly as possible.

This is not easy for a band that travels all over the world to perform. However, they try to play small gigs in cities, not large concerts or festivals far from city centres. This means that fans can use public transport, and not private cars, to travel to see Radiohead. For one concert in Paris, the band gave away 50 free tickets to fans. But these tickets were only available for people who went by bike to a special office to get them. Radiohead also tries to help the environment by sending their music equipment across the world by ship, not plane, as this reduces the amount of pollution they create. Another interesting thing that they have been doing since 2007 is releasing their albums online as ZIP files for people to download. This means that they have been using much less plastic or paper than other bands, who prefer to sell CDs to their fans.

Radiohead were not the first big music stars to release music online – David Bowie did this 11 years earlier – but their 2007 album was very successful with 1.2 million downloads within a few years. In total, they have now sold over 12 million albums as downloads.

Of course, Radiohead know that they are not perfect. They still drive cars, use planes, and use up a lot of fuel. Their fans do, too, when they come to see the band perform. Despite this, Radiohead knows it has a responsibility to make changes in their behaviour – some small, some big – and make a difference.



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- 1 When did Radiohead release their first album online?
- 2 When did Radiohead release one of their most popular songs?
- 3 How many albums have Radiohead sold online?
- 4 When did a major artist first release music online?
- 5 How many times was Radiohead's first online album downloaded?
- 6 When did the members of Radiohead start their band?
- 7 How many albums has Radiohead sold in total?

- | | |
|--------|------------------------|
| a 1985 | e 1.2 million |
| b 1992 | f more than 12 million |
| c 1996 | g 30 million |
| d 2007 | |

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2 Read the article again. Mark the sentences T (true) or F (false), or DS (the article doesn't say).

- 1 Radiohead haven't been popular since the 1990s.
- 2 Radiohead weren't interested in the environment before they became famous.
- 3 They want their fans to be environmentally friendly, if possible.
- 4 In Paris, Radiohead wanted to encourage some people to use bikes.
- 5 Radiohead travel by ship instead of plane.
- 6 Since 2007, fans haven't needed to go to a shop to buy Radiohead's albums.
- 7 Not many people downloaded Radiohead's first online album.
- 8 Radiohead never do anything to pollute the environment.

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LISTENING

3 Listen to two teenagers talking. Match the questions and answers.

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|-----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| 0 When did John start playing music? | a So people can know how good the music is. |
| 1 What is John's dream? | b It's a secret. |
| 2 Who has heard his music? | c When he was a young child. |
| 3 Why is this? | d No-one. |
| 4 When did Laura start playing music at home? | e To be a famous musician. |
| 5 What is Laura's dream? | f To help the dreams come true. |
| 6 Who has heard her music? | g A short time ago. |
| 7 Why is this? | h Lots of people. |

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4 Listen again. For each question, choose the right answer (A, B or C).

- 0 How old was John when he started playing an instrument?
 A one **B** two C nine
- 1 What did John play when he was very young?
 A drums B keyboard C saxophone
- 2 Where or how do his friends listen to his music?
 A on special equipment B on the radio C phones
- 3 Why does he put his songs online?
 A for his friends to hear B to become well-known C because he's famous
- 4 How many people have heard his songs online?
 A more than 1,000,000 B only his friends C more than 1,000
- 5 What has Laura started to do recently?
 A listen to live music B write songs C go to gigs
- 6 What advice does she give, if you want your dreams to come true?
 A not to tell other people B talk to friends about them C not to think about them
- 7 Why does she think this?
 A Her friends won't like her. B Her friends will try to stop her. C She will think she's already achieved something.
- 8 What is going to happen soon?
 A She will start working hard. B She will win something. C She might take part in a competition.

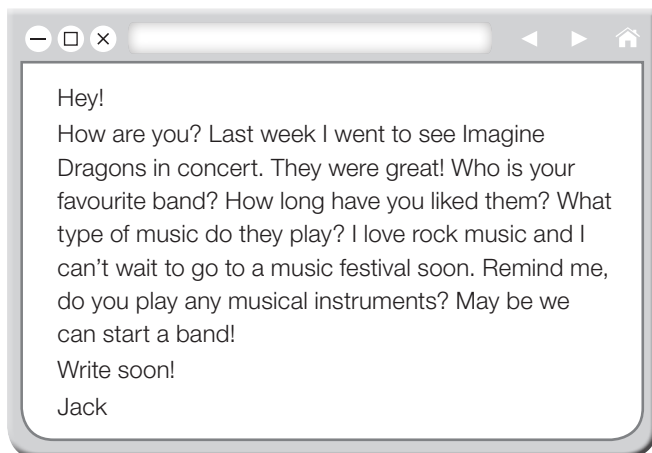
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SKILLS TEST 5

Standard

WRITING

5 Read the email from Jack. Write a reply to him and answer his questions. Write around 90 words.



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SPEAKING

6 Discuss the questions below.

- What singers or bands do you like?
- How long have you been listening to them?
- Have you ever been to a music festival or concert?
- What music do you listen to when you feel upset?
- What music do you suggest your partner should listen to?

7 Work in pairs. You and your partner want to start a new hobby. Talk together about the different things you could do and decide which would be the most fun. Use the ideas below, and the phrases in the list to express surprise and enthusiasm.

What a brilliant idea!

That sounds wonderful!

How exciting!

That's amazing!

Wow!

Oh, really?

Incredible!

Cool!

Fascinating!

- grow all your own vegetables
- start a group to clean up all the litter in the streets near your home
- start your own band
- learn a new musical instrument
- your own idea

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TOTAL SCORE

	70
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