Music ESL lesson plan (A1)

A1 (beginner) · 60 minutes · for English teachers · englishcue.app

Stage	Time
Warm-up	5–10 min
Vocabulary	15 min
Controlled practice	10 min
Grammar focus	10 min
Speaking	15 min
Wrap-up and homework	5 min

1. Warm-up (5–10 min)

- What kind of music do you like?
- Who is your favourite singer or band?
- When do you listen to music?

2. Vocabulary (15 min)

Elicit each word before you give it, model the pronunciation, then check meaning with a quick question.

Word	Meaning	Example
song	a short piece of music with words	This is my favorite song.
singer	a person who sings	She's a famous singer.
band	a group of people who play music together	My brother plays in a band.
guitar	an instrument with six strings	I'm learning the guitar.
piano	a large instrument with black and white keys	Can you play the piano?
drums	an instrument you hit with sticks	My neighbor plays the drums every night.
violin	a small wooden instrument with four strings, played with a bow	She plays the violin in an orchestra.
instrument	an object you use to make music	Do you play an instrument?
listen to	to give attention to a sound	I listen to music on the bus.
play	to make music with an instrument	I play the guitar.

Grammar focus (10 min): Like, love, hate + -ing

Mia looks for a flatmate on an app. Her profile says: “I love cooking and I enjoy reading. I don’t mind cleaning, but I hate getting up early!” By the end of this lesson you can talk about activities you like and don’t like.

Form	Pattern	Example
Positive	love · like · enjoy + -ing	I love cooking.
Neutral	don’t mind + -ing	I don’t mind cleaning.
Negative	don’t like · hate · can’t stand + -ing	I hate getting up early.
-ing spelling	make → making · swim → swimming	dancing · running · playing

Watch for: ~~I like cook.~~ → **I like cooking.**. After like: -ing.

Speaking (15 min): The soundtrack of your life

The learner chooses three songs for three moments of their life and explains each choice: where they were, who they were with and how they felt. You guess the decade before they tell you.

Useful language

- I’m a big fan of… / I can’t stand…
- It’s catchy. / It gets stuck in my head.
- I grew up listening to…
- It reminds me of…
- the lyrics · the chorus · a gig · a playlist
- It puts me in a good mood.

Wrap-up and homework (5 min)

- Each learner says the three new words they will remember, and one sentence with each.
- Homework: write 80–120 words about music using at least six words from the lesson and the grammar point.
- Self-study: the A1 music vocabulary page on englishcue.app has a self-correcting quiz with all 21 words.

Music (A1)

Student handout · Name: _____ · Date: _____

A. Word bank

radio · headphones · loud · pop · rock · concert · classical music · jazz

B. Complete the sentences

Use a word from the word bank. Then compare with a partner.

1. We heard live _____ in New Orleans.
2. We went to a rock _____.
3. I listen to the _____ in the car.
4. My grandmother loves _____.
5. I always wear _____ on the train.
6. Turn it down. It's too _____!
7. I like _____ music.
8. My dad loves _____.

C. Talk with a partner

Ask and answer. Make notes of one interesting answer to report to the class.

1. Can you play an instrument?
2. Do you like singing or dancing?
3. What music do your parents like?
4. Do you listen to music in English?
5. What was the last song you listened to?

Write

Write 80–120 words about music. Use six words from the lesson.

Answer key

B. Complete the sentences: 1 jazz · 2 concert · 3 radio · 4 classical music · 5 headphones · 6 loud · 7 pop · 8 rock