**Space oddity**

1. **LISTENING GAP FILL**

David Bowie is (1) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. He was one of the most original, innovative and influential rock stars in music history. He was also an actor, fashion icon, record producer, (2) artist and\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. He was born in London on the 8th of January, 1947 and died at the age of 69 on the 10th of January, 2016. His real name was David Robert Jones but he changed (3) it because\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ another David Jones singing in the 1960s.

David Bowie first became (4) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ his 1969 hit "Space Oddity". This song was released just ten days before the first Moon landing. In 1972, Bowie became a (5) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_of the glam rock movement. He wowed and shocked people with his make-up, dresses and flamboyant costumes. His Ziggy Stardust persona was the first of many different characters Bowie (6) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ time he changed musical direction.

Throughout the 1970s and 1980s, Bowie continued to break new (7) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ his music. In 1975, he experimented with soul music and had a number one hit in the USA with the song 'Fame'. He also helped to (8) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the electronic and new romantic movements in the mid-1970s. In the early-80s, he was one of the first artists (9) \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ promote his songs.

Throughout the 1990s and 2000s, Bowie continued to experiment with (10) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, including industrial and jungle. His fans thought he had given up making music (11) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ break starting in 2003. He surprised the world by suddenly announcing a new album, 'The Next Day' in 2013. He released his final album days before his death. Many (12) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ was Bowie's goodbye to his fans.

**2. SYNONYM MATCH**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1. | legend | *a.* | amazed |
| 2 | original | *b.* | develop |
| 3. | released | *c.* | creative |
| 4. | wowed | *d.* | publicize |
| 5. | persona | *e.* | genres |
| 6. | experimented | *f.* | icon |
| 7. | pioneer | *g.* | character |
| 8. | promote | *h.* | followers |
| 9. | styles | *i.* | made available |
| 10. | fans | *j.* | explored |

**3.Choose one of the word given**

|  |
| --- |
| alienation classic difficulty zone space abuse |

The song has become an all-time \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. It talks about an astronaut who decides to step out of his capsule and into \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ but unfortunately, disaster strikes and he loses contact with Earth thus drifting into space forever.

While some claim that the song is a reference to drug \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, there is evidence that supports that Bowie wrote it to represent the sense of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ he was feeling at the time. Major Tom’s inability to contact the control room symbolizes the artist’s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to connect with others around him. His decision “I'm stepping through the door” could stand for any person’s decision to leave their comfort \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and venture into the unknown while doing something they like or trying new things.

**4. Fill in the gaps while listening to the song**

**Space oddity by David Bowie**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Ground Control to Major Tom Ground Control to Major Tom Take your protein pills and put your ...................(1) on   Ground Control to Major Tom Commencing ........................ (2), engines on Check .......................(3) and may God's love be with you  Ten, nine, eight, seven, six, five Four, three, two, one, liftoff  This is ground control to Major Tom You've really made the grade And the .................(4) want to know whose shirts you wear Now it's time to leave the .................... (5), if you dare |  | Image result for space oddity |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| This is Major Tom to Ground Control  I'm stepping ...............................................(6) And I'm floating in a most ..........................(7) way And the stars look very different today  For here am I, sitting in a tin can ...................................... (8) the world Planet Earth is blue And there's nothing I can do  Though I'm past .............................. (9) miles I'm feeling very ........................... (10) And I think my spaceship knows which way to go Tell me wife I love her very much, she knows  Ground Control to Major Tom Your circuit's ....................(11), there's something wrong  Can you hear me, Major Tom? | **5. Watch a part of the documentary “Finding fame” (51’ – 58’) and answer:**   * What was the inspiration for the song? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ * Why was 1969 an important year for space exploration? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ * What is the meaning of “oddity”? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ * According to Bowie himself the song expressed his feeling of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ * What characteristics made this song special according to the producer? Choose:  |  | | --- | | Dramatic intro // notes used // new instrument // science fiction quality // vocals // the melotron // topic |  * This was Bowie’s first hit: TRUE / FALSE |

KEY

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | legend | *a.* | icon |
| 2 | original | *b.* | creative |
| 3. | released | *c.* | made available |
| 4. | wowed | *d.* | amazed |
| 5. | persona | *e.* | character |
| 6. | experimented | *f.* | explored |
| 7. | pioneer | *g.* | develop |
| 8. | promote | *h.* | publicize |
| 9. | styles | *i.* | genres |
| 10. | fans | *j.* | followers |

**LISTENING IS ON:**

[**https://www.famouspeoplelessons.com/d/david-bowie.html**](https://www.famouspeoplelessons.com/d/david-bowie.html)

David Bowie is a music legend. He was one of the most original, innovative and influential rock stars in music history. He was also an actor, fashion icon, record producer, artist and art critic. He was born in London on the 8th of January, 1947 and died at the age of 69 on the 10th of January, 2016. His real name was David Robert Jones but he changed it because there was another David Jones singing in the 1960s.

David Bowie first became famous following his 1969 hit "Space Oddity". This song was released just ten days before the first Moon landing. In 1972, Bowie became a leader of the glam rock movement. He wowed and shocked people with his make-up, dresses and flamboyant costumes. His Ziggy Stardust persona was the first of many different characters Bowie would use every time he changed musical direction.

Throughout the 1970s and 1980s, Bowie continued to break new ground with his music. In 1975, he experimented with soul music and had a number one hit in the USA with the song 'Fame'. He also helped to pioneer the electronic and new romantic movements in the mid-1970s. In the early-80s, he was one of the first artists to use videos to promote his songs.

Throughout the 1990s and 2000s, Bowie continued to experiment with musical styles, including industrial and jungle. His fans thought he had given up making music after a ten-year break starting in 2003. He surprised the world by suddenly announcing a new album, 'The Next Day' in 2013. He released his final album days before his death. Many believe the album was Bowie's goodbye to his fans.