

The Beatles



Pre-Reading

A. Warm-Up Questions

1. Who are the people in this picture?
2. What country are these people from?
3. Do you know any songs by these people?

B. Vocabulary Preview

Match up as many words and meanings as you can.

Check this exercise again after seeing the words in context on page 2.

- | | | |
|--------------|----------------|--|
| _____ | 1. band | a) something that is very popular, such as a song or album |
| _____ | 2. join | b) a set of recorded songs, a record |
| _____ | 3. drum | c) excitement about the Beatles in the '60s |
| _____ | 4. hit | d) a trip performers take to many places |
| _____ | 5. popular | e) a group of musical performers |
| _____ | 6. album | f) to become part of a group |
| <u> c </u> | 7. Beatlemania | g) liked by a large number of people |
| _____ | 8. tour | h) barrel-shaped musical instrument, played with sticks |

Reading

ABOUT THE BEATLES

1. John Lennon lived in Liverpool, England. In 1956, he started a school band. He called his **band** the Quarrymen. They played jazz, blues, and folk music.
2. Paul McCartney and George Harrison joined Lennon's band. They played rock and roll music together. They called their new band the Beatles. In 1962, Ringo Starr **joined** the band. He played the **drums**.
3. The Beatles' first **hit** was the song *Love Me Do*. It became **popular** in the US, too. The Beatles' first **album** came out in 1963. It was also a hit.
4. In 1964, the Beatles played on *The Ed Sullivan Show*. People around the world fell in love with the band. This was the birth of **Beatlemania**. The Beatles went on a world **tour** and made movies and albums. They became the most popular rock band of all time.



Writing

MY MUSIC

Finish the *My Music* sentences. Use your own personal information.
Compare your answers with a partner.

1. Ringo Starr played the drums.

I play _____

2. Paul McCartney liked rock and roll music.

I like _____

3. The Beatles' first hit song was *Love Me Do*.

The first song I loved was _____

4. In the 1960s, people fell in love with the Beatles.

In _____ *, I fell in love with* _____

Comprehension

A. Timeline

Now, put the timeline in the correct order.
Check your answers with a partner.

- _____ 1. The Beatles released their first hit.
- _____ 2. Beatlemania was born.
- _____ 3. Paul McCartney joined the Quarrymen.
- _____ 4. The Beatles appeared on *The Ed Sullivan Show*.
- _____ 5. John Lennon started a school band.
- _____ 6. *Love Me Do* became popular in the US.
- _____ 7. The Quarrymen became the Beatles.

B. Forming Questions

Work with a partner. Here are the answers. What are the questions?

1. _____

Paul McCartney played bass guitar.

2. _____

John Lennon's high school band was the Quarrymen.

3. _____

The Beatles became famous around the world after they appeared on *The Ed Sullivan Show*.

4. _____

The Beatles' first album came out in 1963.

Grammar Review

A. Subject Pronouns

A subject pronoun is a small word that replaces the subject of a verb. It helps us avoid repetition in our speaking and writing. Look at the examples. Then circle the subject pronoun that goes with each subject.

Examples:

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| 1. John Lennon started the Beatles. John Lennon He was a singer and songwriter. | 2. The Beatles are still popular today. They are the most famous rock and roll band. | 3. Jackie and I like the Beatles. We listen to their albums all day long. |
|---|---|--|

Questions:

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. John Lennon
a) he
b) they
c) I | 3. The Beatles' tour bus
a) he
b) it
c) they | 5. The Beatles' fans
a) it
b) she
c) they |
| 2. The Beatles
a) he
b) they
c) we | 4. John Lennon's wife
a) he
b) she
c) they | 6. The song <i>Love Me Do</i>
a) she
b) they
c) it |

B. Possession

In English, an apostrophe is used to show that something belongs to someone. This is called **possession**. Here are three rules to remember:

- Add **'s** to a single noun to show possession.
This is Ringo Starr's drum set.
- Add **'** to a plural noun ending in -s to show possession.
The Beatles' hit is on the radio.
- Add **'s** to a singular noun ending in -s.
Our class's nickname is 'The Beatlemaniacs.'

Now write three sentences that use possession. Use these three nouns: *John Lennon, the Beatles, tour bus*

- _____
- _____
- _____

Listening

A. Gap Fill

Listen to a recording of this reading.

Fill in the gaps. Listen again and check your answers.

1. John Lennon lived in Liverpool, _____. In 1956, he started a school band. He called his band the Quarrymen. They played jazz, blues, and folk _____.
2. Paul McCartney and George Harrison joined Lennon's band. They _____ rock and roll music together. They _____ their new band the Beatles. In 1962, Ringo Starr joined the band. He played the drums.
3. The Beatles' first hit was the song *Love Me Do*. It became popular in the US, too. The Beatles' _____ album came out in 1963. It was also a _____.
4. In 1964, the Beatles played on *The Ed Sullivan Show*. _____ around the world fell in love with the band. This was the birth of Beatlemania. _____ went on a world tour and made movies and albums. They became the most popular rock band of all time.



B. Extra Practice

Do you want more listening practice? After you fill in the gaps in Part A, listen to the recording a few more times.

Underline all of the subject pronouns.