

Name: _____ () Class: _____ Date: _____

You are going to help plan the school talent show. You have found a magazine article about different performers. Read the magazine article.

Text 1 Magazine article

① Bored silly by the usual cookie-cutter musicians and dancers that populate mainstream media? Here are some refreshing new artists for you to check out! These unconventional artists have opted to take the road less travelled when it comes to their art and are definite must-hears and must-sees!

5 **SENZA A Cappella**

② Established by Hong Kong Baptist University students in 2009, SENZA A Cappella is a talented a cappella music ensemble. Their name 'Senza' comes from the Italian word meaning *without*, which perfectly describes the group's musical style.

A cappella groups perform with only their voices, without the accompaniment of any musical instruments.

For Senza, their versatile voices are the only instruments they need.



③ Its members were brought together by a desire to promote a cappella music in Hong Kong and perform a diverse range of songs, from classic Broadway numbers to catchy Canto-pop tunes. Their sensational vocal performances have won them numerous accolades at singing competitions. They have even collaborated with Canto-pop superstars such as Kay Tse, in which they performed live on stage with her at one of her concert tours, and renowned singer-songwriter G.E.M., who interviewed them and later joined in with SENZA when they gave a spectacular rendition of her hit song A.I.N.Y.

Sungha Jung

④ Sungha Jung is a self-taught Korean acoustic guitarist with over 4.5 million subscribers on YouTube. As a child, he originally took piano lessons but he cast those aside as soon as he saw his father playing the guitar and was instantly enraptured by the lively instrument.

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⑤ Having acquired the basics of guitar-playing from his father, Jung honed his impressive skills simply by watching videos of other guitarists and by reproducing any song he heard by ear on his guitar, without the aid of sheet music. Jung continuously strives to improve his skills and is never afraid to ask for feedback or tips from his admirers and other guitarists.

35 ⑥ Crowned the 'Prince of Guitar' by his fans, Jung has won many Youtube awards, and he has landed gigs and collaborations with other guitarists around the globe. Though most of his early videos were covers of famous songs, his later performances have included more and more original compositions.

B-girl Ling

40 ⑦ Requiring immense upper-body strength, the breakdancing world tends to be male dominated. However, Hong Kong dancer B-girl Ling has proven that girls can breakdance with the best of them. Dancers like B-girl Ling are paving the road for
45 more female dancers, as her technical moves and athletic feats impress breakdancing fans everywhere.



As one of the first full-time 'break girls' in Asia, she has organized and participated in different street dance battles, and often blows away the competition.

50 ⑧ There will always be a place for traditional pop singers and dancers, however it is inspiring to see how popular song and dance can also develop in exciting new directions. So, widen your pop culture horizons, look up these impressive artists and explore alternative performances!

Challenging reading and comprehension

Unit 5

Name: _____ () Class: _____ Date: _____

Comprehension 1 Your classmate wants to know about the different types of performers mentioned in the article. Answer her questions using information from the magazine article. For multiple-choice questions, choose the best answer and blacken **ONE** circle only.

- 1 Find a word in paragraph 1 that means the opposite of 'unoriginal and uninspiring'.



- 2 What do you think the expression 'take the road less travelled' means?

- 3 i) What does the Italian word *senza* mean in English?

- ii) Why does the writer say that this 'perfectly describes the group's musical style'?

- 4 i) Who are the members of SENZA A Cappella?

- ii) Why did they decide to form SENZA A Cappella?

- 5 Decide whether the following statements are True (T), False (F) or the information is Not Given (NG) in paragraph 2 and 3.

Statements	T	F	NG
i) A cappella groups sometimes use violins or drums.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
ii) SENZA A Cappella has won dozens of awards.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
iii) SENZA A Cappella wrote a song called 'A.I.N.Y'.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Challenging reading and comprehension

Unit 5

Name: _____ () Class: _____ Date: _____

6 Who does 'her' refer to in line 21?

7 Sungha Jung has over 4.5 million 'subscribers' (line 24) on YouTube. This means he _____.

A is skillful with computers and social media

B has acquired a large fan base

C is a big fan of video sharing websites

D has paid YouTube a lot of money to promote his music

A	B	C	D
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

8 Use ONE word to complete each blank.

Jung was inspired by his _____ to learn the _____
instead of the _____.

9 What are TWO things Jung did to develop his guitar skills?

i) _____

ii) _____



10 The writer states that Sungha Jung 'is never afraid to ask for feedback or tips'. What does this imply about his personality?

11 Order the following events in Sungha Jung's life. Number the events (1–4).

Sungha Jung's career

He started playing cover songs and putting them on YouTube.

He began recording more songs that he wrote himself.

He gave up playing piano.

His father taught him basic guitar skills.

12 According to the article, why are most breakdancers male?

Challenging reading and comprehension

Unit 5

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13 Find an expression in paragraph 7 that means 'creating a situation that enables something to happen'.



14 Who might B-girl Ling be an inspiration for? Why?

15 What are two aspects of B-girl Ling's dancing that impress fans?

i) _____
ii) _____

16 According to the text, B-Girl Ling 'blows away the competition'. This means she ...

A sometimes loses but does not become discouraged.

B forces the competition to stop.

C gains the attention of the media.

D wins effortlessly.

A B C D

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Complete the comparison table.

Performer(s)	SENZA A Cappella	(17) _____	B-girl Ling
Comes from	Hong Kong	(18) _____	(19) _____
Performance	(20) _____ music	guitar playing	(21) _____ _____



22 What is the purpose of this magazine article?

