

**“British English ESL/EFL Lesson plans for
English Language Teachers Worldwide
featuring news from Central Europe”**

Easter, pirates & the boats that rocked

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Contents

The Article	2 - 3
Start / Quiz / Exercises	4 - 6
After Reading / Listening	7
Gap Fill Reading	8
Gap Fill Listening	9
Discussion	10
Speaking 1 & 2	11
Put the article back together	12
Language Work	13
Grammar Exercises – Midway / Easy	14-15
Spelling / Homework / Writing	16
Answers	17
Ideas and Articles by David Robinson	

23rd March 2009

Category: 60s / Pirate Radio / Film
Level: Intermediate / Upper intermediate

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THE ARTICLE

Easter, pirates & the boats that rocked

Easter 2009 sees the launch of a new British film called *The Boat That Rocked*. It is a comedy set in the world of 1960s UK pirate radio. It is about rock, boys and a boat. Written by Richard Curtis (Four Weddings, Notting Hill, Blackadder) *The Boat That Rocked* is set aboard *Radio Rock*, a fictitious pirate radio station moored somewhere off England in the 1960s. It is presumably based loosely on former offshore 60s pirates Radio Caroline and Radio London. With a cast of top comedy talent the new film is set to be a hoot. The cast includes Bill Nighy, Phillip Seymour Hoffman and Emma Thompson. Most of them play rock n roll martyrs.

Let me recall. In 1966 – British music's finest era – the BBC played just 2 hours of rock n roll every week! Pirate radio however played rock and pop from the high seas 24 hours a day. 25m people – over half the population of Britain – listened to the pirates every single day. Set during the summer of love period the movie captures the rebellious pirate radio movement that was loved by moptop-sporting blokes and mini-skirt-clad birds but loathed by the British parliament who blamed rock n roll for the moral and cultural decline of its pubescent juveniles. The movie is about a group of DJs that captivate Britain, playing the music that defines a generation and stands up to the government that tries to shut the station down. Watch out also for the groovy outfits, the 45s & the transistor radio under the pillow.

Easter 2009 also sees the 45th anniversary of pirate radio. Radio Caroline first broadcast pop music to the UK during Easter 1964. Moored outside territorial waters it was soon joined by Radio London. These two offshore giants changed the face of British broadcasting. Other ship based pirates like Swinging Radio England, Britain Radio and Radio Scotland soon joined them in the North Sea. The pirates also broadcast from former WWII forts in the Thames estuary. Radio City, Radio Sutch, Radio Essex & Radio 390 were such pirates.

Easter, pirates & the boats that rocked (V1) – 23rd March 2009

The BBC couldn't stand the competition. Nor could the British government who outlawed the pirates in August '67 with the Marine Offences etc...bill - forcing all but one (Radio Caroline) to shut. The heyday was over. The BBC had been forced to change its style. Gone was The Light Programme, The Home Service and the Third Programme. At the end of September 1967 the BBC launched Radio 1, 2, 3, & 4. Radio 1 being its answer to the pop pirates. The BBC's only competition now was night time Radio Luxembourg. Commercial radio didn't happen in the UK till 1973. Things then gradually changed and evolved into what we have today. As for Radio Caroline, it managed to initially and long term ignore the law. In the late 60s, the 70s and the 80s it blatantly defied the establishment carrying on broadcasting offshore till 1989 when it too was finally forced to land and become legal.

Standby pirates. There is more! Easter 2009 will see BBC Essex, a BBC local radio station, broadcast as *Pirate BBC Essex* to celebrate the 45th anniversary of the pirates. A 4 day radio broadcast over Easter will come from the LV18, the vessel used in the filming of *The Boat That Rocked*. Real life former pirate living legends like Tony Blackburn, Johnnie Walker and the Emperor Rosko will be broadcasting that watery wireless medium wave sound live from the vessel that will be moored in Harwich harbour. Thousands are likely to join them over Easter once they've seen one of the most eagerly anticipated films for years.

That was your *wonderful radio* news. (Your name) _____ reporting.

