

A Describing music

Look at these music reviews and note the collocations in bold.

Bloom *Music from the Centre of the Earth*
(Palm records 234655)

New arrivals on the rock **music scene**, Bloom are already making a big impact. If you're looking for **background music**, then this is not for you, but if you want **music to blast out from**¹ your hi-fi and annoy the neighbours, then Bloom's **debut**² **album**, with tracks from their **live performance** at the Delaya Stadium, may be just what you want.



Johnny MacRoy *Songs we loved*
(Kase Phonograph 488792)

For fans of **easy listening**³ and **catchy**⁴ **tunes**, this is all you need. In fact it's so relaxing you might just fall asleep. MacRoy **gives** a sentimental **performance** of these old love songs. At 47, he's not exactly a **pop idol** but his **adoring fans** will love it.



The Divide *Amphibian*
(Fono Corp 3321978)

This is a rock symphony, an extraordinary **piece of music**. After their **massive hit** in 2004 with *Megalith*, their record company has **released** this **CD** hoping for another **big hit**. The band themselves **wrote the music**. They have a **huge following** and are due to **go on tour** later this year.

The Oxbridge Symphonia *British classics old and new* (Rotor Records 775537)

Haunting melodies and the occasional **virtuoso**⁵ **performance** from its two soloists mark this collection of popular British classical music, which aims to **capture a wider audience** for the classics and to promote Britain's **musical heritage**. Roger Crow **conducts the orchestra**. Crow himself **composed** two of the **pieces**, hence the CD title. Good birthday present for your uncle and aunt. But if you're a real classical **music lover**, save your money.



BUST-OUT WITH JOLA V *BLAZE MAMA*
(Presto 58843)

Bust-out's new double **CD features**⁶ *Jola V*, a young **rap**⁷ **artist** from Miami. Jola used to be with Chicago hip-hop band Frenzy, but **went solo** in 2004. The band have **remixed**⁸ four tracks from earlier albums and Jola's **up-tempo**⁹ numbers just add to the excitement.

