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Level 4

Hit musical 'Cats' gets rap song

10th July, 2014

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1407/140710-rap-song-4.html>

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Please try the harder Level 5 and the 26-page Level 6 (harder).

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THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1407/140710-rap-song-4.html>

The hit musical 'Cats' will be a little different when it makes its London comeback in December. A traditional song is now a rap. The musical's writer wanted to update it to appeal to younger theatre-goers. 'Cats' is based on the book "Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats" by the British writer T. S. Eliot. It is about a group of cats who must decide who gets to come back to life. 'Cats' first opened in London in 1981 and ran for 21 years. It won many awards.

The rap will be from the character Rum Tum Tugger, a rebellious street cat. Lloyd Webber said he is a modern street cat who "has to do hip-hop". He also said the 1930s poem that the cat sings has a strong rap rhythm. He joked that T.S. Eliot was the world's first rapper and the inventor of rap. The show's producer said the rap was for "a whole new generation of kids". He said parts of the musical could become a lot more energetic and modern.

Sources: <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/culture/theatre/theatre-news/10951867/Cats-classic-musical-to-feature-a-rapping-cat.html>
<http://www.standard.co.uk/goingout/theatre/andrew-lloyd-webbers-hit-musical-cats-gets-hiphop-twist-as-it-returns-to-west-end-9589096.html>
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cats_%28musical%29

MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1407/140710-rap-song-4.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. The hit | a. London comeback |
| 2. it makes its | b. theatre-goers |
| 3. A traditional song | c. many awards |
| 4. update it to appeal to younger | d. back to life |
| 5. decide who gets to come | e. musical 'Cats' |
| 6. It won | f. is now a rap |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. a rebellious | a. of kids |
| 2. a modern street cat who | b. street cat |
| 3. a strong rap | c. energetic and modern |
| 4. the inventor | d. "has to do hip-hop" |
| 5. a whole new generation | e. of rap |
| 6. a lot more | f. rhythm |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1407/140710-rap-song-4.html>

The hit musical 'Cats' will (1) _____ when it makes its London comeback in December. A (2) _____ now a rap. The musical's writer wanted to (3) _____ to younger theatre-goers. 'Cats' is (4) _____ "Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats" by the British writer T. S. Eliot. It is about a group of cats who must decide who gets to (5) _____. 'Cats' first opened in London in 1981 and ran for 21 years. (6) _____.

The rap will be (7) _____ Rum Tum Tugger, a rebellious street cat. Lloyd Webber (8) _____ street cat who "has to do hip-hop". He also said the 1930s poem that the cat sings (9) _____. He joked that T.S. Eliot (10) _____ rapper and the inventor of rap. The show's producer said the rap was for "a (11) _____ of kids". He said parts of the musical could become a lot more (12) _____.

RAP SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1407/140710-rap-song-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about rap in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper.
When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

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)

