

1. The Glastonbury Festival

This week's lesson is about the Glastonbury Festival, one of the biggest outdoor pop music festivals in the world.

Level

Pre-intermediate and above (equivalent to CEF level A2-B1 and above)

How to use the lesson

1. Ask your students what they understand by the word 'festival'. If they have ever been to an outdoor music/cultural festival (or even just a concert), encourage them to describe it to the rest of the class. If they are interested in pop music, ask them who their favourite performers are, and why. If any of them have heard of the Glastonbury Festival, ask them to tell the rest of the class what they know about it.
2. Give each student in the class a copy of Worksheet A and give them five to ten minutes to read through it, encouraging them to look up new vocabulary. Note that some of the words that might be new are not in the glossary because they form part of Exercise 1.
3. Hand out Worksheet B, divide the students into pairs and ask them to do Exercise 1, in which they have to match the words from the text on Worksheet A with the definitions.
4. Check answers in open class.
5. Tell the students they are going to prepare a test for each other. Then divide the class into two teams, A and B. Tell them they should try to remember as much as possible about the text on Worksheet A, so give them a little more time to go back and reread it.
6. Cut Worksheet C in half and give each member of each team the corresponding half. Explain that each team has to work together in order to formulate the questions that produce the answers given, based on the text on Worksheet A. Note that it is possible for there to be slight variations of each question.
7. When both teams have finished preparing their questions, ask them to turn over Worksheet A and the glossary so that they can't see them.
8. The two teams now take it in turns to ask and answer the questions. Encourage the teams to confer before answering, but make it clear that once they have given their answer they cannot change it. You should only accept answers given in correct English. Keep the score on the board: the team with the most correct answers at the end of the quiz wins.
9. Check answers in open class.

Answers:

Exercise 1

1. E 2. I 3. G 4. N 5. C 6. L 7. M 8. A 9. F 10. D 11. H 12. J
13. K 14. B

Exercise 2

Team A

1. What is the Glastonbury Festival?
2. When did the festival first take place?
3. How many people go to the festival?
4. What are three of the kinds of music at the festival?
5. Where do (almost all) the people at the festival sleep?
6. Who is Michael Eavis?
7. What happens if there is a lot of rain?
8. What do many people take to the festival?

Team B

1. Where does the Glastonbury Festival take place?
2. When does the festival take place?
3. How long does the festival last?
4. How much did tickets for the 2009 festival cost?
5. Why haven't people climbed over the fence recently?
6. What are there hundreds of at the festival?
7. What does Michael Eavis want to see at the festival?
8. What do people in Britain call rubber boots?

2. Related Websites

Send your students to these websites, or just take a look yourself.

http://news.bbc.co.uk/cbbcnews/hi/newsid_2010000/newsid_2013100/2013130.stm

A brief guide to Britain's summer music festivals, including Glastonbury, on the BBC *Newsround* website. Challenging for pre-intermediate level.

http://news.bbc.co.uk/cbbcnews/hi/newsid_4390000/newsid_4392100/4392109.stm

Also from *Newsround* (2005), a piece on the Glastonbury 'silent disco' that allows festival-goers to dance through the night without contravening noise regulations. Challenging for pre-intermediate level.

<http://www.glastonburyfestivals.co.uk/>

Official website of the Glastonbury Festival, including texts on different aspects of the event and lots of photographs. Intermediate level and above.