

Where does your Music Taste come from?

Warm up:

- What type of music did you like as a teenager?
- Do you know anyone who plays an instrument very well?
- What's the best concert you have ever been to?
- What's the last song you had stuck in your head?
- What genre of music do you listen to most often?
- If you could only listen to one song for the rest of your life, which song would it be?
- What is the traditional music from your country like?



1. Put the phrases in the correct category in the box below.

I can take it or leave it	I can't stand it	I'm not fond of it
It's not my cup of tea	I'm a big fan of it	I'm crazy about it
I'm really into it	I don't have a problem with it	I don't mind it

I don't like it	It's O.K	I like it



2. Pairwork: use the phrases from exercise 1 to describe how you feel about the genres of music below. Feel free to have a conversation about the genres with your partner.

Eg *"I don't mind indie rock but I can't stand heavy metal"*

- Heavy Metal
- Jazz
- Hip hop and rap
- Indie Rock
- Techno
- Blues
- Classical
- Golden Oldies



3. You are going to read a statement about where a person's taste in music comes from. The person uses the phrases below. Match the phrases to their definition.

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| a) eventually | 1. In comparison to |
| b) at first | 2. To feel embarrassed for yourself or someone else |
| c) cringe | 3. Relaxing |
| d) whereas | 4. It began this way, but changed later |
| e) hooked | 5. After a long time |
| f) soothing | 6. A period of time |
| g) in hindsight | 7. Describes music that sticks in your head |
| h) phase | 8. Looking back |
| i) catchy | 9. Addicted |



4. Use the phrases from exercise 3 to complete the text below.

“When I was a kid, I used to love my Mum’s music, but I couldn’t stand my Dad’s music. My Dad used to listen to golden oldies like Bob Dylan and the Beatles, my mum listened to classical music like Bach and Beethoven. I always found classical music really, and I have some nice memories of falling asleep to Bach. Then when I was a teenager my older brother introduced me to heavy metal.I hated it, but after listening to it for a few weeks I was My mum wasn’t fond of my new taste, but I didn’t mind that. Heavy metal was exciting and different, and I soon became an even bigger fan than my older brother.I think I mostly just liked it because it was different to what my parents liked and was my little way of rebelling, and it was a way to connect with my brother. I stopped listening to heavy metal and moved on to my hip hop in university. Hip hop is so energetic and, I almost always had a song stuck in my head. I even dressed like a rapper for a few months, I still when I think about it! I still like hip hop, but funnily enough I ended up mostly liking the music my Dad listens to, golden oldies like the Beatles and Rolling Stones.”



5. Now write a text describing your own musical history. Where did your tastes come from, and how did they change over time? Try to use the phrases from exercise 3.

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....



6. You are going to watch a video about where music tastes come from. The video contains the words in the box. Use the words to complete the sentences below.

peak	pattern	replicate
recognise	gene	single
		conclusion

- They only released one full album, but they put out a new every month.
- I this song, I've heard it a million times, but I don't know who it's by.
- Some researchers believe there is a which makes people more likely to like rock music, so taste in music could be in your DNA.
- I think the 90's were the of music, I love grunge and rock.
- One experiment is not enough to prove anything. You have to do the same experiment again and again to see if you can the results.
- After years of research, we came to the that the problem cannot be fixed with money alone.
- We can see there is a of children from poor families receiving less help in the classroom.



7. Watch the video "Where does your Music Taste come from?"¹ and answer the questions.

- Memories from which period of our lives stay detailed, even as we age?
- What 3 questions did the researchers ask about songs from 1935-1994?
- Why were the tastes of younger people surprising?
- Why did the researchers originally believe that the 60's were "the golden age" of music?
- What happened when the researchers conducted the same survey a decade later?
- The survey found that people often like music from a couple of decades before they were born. Why is this?
- What is the "mere exposure effect"?

¹ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=93ydAz6y-Ck&ab_channel=SciShow