

## Music, film and theatre (Reading)

- Description:** Students scan entertainment listings for information
- Use with or after:** *English Network 3 (New Edition)*, Unit 6, Step 2.
- Skill:** Selective reading
- Focus:** Finding and pointing to information in entertainment listings, including typical abbreviations.
- Time:** 25 minutes
- Preparation:**
- Print out all three pages of this file.
  - Make a copy of the third page (worksheet) for each student.
  - Read through the advertisements on the worksheet and make sure you are prepared to answer any vocabulary questions that might come up.
  - If you have a big map of central London you might want to bring it along so you can show where some of the places are (Haymarket, Covent Garden, etc.).
- Procedure:**
- If your class is not familiar with this sort of activity, explain briefly what selective reading is: you don't read the entire text word for word, but just look through it quickly to find the information you need.
  - Distribute the worksheets, and ask if anybody has been to any of the shows or events listed. Get them to give some details (in English) and encourage other students to ask questions. These particular listings are from London, but the films and musicals have been played all over the world, so students may well have seen some of them.
  - Ask the students to find and point to the following:
    - Find an event that doesn't cost anything. (2)
    - Find what's playing at the Gate Cinema. (8)
    - In London there is a street called Haymarket, near Piccadilly Circus. (Show this on your map if you have one.) Find three shows that are playing on that street. (8, 9 and 10)
    - Find a film that was made in the capital city of Austria. (8)
    - Find a theatre that is near the Covent Garden tube station. (11)

- Find a place you can go to by tube and then by bus. (4)
- Find a show you can see on Thursday afternoon at 2.30pm. (12)
- Insist that they don't say it at first, just point to it, to give everybody a chance to find it. Then if somebody really can't find it, a partner can help.
- Write the word *abbreviations* on the board and remind the students what it means. Ask them to find and point to the following, and write the answer on the board after they have found each one:
  - Find an abbreviation that means *His Master's Voice*. (HMV in 1)
  - Find an abbreviation that means *north-west*. (NW in 4)
  - Find an abbreviation that means *West Central*. (WC in 11)
  - Find an abbreviation that means *matinée*, a performance of a play or film given in the daytime, usually in the afternoon. (mat in 9, 10, 11 and 12)
  - Find an abbreviation that means *minutes*. (mins in 5, 6, 7 and 8)
  - Find an abbreviation that means *parental guidance*. (PG in 6 and 8)  
You might want to explain that children under 15 may watch PG films only if they are with an adult.
- Answer any vocabulary questions, within reason, but explain that for the skill of selective reading it is important to find what you want and complete the task even if there are words you don't know.

If you are short of time you can spread these phases out over two or more lessons.

For more practice with selective reading, you could use the activity called *Flat-hunting*, which is listed under *English Network 3 (New Edition)*, Unit 3, Step 3.

## Music

1

### ROCK & POP

**Bap Kennedy:** The man himself performs a special live acoustic set and signs copies of his new album 'Domestic Blues'. HMV Oxford Circus 5pm

2

### JAZZ

#### Trailfinders Ealing Jazz Festival:

The largest free jazz festival in Britain. Walpole Park, Mattock Lane, Ealing, W5.

3

### FOLK, ROOTS, WORLD

**Cambridge Folk Festival:** Long established as one of the highlights and delights of the season. Cherry Hinton Hall Grounds, Cambridge.

4

### CLASSICAL

**Lakeside Concert Bowl: 'Ah Dolce Notte'**, an opera gala of music by Rossini, Verdi, Puccini and others, 7.30pm. Hampstead Heath, NW3. Tube to Archway/Golders Green, then bus 210.

## Film

5

### Celebrity (15)

A comedy by Woody Allen, with lots of stars, about what it's like to be famous. 114 min.

**ABC Panton Street, Minema, Odeons Camden Town & Mezzanine, Warner West End**

6

### Life is Beautiful (PG)

Oscar-winning comedy-drama about a father using fantasy to hide the horrors of the Holocaust from his young son. 122 min.; subtitles.

**ABC Swiss Centre, Ritzy**

7

### Shakespeare in Love (15)

Did Shakespeare base Romeo and Juliet on his own life? That's the thinking behind John Madden's Oscar-winning romance. 124 min.

**Plaza**

8

### The Third Man (PG)

British movie masterpiece from 1949. An intelligent and atmospheric thriller set in Vienna, written by Graham Greene and directed by Carol Reed. 104 min.

**Gate, Screen on the Green, Virgin Haymarket**

## Theatre

9

### Haymarket Theatre Royal

Haymarket, SW1 (Piccadilly Circus)

#### THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING

**EARNEST** Oscar Wilde's classic comedy, starring Patricia Routledge, Saskia Wickham, Alan Cox and Sheila Reid. Mon-Sat at 7.45pm, mat Wed & Sat at 3pm. £10-£30.

10

### Her Majesty's Theatre

Haymarket, SW1 (Piccadilly Circus)

#### THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA

Andrew Lloyd Webber's musical adaptation of Gaston Leroux's classic Grand Guignol story, currently with Mike Sterling as the Phantom and Meredith Braun as Christine. Mon-Sat at 7.45pm, mat Wed & Sat at 3pm. £10-£32.50.

11

### New London Theatre

Drury Lane, WC2 (Covent Garden)

**CATS** Adapted from T S Eliot's Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats, this is the surprisingly mega-successful musical by Andrew Lloyd Webber, with energetic dancing and memorable songs. Mon-Sat at 7.45pm, mat Tue & Sat at 3pm. £12.50-£32.50

12

### Palace Theatre

Shaftesbury Avenue, W1. (Leicester Square)

**LES MISERABLES** The world's most popular musical – based on Victor Hugo's epic novel about a man on the run from the law, with its climax set in the Paris Uprising of 1832. Mon-Sat at 7.30pm, mat Thurs & Sat at 2.30pm. £7-£32.50