Links to the film & the pirates:-

<http://www.radiocaroline.co.uk>

<http://www.radiolondon.co.uk>

<http://www.theboatthatrocked.co.uk>

<http://www.offshoreradio.co.uk>

<http://www.oldiesproject.com>

START

1. Pirate radio: What do you know about pirate radio? What do you know about British pirate radio? What do you know about British pirate radio during the 1960s? Go round the room swapping stories. Change partners often.

2. Dictation: The teacher will read some of the article slowly and clearly. Students will write down what they hear. The teacher will repeat the passage slowly again. Self correct your work from page 2 - filling in spaces and correcting mistakes. Be honest with yourself on the number of errors. Advise the teacher of your total number of errors. Less than 5 is very good. 10 are acceptable. Any more is room for improvement! More than 20 - we need to do some work!

3. Reading: Get students to read the passage aloud. Swap readers every paragraph.

4. Vocabulary: Students look through the article. Underline/highlight any vocabulary you do not know. Look in dictionaries. Discuss and help each other out. The teacher will go through & explain any words or phrases you do not understand.

5. The article: Students look through the article with the teacher.

- a) What is the article about?
- b) Would you like to have lived in the 60s?
- c) Would you have liked to have been a pirate radio DJ then?
- d) Will you be watching this movie?

6. Top 4 radio stations: What are your favourite top 4 radio stations? Why these? Compare and discuss with your partner. Do you share the same music tastes? Do you share the same radio listening habits?

1	3
2	4

The teacher will choose some pairs to discuss their findings in front of the class.

7. Top 4 movies! What are your current top 4 movies? Have you seen them all? Which are your favourite? Why? Discuss and compare results with your partner.

1	3
2	4

The teacher will choose some pairs to discuss their findings in front of the class.

8. Forthcoming movies: Think of 2 forthcoming movies you would like to see. Why these? Discuss with your partner.

1	3
2	4

9. Quick debate: In pairs. Student A thinks radio today is great. Student B thinks otherwise. Explain why.

10. Pirate radio: Swap partners. With your new partner on the board write as many words to do with '**Pirate radio**' as you can. *One-two minutes*. Compare with other teams. Using your words compile a short dialogue together.

11. Sentences: Choose six/nine of the words from no 10. Write two/three sentences using two/three words in each. Underline your chosen words. The teacher will if necessary correct your work. Students might be asked to read their sentences aloud.

12. Article quiz: With your partner or in small groups: (1 point for each correct answer. Lose ½ point if you look at the article for help!)

Student A

- 1) Name 3 radio stations on ships.
- 2) Name 3 fort based radio stations.
- 3) What is the name of the film?
- 4) Name 3 members of the cast.
- 5) Who wrote the film?
- 6) What other famous films did the writer of the film write?
- 7) What is the film loosely based on?

Student B

- 1) How many hours a week did the BBC broadcast pop music?
- 2) What happened during Easter 1964?
- 3) How many people listened to the pirates?
- 4) When is the film set?
- 5) What was under the pillow?
- 6) What happened in September 1967?
- 7) Name 3 living legends.

13. Pirate radio adventure: It is 1967. You are about to embark on a journey to see a pirate radio ship that is moored in the North Sea. You are at Harwich sea port. You will take a tender (a boat) out to the radio station/ship. The weather today is not good! It is force 6. Your job is to deliver the fan mail and some food. (Imagine!) Think of 10 suitable words. List them below. Now tell your partner a short story about your experience using the words below.

1	6
2	7
3	8
4	9
5	10

The teacher will choose some pairs to discuss their findings in front of the class.

14. Sentence starters: Finish these sentence starters. Correct your mistakes. Compare what other people have written.

- a) Pirate radio _____
- b) I listen to _____
- c) The BBC _____
- d) The 60s _____
- e) The 45s _____

15. A week onboard a 60s pirate radio station: In pairs choose from the words below. Tell your partner / the class a short story of your week on board a 60s pirate radio ship. (Imagine!)

a	In the pirate radio studio	1	The DJs
b	Helping in the Galley	2	The Captain
c	In the engine room	3	The on board cook
d	On deck	4	Ships Scottish engineer
e	On a tender	5	The Fans who visit
f	Relaxing in the Mess room	6	Making Dinner
g	The toilet	7	Meeting the boss
h	Answering the fan mail	8	Being seasick
i	Up the mast	9	Reading the news / being a DJ
j	In a bunk bed by a porthole	10	Meeting the fishermen

Add your choice 1 _____ Add your choice 2 _____

The teacher will choose some pairs to discuss their findings in front of the class.

