

John Domnarski Trio



Level: Intermediate

Topic: Music

Key vocabulary: Bilingual lists in PDF and boxes. (Teachers can download this material from the online version of the magazine.)

Preparation: A copy of the article for each student, a laptop with internet access and speakers.

Objective: Students read about JDT, John Domnarski Trio, and find out about their eclectic music. They also discuss their likes in music and give respectful opinions about other people's musical taste.

Warm up

Go to www.myspace.com/jdtband and play a recording so students can listen to some music by JDT and also watch a video.

Play the recording again and ask student to identify instruments they hear. This activity is meant for revising vocabulary such as piano, keyboards, drums, and bass.

Ask students questions such as:

- Do you play any instruments?
- If not, would you like to play any instrument? Which one?
- What kind of music do you like?
- Did you enjoy the music you just heard?

Tell them they are going to read about JDT.

Main Activity

Explain the meaning of *eclectic* before handing out the article to your students. In music, *eclecticism* refers to combining diverse musical elements instead of just holding to one single style.

Give each student a photocopy of the article.

Allow the students to read in pairs and do cooperative work, such as helping each other with vocabulary they don't know. Encourage them to guess meaning from context clues before using a dictionary or asking you.

You can always prepare comprehension activities and hand them out to students while they are reading.

This is an excellent article for practicing the colloquial use of language.

Put your students in groups of 3 or 4 people.

Give them the following expressions that have been taken literally from the text and ask them to work out their meaning by using the context. Do not allow them to use a dictionary.

“In the music world, artists and fans alike are constantly searching for that new, different, and exciting sound. Go ahead and call off the search.”

‘we take jazz, rock, pop, and electronic music and throw it in a blender.’

‘the crowd contains anyone from 20-something college kids to middle-aged jazz heads.’

‘I think the band is very good at relating to and playing off the audience.’

Share students' answers as a class activity. The idea is to come to an agreement and find the best definition for each sentence.



Follow up

Ask students to do some research about their favorite artists and write a report about them.

Tell them to bring materials for next class to make a poster about their favorite artists.

Give each student three to five minutes to talk about their favorite artists.

Encourage other students to ask questions, make comments and give their personal opinion about their classmates' project.

In www.teatime-mag.com your students can read the articles that also feature attractive and motivating designs, as well as pictures that make reading easier and more appealing.

They can also listen to the articles as they read and download the audio version in mp3 format for free.