¹ sound extremely loud

² presented to the public for the first time

³ music that is not serious or difficult

⁴ pleasant and easy to remember

⁵ extremely skilful

⁶ includes as an important part

⁷ rock music in which rhymed lyrics are spoken over rhythm tracks

⁸ made a new version of a musical track

⁹ played at a fast beat

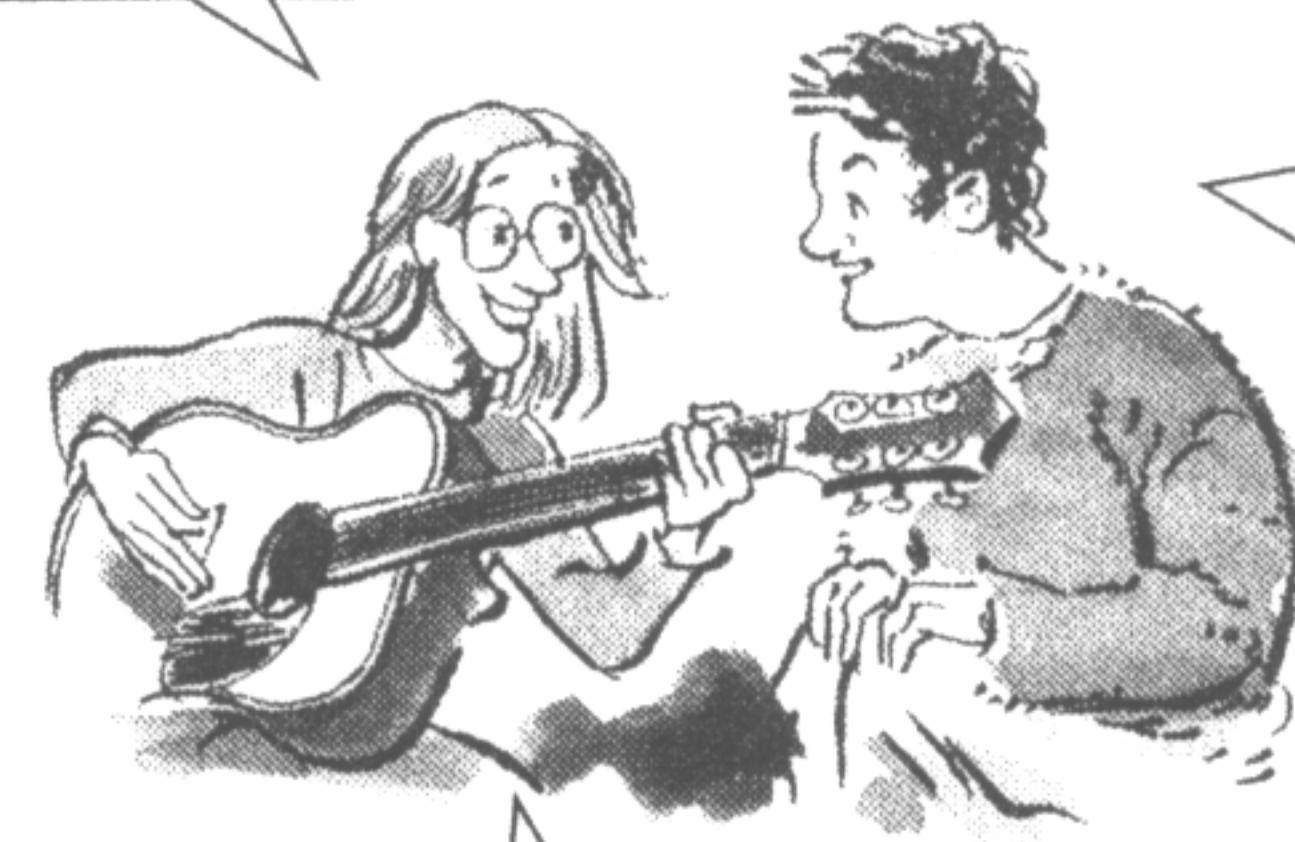
B Playing music

I saw Martin **strumming a guitar** the other day. I didn't know he could play.



He can't. He just likes people to think he can. He's got no **musical talent** whatsoever.

I've **taken up the guitar**. I've had three lessons so far.



That's great. I love **live music**. What can you play?

Well, the first week was all about **tuning the instrument**. I've got to **play a piece** for my teacher next week.

Exercises

25.1 Change the underlined words using collocations from A so that each sentence has the opposite meaning.

- 1 The band's last CD was a minor hit. (give two answers)
- 2 There are some great slow numbers on this new CD.
- 3 The band has a small following of dedicated fans.
- 4 Music was playing quietly on a CD player when I entered the house.
- 5 Maria Plurosa gave a poor performance of Heder's violin concerto last night.

25.2 Correct the eight collocation errors in this paragraph. The first one is done for you.

For all folk music ~~likers~~, Johnny Coppin's new CD, *The Long Harvest*, published last week, will be a great addition to their collection. Bob recently got solo after five years with the folk band Blue Mountain. He is proud of the musical inheritance of his native Kentucky. Tracks 3 and 7 comprise his old friend Wiz Carter on guitar. With this CD Coppin says he hopes to control a wider audience for folk music. His excellent living performance at the recent Lockwood Folk Festival suggests he has a good chance of succeeding. He makes a tour next month. Don't miss him.

1	lovers
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	

25.3 What word(s) mean ...?

- 1 ... music that is playing while you are doing something else and not really listening to it?
- 2 ... music that is not complicated or difficult to listen to?
- 3 ... a pop musician who is a very big star with many fans?
- 4 ... a type of performer who speaks rhymed lyrics over rhythm tracks?
- 5 ... to tighten or loosen the strings of an instrument till they make the correct note?
- 6 ... a way of playing a guitar by moving your fingers across the strings?

25.4 Complete these sentences with suitable collocations.

- 1 Hundreds of fans were waiting for Shamira to come out of the concert hall.
- 2 The orchestra gave a wonderful of some popular classics.
- 3 It was a very tune; you only had to hear it once and you were singing it.
- 4 I'd love to a musical instrument but I don't have time.
- 5 It is one of those melodies which you never forget, so beautiful, yet so sad.
- 6 There's a lot of musical in the family; all the children play an instrument.

Now, for twenty thousand dollars, who wrote Beethoven's Fifth Symphony?

