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The 4 page 60 minute ESL British English lesson – 15/12/12

Viva Forever! Spice Girls reunite for new musical

Recently the Spice Girls reunited at the opening night of a new musical in London called Viva Forever! London's Piccadilly theatre in the West End hosted the event that featured the music of the Spice Girls.

Ahead of the performance Geri Haliwell, Emma Bunton, Melanie Brown and Melanie Chisholm walked down the red carpet as a foursome. The fifth member of the girl band Victoria Beckham arrived late with her husband David Beckham and three sons due to traffic. They were joined by many celebrities including Graham Norton, Joan Collins and Cilla Black.

The musical stars newcomer Hannah John-Kamen and experienced West End star and former Eurovision entry Sally Ann Triplett. John-Kamen plays aspiring singer Viva, who along with her three friends, gets swept up in a TV talent show which turns their life upside down. The show heavily satires The X Factor, which Mel B and Geri Haliwell both appeared on earlier this year.

Speaking in the foyer of London's Piccadilly Theatre after the performance the Spice Girls said: "We're very excited about the event. We're even quite humbled by it!"

Later Geri, Emma, Mel B and Mel C jumped into a cab and headed over to the Supernova Club in London's West End for a Viva Forever after party. Victoria Beckham opted to skip the fun and instead headed home with her family.

The new musical though has left critics cold with one describing it as 'more like a clapped-out Vauxhall Viva with five careless owners and far too many miles on the clock...' Viva Forever? The critics think not!

SPEAKING

Think of three things you know about the Spice Girls. Go round the room swapping details with others.

LISTENING – WRITING - DICTATION

The teacher will read some lines of the article slowly to the class.

READING

Students should now read the article aloud, swapping readers every paragraph.

SPEAKING - UNDERSTANDING

1) The article – Students check any unknown vocabulary or phrases with the teacher.

2) The article - Students should look through the article with the teacher.

- 1) What is the article about?
- 2) What do you think about the article?
- 3) Was this an easy or difficult article to understand?
- 4) Discuss the article

3) Article quiz - Students quiz each other in pairs. Score a point for each correct answer. Score half a point each time you have to look at the article for help. See who can get the highest score!

Student A questions

- 1) Name the group
- 2) Name the new musical
- 3) Name the theatre
- 4) Name the members of the group
- 5) Where did most of the group go after the performance?

Student B questions

- 1) Who were left cold by the new musical?
- 2) What did one critic say?
- 3) What did David Beckham's wife do after the performance?
- 4) Name the TV show
- 5) What is the musical about?

Category: London's West End / Musicals / Spice Girls
Level: Intermediate / Upper Intermediate

Viva Forever! Spice Girls reunite for new musical – 15th December 2012

WRITING / SPEAKING

In pairs. On the board write as many words as you can to do with '**Musicals**'. *One-two minutes.* Compare with other teams. Using your words compile a short dialogue together.

WRITING / SPEAKING

Viva Forever! Spice girls reunite for new musical
- *In pairs* choose three things from the article.
Write them below.

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____

Add three similar ideas of your own about the new ideas. Discuss together.

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____

The teacher will choose some pairs to discuss their findings in front of the class.

WRITING / SPEAKING

Think of three musicals that are based on pop/rock group's music. Then add three well known songs from each of them the original bands had as hits. Write down your thoughts.

The teacher will choose some students to read out their work to the class.

DISCUSSION

Student A questions

- 1) Did the headline make you want to read the article?
- 2) Are you a fan of the Spice Girls?
- 3) What other 90s bands do you like?
- 4) Have you ever watched a musical live?
- 5) Why have the critics panned the new musical?
- 6) Have you ever been to a theatre in London's West End?
- 7) Have you ever been clubbing in London's West End?
- 8) Have you ever met anyone famous? If yes, who?
- 9) What do you think of TV talent shows?
- 10) Have you learnt anything in today's English lesson?