16. FAB n groovy things from the 60s: Think of your favourite 3 60s groovy groups, singers, songs etc from the 60s. Fill in below. Compare and discuss with your partner.

	1	2	3
3 FAB groups			
3 FAB singers			
3 groovy songs			
3 FAB TV programmes			
3 FAB things from the 60s			

The teacher will choose some pairs to discuss their findings in front of the class.

Easter, pirates & the boats that rocked (V1) – 23rd March 2009

AFTER READING / LISTENING

1. True / False: After reading the article guess whether these sentences are true (T) or false (F):

- | | |
|---|-------|
| a. <i>The Boat That Rocked</i> is about pirate radio station - <i>Radio Pop</i> | T / F |
| b. <i>The Boat That Rocked</i> is written by Richard Curtis | T / F |
| c. 35m people a week used to listen to pirate radio in the UK | T / F |
| d. The BBC used to broadcast just 2 hours a week of pop music | T / F |
| e. The movie is set during the summer of love era | T / F |
| f. The movie is all about Radio Caroline | T / F |
| g. One should watch out for the groovy outfits, the 45s and the birds | T / F |
| h. Pirate stations included Radio Fab, Radio City and Radio London | T / F |

2. Synonym match: Match the following synonyms from the article:

- | | |
|---------------|--------------|
| a. Hoot | 33rpm |
| b. Launch | Unruly |
| c. Recall | Youths |
| d. Martyr | Cover |
| e. Pirate | Saint |
| f. Rebellious | Start |
| g. Clad | Film |
| h. Movie | Privateer |
| i. 45rpm | Hit |
| j. Juveniles | Recollection |

3. Phrase match: Match the following phrases from the article:

- | | |
|---|---|
| a. Easter 2009 sees the launch of a new | summer of love period |
| b. It is a comedy set in the world of | and a boat. |
| c. It is about rock, boys | on former offshore 60s pirates |
| d. <i>The Boat That Rocked</i> is set | finest era |
| e. a fictitious pirate radio station moored | 1960s UK pirate radio |
| f. It is presumably based loosely | rock n roll every week |
| g. British music's | that captivate Britain, |
| h. the BBC played just 2 hours of | somewhere off England in the 1960s |
| i. Set during the | British film called <i>The Boat That Rocked</i> |
| j. The movie is about a group of DJs | aboard <i>Rock Radio</i> |

GAP FILL: READING:

Put the words into the gaps in the text.

Easter, pirates & the boats that rocked

Easter 2009 sees the launch of a new British film called *The Boat That Rocked*. It is a comedy set in the world of 1960s UK _____ radio. It is about rock, boys and a _____. Written by Richard Curtis (Four Weddings, Notting Hill, Blackadder) *The Boat that Rocked* is set aboard *Radio Rock*, a fictitious pirate _____ station moored somewhere off England in the 1960s. It is presumably based loosely on former _____ 60s pirates Radio Caroline and Radio London. With a cast of top comedy talent the new film is set to be a _____. The cast includes Bill Nighy, Phillip Seymour Hoffman and Emma Thompson. Most of them play rock n roll _____.

Let me recall. In 1966 – British music's finest era – the BBC played just 2 hours of rock n roll every week! Pirate radio however played rock and _____ from the high seas 24 hours a day. 25m people – over half the population of Britain – listened to the _____ every single day.

Set during the summer of _____ period the movie captures the rebellious pirate radio movement that was loved by moptop-sporting _____ and mini-skirt-_____ but loathed by the British parliament who blamed rock n roll for the moral and cultural decline of its pubescent juveniles. The movie is about a group of DJs that _____ Britain, playing the music that defines a generation and stands up to the government that tries to shut the station down. Watch out also for the groovy outfits, the 45s & the _____ radio under the pillow.

