

# The Media: a Meeting Point

## ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THE RADIO

Activities | ACT 03. Radio.



Name

Date

### 1) Vocabulary about the radio.

| #  | ENG                  | CAT | SPA | DEFINITION  |
|----|----------------------|-----|-----|---|
| 1  | <input type="text"/> |     |     | Amount of times that a wave repeats per second, measured in Hertz after Heinrich R. Hertz devised this form of measurement. |
| 2  | <input type="text"/> |     |     | Level of amplification of a given signal.   |
| 3  | <input type="text"/> |     |     | Very popular form of audio connector, available in stereo or mono formats.  |
| 4  | <input type="text"/> |     |     | Dominant major or minor scale used to construct melodies and harmonies in a piece of music.                                 |
| 5  | <input type="text"/> |     |     | Annoying audio noise, created by harmonics at the 60 Hertz.   |
| 6  | <input type="text"/> |     |     | Signal processing which creates an electronic simulation of a chorus by combining a signal with a delayed copy of itself.   |
| 7  | <input type="text"/> |     |     | When the amplitude of a signal exceeds the maximum possible level of a device.  |
| 8  | <input type="text"/> |     |     | When one electronic signal begins to interfere with another one.  |
| 9  | <input type="text"/> |     |     | Logarithmic measure of sound pressure level, it's 1/10 of a "Bel".  |
| 10 | <input type="text"/> |     |     | Gradually increment or decrement the level of a signal.   |
| 11 | <input type="text"/> |     |     | Electrical circuit designed to boost or attenuate certain frequencies within the sound spectrum.                            |
| 12 | <input type="text"/> |     |     | The study of sound and its behaviour within an environment.   |
| 13 | <input type="text"/> |     |     | The level of a signal.  |
| 14 | <input type="text"/> |     |     | Frequency which falls within the range of human hearing, and measured in Hertz (20Hz - 20,000Hz) .                          |
| 15 | <input type="text"/> |     |     | Generally this is the amount of information which may be carried by a specific device.                                      |
| 16 | <input type="text"/> |     |     | Electro-acoustic device which can pickup sounds and convert them into an electronic signal.                                 |
| 17 | <input type="text"/> |     |     | Amount of background noise produced by a piece of audio hardware, measured in dB's.   |
| 18 | <input type="text"/> |     |     | The fundamental frequency of a sound.   |
| 19 | <input type="text"/> |     |     | The sliding, variable resistance device that adjusts the level of something.  |
| 20 | <input type="text"/> |     |     | Gradual decay of a sound due to multiple echos reflecting from the many surfaces of an acoustic environment.                |
| 21 | <input type="text"/> |     |     | Electrical circuit designed to generate sonic waveform.   |
| 22 | <input type="text"/> |     |     | The qualities of a sound.   |

2) Read the next text about the history of the radio and answer the questions.

### History of the Radio

Radio is a technology that transmits data to a remote point where a receiver detects the signal without the use of wire. Radio is thought to be AM or FM stations in terms of common glossary. In fact, radio waves are also used for receiving and sending data waves like satellite broadcasts, Bluetooth devices and wifi networks.

The history of radio dates back to the mid 1800s. It involved theory related to electricity and magnetism. Telegraph was the first available technology developed from this discovery although it required wire cables.

**James Clerk Maxwell** had developed his own theories related to electromagnetism in 1865. This led to the first true experiments of wireless. Many physicists like Thomas Edison, Mahlon Loomis and William Henry Ward patented methods of sending and receiving a wireless telegraph system but a working system was never demonstrated by them.

In 1884, **Temistocle Calzecchi-Onesti** invented a device which was subsequently refined. **Edouard Branly** later named it *coherer* in 1886. It was a glass tube filled with metal filings connected to electrical current producing an audible click in a sounder while receiving the signal. The *coherer* became the enabling technology allowing early radio signals to be received.

In 1887, **Heinrich Hertz** was the first person who had refined a system that allowed him to experiment with sending wireless signals to a wireless receiver. He was honored in 1933. In 1892, a Serbian-Croatian immigrant to the US, **Nikola Tesla** demonstrated the first complete radio transmitter and receiver system and became the first successful person invent radio. Unfortunately, there was a fire in his laboratory in 1895 and he could not demonstrate his radio. However in 1898, Tesla demonstrated the first radio later and filed patents for radio in early 1900s.

An Italian, **Guglielmo Marconi** was fascinated by the idea of wirelessly transmitting a telegraph signal. In 1894, he successfully invented a spark transmitter with an antenna. Unfortunately, the Italian Postal Service which controlled telegraph services were not interested in his experiment. He moved to England in 1896 where he successfully demonstrated his technology to the English Post Office who immediately recognized his services. Queen Victoria was also impressed by his invention. Marconi was related to British nobility who were powerful investors in his companies and in the emerging US markets.

