

T Hi it's us again.

B And today we are going to talk about the music of English.

T Does English have a music?

B Of course, every language has its own music ... the way it sounds. The pronunciation, the rhythm, the stress and intonation. But our focus today is actually music and songs as a way of learning English.

T What do you mean?

B Well, we all know how important music and singing have always been for human beings. For example singing in church or at a football stadium ...

T Or even singing in the shower.

B Exactly. Songs have a universal appeal. In fact, people find music and songs so stimulating that they can even learn a language from them.

T How?

B First of all, songs are memorable. We find ourselves singing lines and copying natural pronunciation, while at the same time learning whole phrases...not just words. And their lyrics are often both authentic and colloquial.

T Do you use songs with children?

B Not only. But kids can really benefit from singing and even rapping ...

T Rapping?

B Yes rapping for recycling and reinforcing pronunciation and grammar. In fact we often use 'grammar raps' as a fun way of revising the language.

T And let's not forget songs are often interesting from a social or historical point of view.

B And that means they can provide good topics for class discussions and they can also be used for homework. In particular, teenagers are often happy to research and present a song of their choice to their classmates.

T And last but not least songs are enjoyable ...

B Which means in lessons adults and children feel more relaxed and confident ...

T And we at the British Council know that a positive atmosphere in the class makes it easier to learn English.

B Not to mention the fact that students are then more motivated to use songs in their own time to improve their English....outside the classroom!

T That's really important.

