

THE INTERVIEW 

- a You are going to listen to an interview with Sir Nicholas Kenyon, who was the director of a festival of concerts called the Proms for twelve years. Before you listen, read the glossary and look at how the words are pronounced to help you understand what he says.

Glossary

impresario /ɪmpɹə'sɔ:riəʊ/ a person who arranges plays or concerts

the Queen's Hall /kwɪnz hɔ:l/ a concert hall in London where the Proms were first held. It was bombed during the war so they moved to the Royal Albert Hall.

season tickets /'si:zən 'tɪkɪts/ tickets that are for many concerts and are cheaper than buying individual tickets

Faure a famous French composer 1845–1924

requiem /'rekwiem/ a piece of music composed for a person who has recently died

Sir Georg Solti A famous Hungarian conductor 1912–1997

Verdi a famous Italian composer 1813–1901

fanfare a short loud piece of music played to celebrate something important

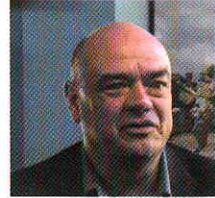
the Rite of Spring a famous piece by the Russian composer Stravinsky

a bassoon /bə'su:m/ a wind instrument

Simon Rattle a famous British conductor currently musical director of the Berlin Philharmonic orchestra

the stalls /stɔ:lz/ the seats in a theatre on the ground floor

Radio 4 one of the BBC radio channels



- b **5.17** Listen to part 1. Answer the questions with a partner.

- 1 What did an impresario want to do in 1895?
- 2 What was his brilliant idea?
- 3 Why are the concerts called the Proms?
- 4 How long do the Proms last?
- 5 What do people have to do to get the best places in the floor of the hall?
- 6 What is special about the Proms' audiences?

- c **5.18** Listen to part 2. Answer the questions with a partner.

What does he say about...?

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 Princess Diana's funeral | 4 <i>Short ride in a fast machine</i> |
| 2 Sir Georg Solti and the Verdi Requiem | 5 Simon Rattle and <i>the Rite of Spring</i> |
| 3 Colin Davies | 6 a Radio 4 interview |

- d **5.19** Listen and complete the phrases. What do you think they mean?

COMMON PHRASES

- 1 The Promenade Concerts started _____ in 1895. (informal)
- 2 ...it basically means that people are able to _____ and stand during the music.
- 3 Very few people attend actually all of them, _____.
- 4 _____ we had programmed two or three requiems in that last two weeks of the season.
- 5 As it _____, he died just a week later. **pv**
- 6 Unfortunately, _____ it could have been called absolutely anything....

- e Listen to the interview again with the tapescript on page 128. Would you like to go to the Proms? Do you have any similar concerts in your country?

IN THE STREET 

- a **5.20** You're going to listen to five people talking about music festivals. Write the speaker's number next to the festival(s) they have been to.



Anne



Jordan



Mike



Ray



Harley

- b Listen again. Which speaker...?

- 1 went to a festival with members of their family
- 2 doesn't know the name of the festival they went to
- 3 has very clear memories of the experience
- 4 went to a festival where there were a lot of people
- 5 didn't sleep at all

- c **5.21** Listen and complete the phrases. What do you think they mean?

COMMON PHRASES

- 1 There were thousands and thousands of people just chilling _____. (informal)
- 2 You can just go and hang _____ and listen to some music. (informal)
- 3 I didn't _____ any sleep at all.
- 4 In the 1970s and early 80s I went to _____ a few.
- 5 We had no _____ whose tent we were in the next morning.

- d Listen to the interviews again with the tapescript on page 128. Then answer the same questions with a partner.

- | | |
|--|---|
| Bath blues festival <input type="checkbox"/> | Isle of Wight festival <input type="checkbox"/> |
| The Big Chill <input type="checkbox"/> | Reading music festival <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Glastonbury <input type="checkbox"/> | Rock festival in Ohio <input type="checkbox"/> |

Head Office
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Milton Keynes
MK1 5GB

14 Hampden Crescent
Cheltenham
Gloucestershire
GL50 10VB

Dear Sir / Madam,

¹ *I am writing* to complain about a meal my family and I had in the Café Royale restaurant in Market Square last Saturday night.

We have eaten in this restaurant ² _____ and the background music has always been very low and ³ _____. However, ⁴ _____ the music was terribly loud, almost deafening. When the waiter took our order, I asked him politely if he could turn the music down, which he did.

However, while we were eating our main course, the music was turned up again and we could hardly hear ourselves speak. This time I asked to see the manager. She spoke to us in ⁵ _____ and unfriendly manner. She told us that we were the only customers who had ever complained about the music and ⁶ _____ turn it down. We were so angry we decided to leave without having dessert or coffee.

I have eaten in other branches of Café Royale all over the country, but I ⁷ _____ unless I receive an explanation and apology for the ⁸ _____ we received.

⁹ _____,

Joseph Clements

Joseph Clements



a Read the letter and answer the questions.

- 1 Who is the letter to?
- 2 Why is Joseph writing?
- 3 What does he hope to achieve?

b Complete the letter with the more formal of the two phrases.

- 1 I'm writing / I am writing
- 2 lots of times / on many occasions
- 3 pleasant / nice
- 4 on this particular evening / when we were there this time
- 5 a really rude / an extremely rude
- 6 said she wouldn't / refused to
- 7 will not do so again / won't go there again
- 8 unacceptable treatment / awful treatment
- 9 Best wishes / Yours faithfully

c Last week you had a bad experience in an expensive hotel. When you get home you decide to write a letter or email to complain. Look at the Useful language expressions and make sure you know how to use them.

Useful language

Typical openings

Dear Sir / Madam,

Dear Mr Waters,

I am writing to complain about...

I am writing to express my dissatisfaction with...

Typical endings

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully (when you begin Dear Sir / Madam)

Yours sincerely (when you begin Dear Mr Waters)

PLAN the content.

- 1 Decide where you were staying and imagine what problems there might have been. What kind of problem would make you complain?
- 2 Decide what you would like the hotel to do.

WRITE 120–180 words, organized in three or four paragraphs (reason for writing, details of the problems, conclusion / request for action). Use a formal style (no contractions or colloquial expressions). Use the phrases in b and in Useful language.

CHECK your letter for mistakes (grammar , punctuation , and spelling).