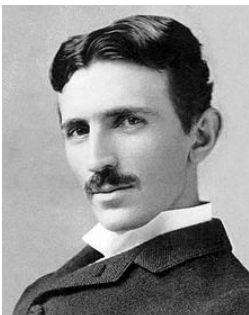
In 1900, another American **Reginald Fessenden** demonstrated his new technology which was used by the weather department for sending information to ships at sea. He invented the Barretter detector allowing him to develop amplitude modulation (AM). The 1920s was the true birth years of modern radio and almost every home owned a radio. Television started to catch up during the 1960s and it was a preferred medium of entertainment for Americans. However radio firmly held on in the car and by 1990s, many Americans listened to radio in their car or at work. Wirelessly broadcasting traffic reports, music and news to radio receivers still prevails despite the arrival of internet and satellite radio.

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- 1) Radio waves are also used for receiving and sending data waves like ...
  - a) WIFI networks
  - b) Bluetooth devices
  - c) Wired networks
  - d) Satellite broadcast
  
- 2) What was the first available technology developed from the discovery of the radio waves?
  - a) Fax
  - b) Radar
  - c) Television
  - d) Telegraph
  
- 3) What was the device that allowed early radio signals to be received?
  - a) Transducer
  - b) Coherer
  - c) Modulator
  - d) Compressor
  
- 4) Where did Guglielmo Marconi successfully demonstrate his technology of wireless transmission?
  - a) English Post Office
  - b) Italian Post Office
  - c) US Post Office
  - d) French Post Office
  
- 5) US Navy used Reginald Fessenden technology for sending information to submarines at sea.
  - a) True
  - b) False
  
- 6) Who are these inventors?



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### 2) Vocabulary about music.

| #  | ENG | CAT | SPA | DEFINITION  |
|----|-----|-----|-----|---|
| 1  |     |     |     | A steady pulse.   |
| 2  |     |     |     | Clapping of hands, snapping of fingers, or tapping of any part of the body to produce different sound effects.  |
| 3  |     |     |     | Instrument that is made of metal and that has a cupped mouthpiece (e.g., trumpet, trombone, tuba).  |
| 4  |     |     |     | An extra section of music at the end of a piece.  |
| 5  |     |     |     | A common term for the gradual increase in volume.   |
| 6  |     |     |     | A common term for the gradual decrease in volume.   |
| 7  |     |     |     | The varying degree of volume.   |
| 8  |     |     |     | Fundamental components of music. They include pitch, beat, rhythm, melody, dynamics, tone colour, texture (e.g., homophony, polyphony), form.   |
| 9  |     |     |     | A grouping of similar types of musical instruments. In European music, there have traditionally been four families of instruments (i. e., woodwinds, brass, strings, and percussion). |
| 10 |     |     |     | The structure of a piece of music.  |
| 11 |     |     |     | The distance between two notes.   |
| 12 |     |     |     | The highness or lowness of a tone.  |
| 13 |     |     |     | An instrument that one has to hit, scrape, or rattle in order to make a sound.  |
| 14 |     |     |     | The pattern of long and short sounds.   |
| 15 |     |     |     | A group of sounds that has a beginning, middle, and end.  |
| 16 |     |     |     | An instrument that has strings and that is played with a bow or plucked (e.g., violin, viola, violoncello, double bass, guitar, lute).  |
| 17 |     |     |     | The speed of a piece. Some common tempo indications are: allegro (quickly and lively), moderato (at a moderate speed), andante (somewhat slowly, at a walking pace), largo (slowly).  |
| 18 |     |     |     | An instrument that one has to blown into in order to make a sound (e.g., clarinet, oboe, English horn, flute, recorder, bassoon).   |
| 19 |     |     |     | An object that can produce a rhythmic or pitched sound (e.g., stick, comb, pop bottle).   |
| 20 |     |     |     | The unique quality of sounds that allows us to distinguish between them. Also called timbre.  |

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### 3) Filling the gaps.

For each sentence, choose the best word or phrase to complete the gap from the choices below.

- 1) Most modern pop music is instantly forgettable. It doesn't have a  tune and thirty seconds after it stops, you've forgotten it.
- 2) One of my friends used to work as a  for a major rock band. It was very hard work, lifting all their equipment and driving from city to city.
- 3) The concert itself only lasted about an hour but the crowd kept cheering so the band came back and did three long .
- 4) There was a pianist playing at a bar I went to last week and I asked him if he took  and he said he did, but he didn't know anything by 'Megadeath'.
- 5) Mark Harris started out in the boy  'The Bad Lads', before launching a very successful solo career in the late nineties.
- 6) Our English teacher thinks he's really cool. Every time he wants us to start talking together he says 'Lets  '.
- 7) I'm really into  music. I think music from different cultural backgrounds is so much more interesting than British and American pop.
- 8) I managed to get a ticket to a Rolling Stones'  a few months back but then one of the band members got sick and they had to cancel.
- 9) In the early days, the Beatles didn't play their own music. They just did  of famous US rock and roll artists.
- 10) The Albert Hall is a fantastic  for a classical concert. The acoustics are absolutely perfect.
- 11) At the concert, the lead singer dedicated one of the songs  all the civilians who were suffering in Iraq.
- 12) I love their music. Whenever I hear them, I can't help tapping my fingers and  along.

