

The theatre isn't really my thing

LEARNING OUTCOME

learn how to talk about cultural tastes

Everyday life

1 Look at the photo and answer the questions.

Where are the people and what are they doing?

What kind of information would you find in a weekly city guide?



Everyday vocabulary

2 Match each word or expression in *italics* to its meaning (a–h).

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| 1 I'm <i>checking out</i> what we can do on Saturday. | a do you like |
| 2 What music <i>are you into</i> ? | b understand |
| 3 Pop <i>doesn't appeal to me</i> . | c everything is organised |
| 4 I don't <i>get</i> Dalí at all. | d investigating |
| 5 I'm a <i>massive</i> fan of Banksy. | e doesn't interest/excite me |
| 6 Banksy <i>doesn't do anything for me</i> . | f is not the type of activity I like |
| 7 The theatre <i>isn't really my thing</i> . | g very big |
| 8 <i>Sorted!</i> | h doesn't attract/interest me |

Dialogue

3 Listen to the dialogue. What do Amir and Layla decide to do?

Layla and Amir are in London studying English during the week. It's Friday and Layla is reading a cultural guide and trying to decide what to do this weekend.

Amir: Hi Layla. What's up?

Layla: I'm checking out what we can do on Saturday. It's our first weekend in London!

Amir: Cool! Are there any good concerts on?

Layla: Let's see. What music are you into?

Amir: (1) I absolutely love Taylor Swift. She's awesome! I'm also a fan of Madonna. And you?

Layla: Pop doesn't appeal to me at all. I'm more into heavy rock. Let's see, something else.

(2) Are you into art?

Amir: Yeah. My favourite artist is Salvador Dalí – he was a genius!

Layla: I don't get Dalí at all. (3)

I'm a massive fan of Banksy. He's so original and makes me think about important issues.

Amir: Banksy doesn't do anything for me. Looks as if we have different tastes. (4)

Layla: I can't stand musicals. (5)

Amir: There must be something, this is London!

Layla: There are loads of museums. What kind of museum would appeal to you?

Amir: I don't know. Something local, but original.

Layla: How about the Tower of London museum? It's a mixture of horror and history.

Amir: That sounds absolutely perfect. (6)

Layla: Sorted!

4 Read and complete the dialogue with the phrases (a–f). Then listen again and check.

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| a What about an art exhibition? | d Pop's my favourite. |
| b Let's do it! | e I prefer more modern stuff, like street art. |
| c What about going to a musical? | f To be honest, the theatre isn't really my thing. |

EVERYDAY ENGLISH TOOLKIT: TALKING ABOUT CULTURAL TASTES

Look at the expressions from the dialogue. Who says each one: Layla or Amir? Can you think of any more expressions for each category?

Asking about cultural tastes

Are you into art?
What kind of museum would appeal to you?
What music are you into?

Responding negatively

Pop doesn't appeal to me at all.
The theatre isn't really my thing.
I don't get Dalí at all.
I can't stand musicals.

Responding positively

I'm into heavy rock.
Pop is my favourite.
My favourite artist is Salvador Dalí.
I absolutely love Taylor Swift.
I'm a massive fan of Banksy.

Over to you!

6 Work in pairs. It's your first weekend in London. You want to choose a cultural activity to do on Saturday. The City Guide recommends the four activities below. Follow the steps and role-play a conversation. Use the expressions in the Toolkit and the dialogue. When you have discussed all the activities, make a decision.

Student A: Choose an activity and ask your partner if it appeals to them.

Student B: Give your opinion and ask your partner about their tastes.

Student A: Give your opinion.

Student B: Suggest another activity