SPEAKING – ROLEPLAY 1

In groups. One of you is the interviewer. The others are one of the following people. You are in the *Discussion FM* radio studio. Today's interview is about: *The new musical - Viva Forever!*

- 1) A critic
- 2) A Spice Girls fan
- 3) One of the Spice Girls
- 4) A celebrity

The teacher will choose some pairs to roleplay their interview in front of the class.

SPEAKING - ROLEPLAY 2

In pairs. You are in a coffee shop in your town/city. Start a conversation about: '*Different musicals and plays*'. *5 mins.*

SPEAKING

In pairs tell the class about a visit to a theatre. Include something about its décor, the performance, who was there, what you watched, what you thought about it, etc... *5 mins prep.* **The teacher** will choose some pairs to hear their details in front of the class.

SPEAKING - DISCUSSION

Allow 10 minutes – As a class.

Discuss the following...

Ten different musicals and plays

The teacher can moderate the session.

DISCUSSION

Student B questions

- 1) What do you think about what you read?
- 2) Can you name three other girl bands?
- 3) Will you be going to London to watch the new musical?
- 4) When was the last time you went to the theatre?
- 5) Which is your favourite musical?
- 6) Who is your favourite Spice Girl?
- 7) Why were the Spice Girls so successful?
- 8) What do you think of London's West End?
- 9) Has this been a difficult lesson in English for you to understand?
- 10) Did you like this discussion?

Viva Forever! Spice Girls reunite for new musical – 15th December 2012

GAP FILL: READING

Viva Forever! Spice Girls reunite for new musical

Recently the Spice Girls reunited at the opening night of a new (1)___ in London called Viva Forever! London's Piccadilly (2)___ in the West End hosted the event that featured the music of the Spice Girls.

Ahead of the (3)___ Geri Haliwell, Emma Bunton, Melanie Brown and Melanie Chisholm walked down the red carpet as a (4)___. The fifth member of the girl band Victoria Beckham arrived late with her husband David Beckham and three sons due to traffic. They were joined by many (5)___ including Graham Norton, Joan Collins and Cilla Black.

The musical stars (6)___ Hannah John-Kamen and experienced West End star and former Eurovision entry Sally Ann Triplett. John-Kamen plays aspiring singer Viva, who along with her three friends, gets swept up in a TV talent show which turns their life upside down. The show heavily (7)___ The X Factor, which Mel B and Geri Haliwell both appeared on (8)___ this year.

celebrities / musical / newcomer / satires / performance / theatre / foursome / earlier

Speaking in the (1)___ of London's Piccadilly Theatre after the performance the Spice Girls said: "We're very excited about the (2)___. We're even quite humbled by it!"

Later Geri, Emma, Mel B and Mel C jumped into a cab and headed over to the Supernova Club in London's West End for a Viva Forever (3)__. Victoria Beckham opted to (4)___ the fun and (5)___ headed home with her family.

The new musical though has left critics cold with one describing it as 'more like a (6)___ Vauxhall Viva with five (7)___ owners and far too many miles on the clock...' Viva Forever? The (8)___ think not!

critics / skip / foyer / after party / careless / instead / clapped-out / event

GAP FILL: GRAMMAR

Viva Forever! Spice Girls reunite for new musical

Recently the Spice Girls reunited at the opening night of a new musical in London called Viva Forever! London's Piccadilly theatre in the West End hosted the event (1)___ featured the music of the Spice Girls.

Ahead of the performance Geri Haliwell, Emma Bunton, Melanie Brown and Melanie Chisholm walked down the red carpet as a foursome. The fifth member of the girl band Victoria Beckham arrived late (2)___ her husband David Beckham and three sons due to traffic. (3)___ were joined by (4)___ celebrities including Graham Norton, Joan Collins and Cilla Black.