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### 4) Filling the gaps.

For each sentence, choose the best word or phrase to complete the gap from the choices below.

- 1) He walked down the street,  the tune of an old song.
- 2) I was so excited. I could hear my heart  in my chest.
- 3) The cars came  down the road and we couldn't hear ourselves speak.
- 4) When it's stormy weather, you can hear the waves  against the shore.
- 5) Sometimes you can hear owls  in the woods at night.
- 6) I could never have a dog. I hate it when they  in the middle of the night.
- 7) They sat near the fire, listening to the rain  against the window.
- 8) I couldn't sleep last night because you were  again.
- 9) It's very difficult to eat soup without .
- 10) You need to put some oil on your door hinges. When you open them, they .
- 11) The police car came past with its sirens .
- 12) I love it in the winter when you can sit by a  wood fire and keep warm.

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### 5) Filling the gaps.

a) For each sentence, choose the best word or phrase to complete the gap from the choices below.

- 1) Don't you think the Maestro  the orchestra well?
- 2) He beat the  like a madman!
- 3) John Lenon  the lyrics to many of the Beatles's best songs.
- 4) You can tell when Peter is in a good mood, she  one of her favorite tunes.
- 5) The most famous opera  by Mascagni was "Cavellera Rusticana".
- 6) Jazz musicians almost always  their solos.
- 7) Most professional musicians  their instruments up to five hours a day!
- 8) I can remember the time when President Clinton got up on MTV to  his horn - the saxophone.
- 9) Would you please not tap your  in time to the music?
- 10) Some of the best rock singers don't  their songs, they shout them!
- 11) The musicians always  their instruments before they begin the concert.

b) Match the verb in the column on the left with the correct noun from the column on the right.

- |              |                      |                   |
|--------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| 1) compose   | <input type="text"/> | A) tune           |
| 2) conduct   | <input type="text"/> | B) drum           |
| 3) write     | <input type="text"/> | C) horn           |
| 4) play      | <input type="text"/> | D) instrument     |
| 5) blow      | <input type="text"/> | E) piece of music |
| 6) tap       | <input type="text"/> | F) orchestra      |
| 7) improvise | <input type="text"/> | G) lyrics         |
| 8) sing      | <input type="text"/> | H) song           |
| 9) hum       | <input type="text"/> | I) solo           |
| 10) beat     | <input type="text"/> | J) foot           |

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### 6) Songs in Commercials.

Do you ever stop and think about how many popular songs are actually used in commercials?  
Quite a few actually! This quiz is about all those songs!

1) The song "American Woman" by The Guess Who was used in a commercial in the late 90's for what clothing line?

- a) Guess
- b) Tommy Hilfiger
- c) FUBU
- d) Ralph Lauren

2) What Eric Clapton song was used in a commercial for Michelob beer?

- a) Wonderful Tonight
- b) Layla
- c) After Midnight
- d) Cocaine

3) In 1998 the song "Another One Bites The Dust" by Queen was used in a commercial for what sound system company?

- a) IAWA
- b) AIWA
- c) WALO
- d) WOIA

4) What branch of the U.S. military used the song "Awake" by the band Godsmack?

- a) Army
- b) Air Force
- c) Marines
- d) Navy

5) In what vehicle commercial was the song "Baba O'Riley" by The Who used?

- a) Toyota
- b) Mazda
- c) Honda
- d) Nissan



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### 6) Songs in Commercials.

This quiz continues from previous page.

6) What electronic store used the song "Just What I Needed" by The Cars in their commercial?

- a) Staples
- b) Radio Shack
- c) Circuit City
- d) Best Buy

7) In 2004, what motor vehicle company used the song "Magic Carpet Ride" in their ad?

- a) Ford
- b) Dodge
- c) Toyota
- d) Chevy

8) What product was being advertised in a 1993 commercial using the Van Halen song "Right Now"?

- a) Diet Coke
- b) Crystal Pepsi
- c) Lemon Pepsi
- d) New Coke

9) The song "Whip It" by what band was used in a Swiffer Wet Jet commercial in 2003?

- a) Nirvana
- b) Devo
- c) Guns'n Roses
- d) U2

10) Nissan once used the song "Danger Zone" by Kenny Loggins in their commercial.

- a) False
- b) True

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7) Match every instrument with its name.

|  |  |  |  |
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