

## Music in Manchester

Listen to Ella talking about Manchester, a city in the north of England with a very exciting music scene.

### Before listening

Do the preparation task first. Then listen to the audio and do the exercises.

### Preparation task

Match the definitions (a–h) with the vocabulary (1–8).

#### Vocabulary

1. ..... to gig
2. ..... a mill
3. ..... a band
4. ..... a studio
5. ..... to socialise
6. ..... a club
7. ..... acid house
8. ..... to hang out  
somewhere

#### Definition

- a. a type of electronic music that was popular in the 1980s
- b. a group of musicians
- c. to play a live performance
- d. to spend time in a place
- e. a factory which produces something, e.g. cotton or paper
- f. a place that people go to dance in the evening
- g. to spend time with friends and other people to enjoy yourself
- h. a room with special equipment where music is recorded

### Tasks

#### Task 1

Write a number (1–6) to put the items in the order that Ella talks about them.

- \_\_\_\_\_ The Northern Quarter of Manchester
- \_\_\_\_\_ The differences between musicians in Manchester and musicians in London
- \_\_\_\_\_ The musical instruments that she plays
- \_\_\_\_\_ The interesting history of music in Manchester
- \_\_\_\_\_ The reason why she would like to stay in Manchester in the future
- \_\_\_\_\_ Where she was born

**Task 2**

Circle the best answer.

1. Where was Ella born?
  - a. Manchester
  - b. London
  - c. Canada
2. What was the Hacienda?
  - a. A mill
  - b. A club
  - c. A restaurant
3. The Northern Quarter had mills in the industrial era, but what is there now?
  - a. Coffee shops, clubs and restaurants
  - b. Parks and green spaces
  - c. Houses and schools
4. What does Ella play?
  - a. Violin and saxophone
  - b. Guitar, piano and electronic instruments
  - c. She doesn't play any instruments.
5. According to Ella, who spends more time in the studio?
  - a. Manchester people
  - b. London people
  - c. Canadian people
6. According to Ella, who likes to socialise more?
  - a. Manchester people
  - b. London people
  - c. Canadian people

**Discussion**

Do you like music? What types of music do people play where you live? Do you like listening to bands or going to clubs?

## Transcript

**Interviewer:** Hi, Ella!

**Ella:** Hello!

**Interviewer:** Thanks for talking to me today. What do you want to talk about?

**Ella:** Well, I love music. So I'd like to talk about music.

**Interviewer:** Fantastic.

**Ella:** As you might be able to tell, my accent isn't from the UK. I was born in Canada but I live in Manchester now and I'm so happy that I do because I love the music scene there. It's really interesting: the history that's come from the acid house movement through bands like the Happy Mondays, the Dillons, through the culture of clubbing that came from the Hacienda has now left this really cool community of artists of all different genres who still gig and perform there in Manchester. It's really cool hanging out in the Northern Quarter. It's an area that used to be mills back in the industrial era of Manchester but now it's turned into coffee shops and clubs and restaurants.

**Interviewer:** Cool! And do you make music yourself?

**Ella:** Yes. I play guitar and piano and I sing. And getting to play with the other musicians there has introduced me to playing a lot more electronic instruments as well, like drum sequencers, playing with Ableton and playing with DJs. What's really interesting about Manchester is the musicians in Manchester focus a lot more on what they love to make than, in my opinion, musicians in London. Musicians in Manchester really like to focus in on the time they spend in the studio and the time they spend creating, forming smaller and smaller communities to hone into a weird or specific sound, whereas in London people are a lot more out and about, and they like performing and socialising and being around each other.

**Interviewer:** Mmm. Do you think you'll stay living in Manchester for a long time or are you planning to go back to Canada?

**Ella:** I really like Manchester. I think I'll stay there because the smaller population has meant that the community is a lot more connected and we see each other by circumstance a lot more frequently. So, yes, I would like to stay in Manchester!

**Interviewer:** Great. Thank you very much for talking to us.

**Ella:** Yes – thank you.

## Answers

### Preparation task

1. c
2. e
3. b
4. h
5. g
6. f
7. a
8. d

### Task 1

- 3 The Northern Quarter of Manchester
- 5 The differences between musicians in Manchester and musicians in London
- 4 The musical instruments that she plays
- 2 The interesting history of music in Manchester
- 6 The reason why she would like to stay in Manchester in the future
- 1 Where she was born

### Task 2

1. c
2. b
3. a
4. b
5. a
6. b