

## Exercise 4

- 14 Read the article about listening to music while studying.

Write a summary about the advantages of listening to music while studying AND what this music should be like.

Your summary should be about 100 words long (and no more than 120 words long). You should use your own words as far as possible.

You will receive up to 8 marks for the content of your summary, and up to 8 marks for the style and accuracy of your language.

### Listening to music while studying

Go into any college or university library, and you will see many students wearing headphones, clearly listening to music while they are studying. Why do they do this? Is it really possible to listen to music at the same time as doing the demanding reading and writing that academic studies require? Many students say that it definitely is, and that it helps them concentrate better. They go on to explain that music blocks out other background noises – like people talking – which are much worse. Interestingly, experiments carried out by psychologists indicate that the headphone-wearing students are right on both points.

Music itself is a form of noise, of course. So, doesn't it distract? Research suggests that music can indeed distract, and that it is only helpful if it has certain features. 'It's best if it isn't too loud,' says educational psychologist Miriam Granger. 'If the volume's high, students will work less efficiently. Another important thing is that words in a song can get in the way of your ability to read or write,' Granger says. 'So, for it to be effective, the music coming through the student's headphones needs to be without lyrics.'

A number of research studies have looked at the effect that listening to different types of music might have on people's brains. One theory that became popular in the 1990s was that listening to classical music, such as the work of the 18th-century composer Mozart, could actually make people more intelligent. This idea was based on a misunderstanding of the research, however. What research findings do show, though, is that music can make people feel relaxed. 'That's better than feeling anxious when you're trying to learn something,' Granger points out. Other academic studies show that music can help people cope with complex ideas and tasks.

On the other hand, not every type of music is likely to have this effect. For there to be a benefit, the music needs to have a steady rhythm. 'If the beat changes a lot, then it draws your attention to the music, which is not what you want when you're studying,' says music specialist Louis Marlot. At the same time, the ideal music is neither too fast nor too slow. 'People taking part in controlled studies have reported that this aspect is very important,' says Marlot. 'When it's just right, they say it gives them energy to continue studying.'

Both Granger and Marlot emphasise that music can affect different people in different ways. Some people are not good at doing several things at the same time, and for such people, it probably makes sense not to listen to any music at all when they have to deal with a complex task. Also, one thing we all know is that tastes in music vary, even among people of similar backgrounds and ages. A sixteen-year-old boy might love listening to rap in his free time, whereas his seventeen-year-old brother might be deeply into electronic dance music. Granger says, however, that 'when it comes to listening to music while studying, it's advisable to avoid music that you're passionate about. You're likely to focus more on the music than on whatever it is you're reading or writing.'

There are numerous advantages of listening to music while studying. Firstly, it helps students to focus concentrate better and cope handle/manage with complex ideas and tasks. In addition to blocking out and fading the background noises, music helps pupils to feel relaxed calm/soothed and provide them with energy to carry on with their studying. The ideal studying music should have no lyrics and not be too loud. Moreover, it ~~sh~~ must have a steady rhythm with a pace not too fast quick nor too slow. Finally, learners ought to stay clear of music they are passionate ardent/enthusiastic about.

[92 words]

**Content:**

-10 points covered

**Language:**

-Use your own words as far as possible. Some examples are shown in the summary



Dear Ben,

I hope you're doing well. I'm sorry I haven't been in touch for such a long time. As you probably know, I went on an educational school trip last week; it's <sup>it was</sup> an unforgettable once-in-a-lifetime experience! I'm thrilled to bits to tell you all about it!

Our destination was the well-known Scitech Technology Centre right at the heart of Khobar. It has various mind-blowing exhibitions in all fields of sciences, all within a gigantic exquisitely designed building. This fascinating place has also got a cutting-edge cinema, displaying the latest documentaries on a palatial high-definition screen.

I was specifically captivated by the enormous aquarium – the largest in Saudi Arabia – that I could feast my eyes on for a whole day. In addition, I was extremely enthralled by the state-of-the-art technology and the realistic computer simulations as the professional guides flooded us with valuable information about them. avoid formal linking words

When we returned back to school, we were divided into 4 groups, each one discussing a specific aspect of the visit which will be later represented to the class. This was a precious opportunity to showcase my enthusiasm and passion about science to my teachers. I'm over the moon, <sup>learned</sup> I learn about things that spark my interest. definitely

This invaluable experience will definitely help me to pass my upcoming exams with flying colours! Have to dash now.

Lots of love,  
your name

[221 words]

## Exercise 6

- 16 A new cinema has recently opened in your town. You have decided to write a review of the cinema for your school magazine.

Here are two comments from other people who have been to the new cinema:

There's a great range of films to see.

The staff aren't very friendly.

**Write a review for the school magazine.**

The comments above may give you some ideas, and you can also use some ideas of your own.

**Your review should be between 150 and 200 words long.**

You will receive up to 8 marks for the content of your review, and up to 8 marks for the language used.

**Content:**

-relevant details such as the types of films and the booking system could have been included

**Language:**

-Good use of language

# IMAX Cinema

Reviewed by your name

Are you wandering around the bustling streets of Khobar casting around for a top-notch cinema? If so, don't look further; "IMAX Cinema is exactly what you are you're looking for.

Located right at the heart of Khobar (in Ajdan Walk), it's easily accessible by local people. Its extraordinarily exquisitely designed building is definitely eye-catching. As you enter, you're welcomed by the amiable immaculate staff and the mind-blowing contemporary decor.

This fascinating cinema has got a crystal-clear lifelike images (displayed on curved palatial screen) and heart-pounding pure-digital audio which guarantee you'll be drawn into something as close to reality as you've ever experienced. Moreover, you get an incredible feeling of immersion and a perfect viewing angle, no matter where you're ~~are~~ at the cinema! The place is air-conditioned and the atmosphere is relaxing in addition to since the extremely comfortable spacious seats.

However, I must warn you: the tickets get sold out in the blink of an eye, so you must get your tickets as early as possible.

I strongly recommend visiting this one-of-a-kind cinema to anyone chasing down an unforgettable experience.

[180 words]