

The Beatles and The Rolling Stones – Teacher’s notes

Level: Beginner

Aim: Students exchange information orally about The Beatles and The Rolling Stones during the 1960s until 1970. Then work in pairs to complete a gap-fill activity from memory.

Grammar: Past simple affirmative and negative.

Vocabulary: Regular and irregular past simple verbs.

Preparation: Make one copy of the Worksheets for each pair of students. Cut each Worksheet where marked and separate the parts for Student A and Student B.

Lead in:

1. Write *The* _ _ _ _ _ *S* _ _ _ _ _ on the board and play a hangman game with the students. Explain to them that most people call the band The Stones and that they were friends and rivals of The Beatles during the sixties.
2. Write the years *1960, 1961, 1962, 1963, 1964, 1965, 1966, 1967, 1968, 1969, 1970* on the board. Drill pronunciation of each year.
3. Ask the students if they can remember information about The Beatles for the years. The students can refer to unit 9B if necessary.
4. Write the verbs *meet, form, play, go, visit, like, be, record, say* on the board. Put the students in pairs and ask them to separate the verbs into regular and irregular. Ask the students to write the past simple form of the verbs. Drill the pronunciation of the verbs in the past simple.

Activity:

1. Put the students in pairs and give out Parts A of the Worksheets, one for Student A and one for Student B. Sit A and B so they can't see each other's papers and explain that they have different information.
2. Tell the students they must use the past tense of the verb on the sheet. They can help each other during the activity referring back to the practice you gave them in the lead-in.
3. Speaking activity – in pairs the students exchange information on The Rolling Stones and The Beatles' careers. Students give the information by saying, *In 1962*, etc. You may have to model an example with them first.
4. Gap-fill activity – ask students to hand Part A of the Worksheet back to you and give them Part B. In pairs they must try to complete the gap-fill exercise from memory.

Extra idea: Just like the rival fans in the sixties, the class have to decide which group is the best. Ask them to vote.