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## **Level 4**

### **Jay Z receives top songwriting honor**

**19th June, 2017**

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1706/170619-jay-z-4.html>

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**Please try Levels 5 and 6. They are (a little) harder.**

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# THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1706/170619-jay-z-4.html>

The rapper Jay Z has been rewarded for his songwriting. He is the first rapper to enter the Songwriters Hall of Fame. The Hall aims to, "preserve, honor and celebrate the legacy of the great songwriters whose work has enriched the world's culture". Jay Z grew up in New York. He got into hip-hop and became one of the best-selling artists of all time. He has sold over 100 million albums. He is also a businessman. He owns a sports bar and a music streaming service.

Barack Obama talked about Jay Z. He said: "I am a fan and I've been listening to Jay Z since I was...young. I'm pretty sure I'm...the only president to listen to Jay Z's music in the [White House]." He called Jay Z a "true American original" and the "greatest rapper of all time". Jay Z's music publisher accepted the award for him. It said: "[Jay Z] would tell up-and-coming hip-hop artists today that there can be no mistake...that you are indeed songwriters."

Sources: <http://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/obama-honors-jay-z-songwriters-hall-fame-n773371>  
<http://www.npr.org/sections/therecord/2017/06/16/533200940/barack-obama-honors-jay-z-at-songwriters-hall-of-fame-gala>  
<http://www.billboard.com/articles/columns/hip-hop/7833651/jay-z-inducted-songwriters-hall-of-fame>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1706/170619-jay-z-4.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |  |                        |
|--|------------------------|
| 1. Jay Z has been rewarded                   | a. a sports bar        |
| 2. the first rapper to enter the Songwriters | b. legacy              |
| 3. honor and celebrate the                   | c. streaming service   |
| 4. enriched the world's                      | d. Hall of Fame        |
| 5. one of the best-selling artists           | e. 100 million albums  |
| 6. He has sold over                          | f. for his songwriting |
| 7. He owns                                   | g. culture             |
| 8. a music                                   | h. of all time         |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                 |                           |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Barack Obama talked          | a. in the White House     |
| 2. I've been listening to Jay Z | b. mistake                |
| 3. listen to Jay Z's music      | c. of all time            |
| 4. a true American              | d. publisher              |
| 5. the greatest rapper          | e. about Jay Z            |
| 6. music                        | f. original               |
| 7. up-and-                      | g. since I was young      |
| 8. there can be no              | h. coming hip-hop artists |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1706/170619-jay-z-4.html>

The rapper Jay Z has (1) \_\_\_\_\_ his songwriting. He is the first rapper (2) \_\_\_\_\_ Songwriters Hall of Fame. The Hall aims to, "preserve, honor and celebrate (3) \_\_\_\_\_ great songwriters whose work (4) \_\_\_\_\_ world's culture". Jay Z grew up in New York. He got into hip-hop and (5) \_\_\_\_\_ the best-selling artists of all time. He has sold over 100 million albums. He is also a businessman. (6) \_\_\_\_\_ bar and a music streaming service.

Barack Obama talked about Jay Z. He said: "(7) \_\_\_\_\_ I've been listening to Jay Z (8) \_\_\_\_\_ young. I'm pretty sure (9) \_\_\_\_\_ president to listen to Jay Z's music in the [White House]." He called Jay Z a "true American original" (10) \_\_\_\_\_ rapper of all time". Jay Z's music publisher accepted the award for him. It said: "[Jay Z] would tell (11) \_\_\_\_\_ hip-hop artists today that (12) \_\_\_\_\_ mistake...that you are indeed songwriters."

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1706/170619-jay-z-4.html>

The rapper Jay Z has been rewarded for his songwriting. He is the first rapper to enter the Songwriters Hall of Fame. The Hall aims to, "preserve, honor and celebrate the legacy of the great songwriters whose work has enriched the world's culture". Jay Z grew up in New York. He got into hip-hop and became one of the best-selling artists of all-time. He has sold over 100 million albums. He is also a businessman. He owns a sports bar and a music streaming service. Barack Obama talked about Jay Z. He said: "I am a fan and I've been listening to Jay Z since I was... young. I'm pretty sure I'm... the only president to listen to Jay Z's music in the [White House]". He called Jay Z a "true American original" and the "greatest rapper of all time". Jay Z's music publisher accepted the award for him. It said: "[Jay Z] would tell up- and- coming hip hop artists today that there can be no mistake... that you are indeed songwriters."

# RAP MUSIC SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1706/170619-jay-z-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about rap music 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) \_\_\_\_\_

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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) \_\_\_\_\_

