

## Beyoncé

WORKSHEET A

Although not yet 30 years old, Beyoncé Knowles, usually known just as Beyoncé, is already one of the most successful female singers in the history of pop music. She is probably the biggest name in R&B ('R'n'B' – a style of music that is a mixture of soul, dance and hip-hop) and one of the richest people in the music industry – according to *Forbes* magazine she earned about \$90 million between June 2008 and June 2009.

Born on September 4<sup>th</sup> 1981 in the city of Houston in the United States, Beyoncé showed from a very young age that she might grow up to be a star. She started dance classes when she was still very small and, although usually quite a shy child, she discovered she loved singing on stage in front of an audience when she did it for the first time in a school show.

By the age of eight she was already singing in talent shows on US television, and when she was nine, in 1990, she became part of a singing group called Girl's Tyme with five other young girls. They later changed their name to Destiny's Child and had their first big hit in 1997, when Beyoncé was sixteen. By the end of the 1990s they had become the biggest-selling all-female pop group of all time.

Beyoncé's voice was always one of the most important reasons for the success of Destiny's Child, so few people were surprised when she also started a solo career. When her first solo album, *Dangerously in Love*, came out in 2003 it sold more than 300,000 copies in the US in its first week (and has since sold a total of more than six million worldwide). The album included a song called *Crazy in Love* that was played over and over again by radio stations, on MTV, and also as a mobile phone ringtone – many millions of people got to know the tune, even if they didn't like R&B music! *Crazy in Love* also includes the voice of famous American rapper Jay-Z, and many people started wondering whether Beyoncé and he were dating. Neither of them said much about their relationship, but eventually it became clear they were together. They got married in New York in April 2008.

In the last few years Beyoncé has also become an actress, starring in various Hollywood films. The most recent is a thriller called *Obsessed*.

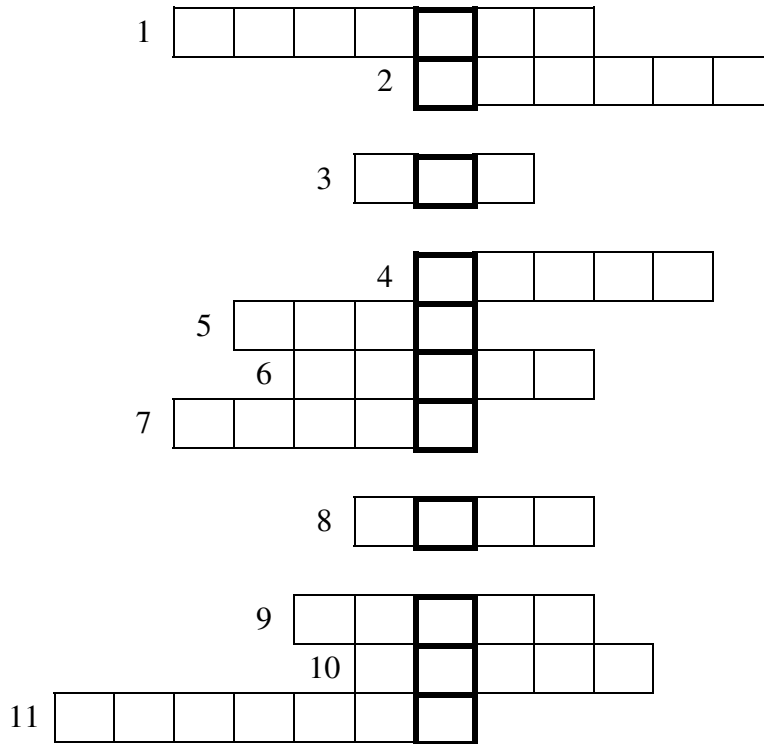
She is currently in the middle of long tour, playing sold-out shows all around the world. Like those *Crazy in Love* ringtones in 2003, her huge success just goes on and on.

## Beyoncé

WORKSHEET B

### Exercise 1

Complete the crossword below. If all the words are correct, the title of one of Beyoncé's biggest hits from her latest album will read from top to bottom.



1. Beyoncé and Jay-Z got \_\_\_\_\_ in 2008.
2. Destiny's Child were a group of \_\_\_\_\_ singers.
3. *Crazy in Love* was a huge \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Beyoncé is currently on a \_\_\_\_\_ tour.
5. The \_\_\_\_\_ of *Crazy in Love* is very well known.
6. Beyoncé \_\_\_\_\_ a huge amount of money.
7. R&B is a \_\_\_\_\_ of music.
8. Beyoncé first \_\_\_\_\_ on stage in a school show.
9. *Dangerously in Love* was Beyoncé's first \_\_\_\_\_ in her solo career.
10. Beyoncé has a great \_\_\_\_\_.
11. Destiny's Child became the biggest-selling all-female pop group in the \_\_\_\_\_ of pop music.

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WORKSHEET C

## Exercise 2

The text below, copied from Worksheet A, contains some mistakes. 20 of the bold words are incorrect, five are correct. Decide which are incorrect, and correct them.

Although not yet 30 years old, Beyoncé Knowles, usually known just as Beyoncé, is already one of the most (1) **successfull** female singers in the history of pop music. She is probably the biggest (2) **name** in R&B ('R'n'B' – a style of music that is a mixture of soul, dance and hip-hop) and one of the richest people in the music industry – (3) **accord** to *Forbes* magazine she earned about \$90 million between June 2008 and June 2009.

Born (4) **in** September 4<sup>th</sup> 1981 in the city of Houston in the United States, Beyoncé showed from a very young age that she might grow (5) **on** to be a star. She started dance classes when she was still very small and, although usually (6) **quiet** a shy child, she discovered she loved (7) **singing** on (8) **sage** in front of an audience when she did it for the first time in a school show.

By the age of eight she was already singing in (9) **talen** shows on US television, and when she was nine, in 1990, she became part of a singing group called Girl's Tyme with five other young girls. They later changed their name to Destiny's Child and had their first big hit in 1997, when Beyoncé was sixteen. By the end of the 1990s they had (10) **became** the biggest-selling all-female pop group of all time.

Beyoncé's voice was always one of the most important reasons for the success of Destiny's Child, so few people were (11) **surprised** when she also started a (12) **so** career. When her first solo album, *Dangerously in Love*, (13) **came** in 2003 it sold more than 300,000 (14) **copies** in the US in its first week (and has since sold a total of more than six million (15) **wideworld**). The album included a song called *Crazy in Love* that was played over and over again by radio (16) **states**, (17) **in** MTV, and also as a mobile phone (18) **ring** – many millions of people got to know the tune, even if they didn't like R&B music!

*Crazy in Love* also includes the voice of famous American (19) **wrapper** Jay-Z, and many people started (20) **wandering** whether Beyoncé and he were dating. Neither of them said much about their (21) **relacionship**, but eventually it became clear they were together. They got married in New York in April 2008.

In the last few years Beyoncé has also become an actress, (22) **staring** in various Hollywood films. The most recent is a (23) **trill** called *Obsessed*.

She is currently in the middle of long tour, playing (24) **sold-on** shows all (25) **around** the world. Like those *Crazy in Love* ringtones in 2003, her huge success just goes on and on.