The musical stars newcomer Hannah John-Kamen and experienced West End star and former Eurovision entry Sally Ann Triplett. John-Kamen plays aspiring singer Viva, (5)___ along with her three friends, gets swept up in a TV talent show (6)___ turns (7)___ life upside down. The show heavily satires The X Factor, which Mel B and Geri Haliwell both appeared on earlier (8)___ year.

this / which / that / with / their / they / who / many

Speaking (1)___ the foyer of London's Piccadilly Theatre after (2)___ performance the Spice Girls said: "We're very excited about the event. We're even quite humbled (3)___ it!"

Later Geri, Emma, Mel B and Mel C jumped into a cab and headed over to the Supernova Club in London's West End (4)___ a Viva Forever after party. Victoria Beckham opted to skip the fun and instead headed home with (5)___ family.

The new musical though has left critics cold with one describing (6)___ as 'more like a clapped-out Vauxhall Viva with five careless owners and far (7)___ many miles (8)___ the clock...' Viva Forever? The critics think not!

her / the / too / for / on / by / in / it

Viva Forever! Spice Girls reunite for new musical – 15th December 2012

GAP FILL: LISTENING

Viva Forever! Spice Girls reunite for new musical

Recently _____ reunited at the opening night of a new musical in London called Viva Forever! London's Piccadilly theatre in the West End hosted the event that featured the music of the Spice Girls.

Ahead of the performance Geri Haliwell, Emma Bunton, Melanie Brown and Melanie Chisholm walked _____ as a foursome. The fifth member of the girl band Victoria Beckham arrived late with her husband David Beckham and three sons due to traffic. They were joined by _____ including Graham Norton, Joan Collins and Cilla Black.

The _____ Hannah John-Kamen and experienced West End star and former Eurovision entry Sally Ann Triplett. John-Kamen plays aspiring singer Viva, who along with her three friends, gets swept up in _____ which turns their life upside down.

The show heavily satires The X Factor, which Mel B and Geri Haliwell both appeared on _____. Speaking in the foyer of London's Piccadilly Theatre after the performance the Spice Girls said: "We're very excited about the event. We're even _____!"

Later Geri, Emma, Mel B and Mel C jumped into a cab and headed over to the Supernova Club in London's West End for a _____. Victoria Beckham opted to skip the fun and instead headed home with her family.

The new musical though has left critics cold with one describing it as 'more like a clapped-out Vauxhall Viva with _____ and far too many miles on the clock...' Viva Forever? _____!

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WRITING/SPELLING

WRITING / SPEAKING

1) On the board - *In pairs*, write as many words as you can to do with '**'90s music.'** *One-two minutes*. Compare with other teams. Using your words compile a short dialogue together.

2) Sentence starters - Finish these sentence starters. Correct your mistakes. Compare what other people have written.

- 1) The Spice Girls _____
- 2) The West End _____
- 3) The new musical _____

3) Homework - Write and send a 200 word email to your teacher about: **Viva Forever! Spice Girls reunite for new musical**. Your email can be read out in class.

GAP FILL ANSWERS

- 1) musical
- 2) theatre
- 3) performance
- 4) foursome
- 5) celebrities
- 6) newcomer
- 7) satires
- 8) earlier

SPELLING

The teacher will ask the class individually to spell the following words that are in the article. Afterwards check your answers.

- 1) performance
- 2) husband
- 3) recently
- 4) foursome
- 5) celebrities
- 6) newcomer
- 7) heavily
- 8) foyer
- 9) careless
- 10) critics

GAP FILL ANSWERS

- 1) foyer
- 2) event
- 3) after party
- 4) skip
- 5) instead
- 6) clapped-out
- 7) careless
- 8) critics

SPELLING

Use the following ratings:

Pass = 12

Good = 15

Very good = 18

Excellent = 20

- 11) musical
- 12) quite
- 13) later
- 14) though
- 15) clapped-out
- 16) Eurovision
- 17) satires
- 18) theatre
- 19) Event
- 20) skip

Viva Forever! Spice Girls reunite for new musical – *15th December 2012*