

1> Work in pairs. Discuss the following questions.

- 1 Do you enjoy classical music? What do you (not) like about it?
- 2 Have you been to or would you like to go to a classical music concert? Why?/Why not?
- 3 Do you know any piece of classical music? What is your favourite? Can you hum it?
- 4 How many classical music composers can you name?

2> Read the first paragraph of the online article in exercise 3. Work in pairs. Look at the BIG question mentioned in the first line. Imagine one person has answered YES to the question, while another person NO. What do you think these people might say?

music for everyone**The classical question**

Today, on 'Music in the 21st Century', we're asking all of you a BIG question: **Do you think that classical music is relevant to the young people of the 21st century?** It's a question that has provoked heated debate in music papers and on music websites recently, so we would like to know what our readers think. We already know that music is important to you as a visitor to this site, but do you ever listen to classical music? Do you think it's stuffy and old-fashioned? Is it only the older generation that still enjoys it? Or are you a classical music fan, and get a lot out of listening to it? So, whether your preference is Lady Gaga or Mozart, we want to hear from you. Get posting.

A musicman3

I get the feeling that classical music is stuck in the past and has no real relevance to today's youth. ¹____ I have, several times, but it was just boring, and I didn't know what I was listening for. That's the real problem, I think. Maybe it means something to some people, but you have to learn what to listen for, and for me, that's not on. I like my music to talk straight to me! Also, these days, kids want to interact with the music – dance, sing along, tap their feet and stuff. ²____ And now you've got me started, what's all that about the rules you have to follow at classical concerts? First off, you have to wear special posh gear, and then you can't applaud when you want to, you have to sit in silence (in my case, bored to tears), and then clap when you're allowed to. How snobby is that! ³____ It's as if the people who are into classical music are all rich or upper-class with good, expensive education. It's like a club that I don't belong to. And I don't particularly want to join either! So, no, as far as I'm concerned, pop music is for today's young people. It's about today, not yesterday, and deals with our issues and feelings. Classical music is dead music. It says nothing to me at all.

B screenmonkey

How anyone can think that classical music isn't important to young people is beyond me. Many of my generation are really into it. I mean, we're talking about music that has been created by geniuses and has stood the test of time. It's magical, emotional and beautiful. ⁴____ OK, it's not easy or catchy like most of today's music, but I think that's a good thing. It's exciting and challenging, and that's probably why people think it's not important any more. They don't really understand it. To appreciate classical music, you have to be patient, and that's not a quality that a lot of people have today! Classical music is not about jumping around to a beat, it's about listening quietly, and following the journey the music takes you on. ⁵____ Rubbish! It just needs to be marketed and presented in a better way, so that young people everywhere can learn how wonderful classical music really is.

3> **EXAM TASK** Przeczytaj tekst w ćwiczeniu 3 powyżej, z którego usunięto pięć zdań. Wpisz w każdą lukę (1–5) literę, którą oznaczono brakujące zdanie (A–F), tak aby otrzymać logiczny i spójny tekst. Uwaga: jedno zdanie zostało podane dodatkowo i nie pasuje do żadnej luki.

- A Don't tell me you can do that with classical music!
- B It's a pity, but fewer and fewer people are studying classical music these days.
- C Some people say that it's elitist and only enjoyed by a small group of privileged people.
- D There aren't enough adjectives for me to describe it!
- E That's the word that sums it all up for me.
- F And it's not as though I haven't tried listening to it.

4> Work in small groups. Discuss your personal reactions to the question and the posts from exercise 3.