Music ESL lesson plan (B1)

B1 (intermediate) · 60 minutes · for English teachers · englishcue.app

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

1. Warm-up (5–10 min)

- Tell me about the best concert you have ever been to.
- Which song reminds you of a special time in your life?
- How has your taste in music changed since you were a teenager?

2. Vocabulary (15 min)

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

Word	Meaning	Example
genre	a type of music, like rock or jazz	What genre of music do you prefer?
gig	a live performance of popular music (informal)	We went to a great gig last night.
rhythm	a regular pattern of sounds	This song has a great rhythm.
beat	the main rhythm in a piece of music	I love the beat of this song.
melody	the main tune in a piece of music	The melody is beautiful.
composer	a person who writes music	Mozart was a great composer.
songwriter	a person who writes songs	She's a talented songwriter.
release	to make a song or album available to the public	They released a new single.
single	one song sold or released on its own	Their first single was a hit.
music festival	an event with many bands playing over several days	We camped at a music festival.

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.
- Self-study: the B1 music vocabulary page on englishcue.app has a self-correcting quiz with all 22 words.

Music (B1)

Student handout · Name: _____ · Date: _____

A. Word bank

cover · background music · went viral · in tune · out of tune · talented · sold out · soundtrack

B. Complete the sentences

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

1. I need _____ to study.
2. The video _____ in a week.
3. It's a _____ of a Beatles song.
4. The _____ won an award.
5. The concert is _____.
6. He's a very _____ guitarist.
7. The piano is _____.
8. Is the guitar _____?

C. Talk with a partner

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

1. Do you listen to the words or the music first?
2. What music do you play when you want to concentrate?
3. Have you ever learned English from a song? Which one?
4. What music is typical of your country, and do you like it?
5. If you could see any artist live, living or dead, who would it be?

Write

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

Answer key

B. Complete the sentences: 1 background music · 2 went viral · 3 cover · 4 soundtrack · 5 sold out · 6 talented · 7 out of tune · 8 in tune