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Level 2

Britney Spears' music scares off pirates

31st October, 2013

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1310/131031-loud-music-2.html>

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Please try Levels 0 and 1 (easier) and the 26–page Level 3 (harder).

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THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1310/131031-loud-music-2.html>

Ships in the Indian Ocean are playing songs by U.S. pop star Britney Spears to keep pirates away. A ship's officer, Rachel Owens, said Britney Spears' songs were good against Somali pirates. Ms Owens, 34, said: "[Britney's] songs were chosen by the security team because they thought the pirates would hate them most. These guys can't stand Western culture or music." A security expert said playing loud pop music was a good way to stop pirate attacks. He said not all shipping companies play Britney Spears' music. He added: "Each security company will have its own music choice."

Loud music is often used to scare people. It is even a form of torture. Guards at Guantanamo Bay used it in 2003 to keep prisoners awake. Prisoners had to listen to very loud music for weeks and months at a time. A former prisoner, Ruhul Ahmed, said the loud music played in his cell was worse than being beaten up. He said: "It makes you feel like you are going mad." Many people think prisons must stop this. A human rights charity has started a campaign to end it. It wants rock stars to stop prisons using their music for torture.

Sources: <http://www.ibtimes.com/britney-spears-scares-somali-pirates-hit-songs-used-fend-thieves-1443454>
<http://www.mirror.co.uk/news/weird-news/britney-spears-music-blasted-out-2646660#ixzz2j6E6qXZh>
http://www.huffingtonpost.com/andy-worthington/a-history-of-music-tortur_b_151109.html

MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1310/131031-loud-music-2.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------|
| 1. songs were good against | a. Western culture or music |
| 2. songs were chosen | b. play Britney Spears |
| 3. they thought the pirates would | c. pop music |
| 4. These guys can't stand | d. own music choice |
| 5. loud | e. Somali pirates |
| 6. a good way | f. hate them most |
| 7. not all shipping companies | g. to stop pirate attacks |
| 8. Each security company will have its | h. by the security team |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Loud music is often | a. prisoners awake |
| 2. It is even a form | b. beaten up |
| 3. keep | c. prisoner |
| 4. or weeks and months | d. for torture |
| 5. a former | e. used to scare people |
| 6. worse than being | f. charity |
| 7. A human rights | g. of torture |
| 8. stop prisons using their music | h. at a time |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1310/131031-loud-music-2.html>

Ships in the Indian Ocean (1) _____ by U.S. pop star Britney Spears to (2) _____. A ship's officer, Rachel Owens, said Britney Spears' songs were good against Somali pirates. Ms Owens, 34, said: "[Britney's] (3) _____ by the security team because they thought the pirates would hate them most. These (4) _____ Western culture or music." A (5) _____ playing loud pop music was a good way to stop pirate attacks. He said not all shipping companies play Britney Spears' music. He added: "Each security company will have its (6) _____."

Loud music is often (7) _____ people. It is even a form of torture. Guards at Guantanamo Bay used it in 2003 to keep prisoners awake. Prisoners (8) _____ very loud music for weeks and (9) _____. A former prisoner, Ruhul Ahmed, said the loud music played in his cell was worse than being beaten up. He said: "It (10) _____ like you are going mad." Many people (11) _____ stop this. A human rights charity has started a campaign to end it. It wants rock stars to stop prisons using their (12) _____.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1310/131031-loud-music-2.html>

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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a)

b)

c)

d)

e)

f)

g)

h)

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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a)

b)

c)

d)

e)

f)

g)

h)
