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Music Vocabulary

Solo /'səʊləʊ/ (Adj) - Without other people, alone.

Example: He released his first solo album a few months after he left the band.

Band /bænd/ (N) - A group of musicians who make music together.

Example: He left the band because they had too many differences of opinion.

Front man/woman /frʌnt mæn/ /'wʊmən/ (N) - The main singer or public face of a group or band.

Example: Being the front man of the band was quite time consuming because of all the public appearances.

Fan /fæn/ (N) - Someone who supports and likes a particular artist.

Example: I've been a huge fan of her music every since I heard her first single.

Charts /tʃɑ:ts/ (N) - The weekly list of the best selling records.

Example: The band made history by having 5 singles in the rock charts at the same time.

Sellout /'seləʊt/ (N) - A concert or performance that has no tickets available because it is so popular.

Example: Her concerts are always a sellout, so get your ticket as soon as possible.

Hit /hɪt/ (N) - Something that is very popular and successful.

Example: The band has a succession of number one hits during the 90s.

Record label /'rɛkɔ:d 'leɪbl/ (N) - A company that promotes musical artists and sells music.

Example: She signed a three album deal with a major, international record label.

Orchestra /'ɔ:kɪstrə/ (N) - A large group of musicians that play different instruments.

Example: The London Orchestra's recording of the symphony was judged as the best.

Composer /kəm'pəʊzə/ (N) - Someone who writes music.

Example: Beethoven is probably the best known classical music composer. He wrote 9 symphonies.

Music: Idioms

Sound like a broken record - To repeat the same things again and again.

Example: Our teacher often sounds like a broken record. At the end of every lesson, he says “Don’t forget your homework.”



Face the music - To realize or acknowledge an unpleasant reality.

Example: It’s time for you to face the music. You failed your mid-course tests so you need to focus on your studies.



Play it by ear - To not make plans and react according to the situation.

Example: When we go on holiday, I never have an itinerary. I like to play it by ear and do what I feel like at the time.



Blow your own trumpet - To brag or boast about yourself.

Example: I hate to blow my own trumpet but I got an 8.0 band score in IELTS. So, maybe you should listen to me.



Music to my ears - To get good news or learn something that makes you happy.

Example: The company will increase all basic salaries by 5% next year. That’s music to my ears.