Easter 2009 also sees the 45th anniversary of pirate radio. Radio Caroline first broadcast pop music to the UK during Easter 1964. Moored outside territorial waters it was soon joined by Radio London. These two offshore giants changed the face of British broadcasting. Other ship based pirates like Swinging Radio England, Britain Radio and Radio Scotland soon joined them in the North Sea. The pirates also _____ from former WWII _____ in the Thames estuary. Radio City, Radio Sutch, Radio Essex & Radio 390 were such pirates.

hoot

boat

pirate

pop

pirates

martyrs

offshore

radio

birds

love

clad

blokes

broadcast

forts

captivate

transistor

GAP FILL: LISTENING:

Listen and fill in the spaces.

Easter, pirates & the boats that rocked

Easter 2009 sees the launch of a new British film called *The Boat That Rocked*. It is a comedy set in the world of _____. It is about rock, boys and a boat. Written by Richard Curtis (Four Weddings, Notting Hill, Blackadder) *The Boat That Rocked* is set aboard *Radio Rock*, a fictitious pirate radio station moored _____ in the 1960s. It is presumably based loosely on former offshore 60s pirates Radio Caroline and Radio London. _____ comedy talent the new film _____. The cast includes Bill Nighy, Phillip Seymour Hoffman and Emma Thompson. Most of them play rock n roll martyrs.

Let me recall. In 1966 – British music's finest era – the BBC played just 2 hours of rock n roll every week! Pirate radio however played rock and pop _____ 24 hours a day. 25m people – over half the population of Britain – listened to the pirates every single day. Set during the summer of love period the movie captures _____ radio movement that was loved by moptop-sporting blokes and mini-skirt-clad birds but loathed by the British parliament who blamed rock n roll for the moral and cultural decline of its pubescent juveniles. The movie is about a group of DJs that captivate Britain, playing the music that _____ and stands up to the government that tries _____ down. Watch out also for the groovy outfits, the 45s & the transistor radio under the pillow.

Easter 2009 also sees the 45th anniversary of pirate radio. Radio Caroline first broadcast _____ during Easter 1964. Moored outside territorial waters it was soon joined _____. These two offshore giants changed the face of British broadcasting. Other ship based pirates like Swinging Radio England, Britain Radio _____ soon joined them in the North Sea. The pirates also broadcast from former WWII forts in the Thames estuary. Radio City, Radio Sutch, _____ were such pirates.

DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

- a. Did the headline make you want to read the article?
- b. Had you heard of a transistor radio before today's lesson?
- c. Do you still have any 45s?
- d. What do you think of today's radio?
- e. What do young people today prefer listening to on the radio?
- f. Do many young people listen to the radio today?
- g. How do you listen to music?
- h. Where, when and for how long do you listen to music?
- i. What sort of music do you listen to?
- j. What films are you eagerly anticipating watching?



STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

- a. What do you think about what you read?
- b. What radio station do you wake up to?
- c. When you were a kid what radio stations did your parents used to listen to?
- d. What was your favourite radio station when you were a kid?
- e. What sort of radio station did you listen to as a teenager?
- f. What sort of radio station do you listen to today?
- g. Are you a rebel?
- h. What does today's generation stand up to in your country?
- i. Would you like to visit an old radio fort?
- j. Did you like this discussion?

SPEAKING - 1

A day on board a radio ship/fort:

It is 1967 when things were groovy. Yeh baby! It is the summer of love. Ahoy shipmates. You are on board a pirate radio ship/fort.

Choose your pirate radio station: Radio _____.

In groups or pairs IMAGINE what life on board must have been like! You are one of the following people. You have a special visitor. Talk to them. Ask them what they think about the station. Show them round the ship/fort. Introduce other people. Everybody mix.

Experience the moment on board! It is currently force 6 - so watch out. The boat is rocking! / The fort swaying. The waves are high. The music is playing. 10 million people are listening.

Try to make your experience funny. Someone feels seasick...etc...go live on air...feel the groovy mood baby!

a	Pirate radio studio	1	DJ
b	Galley	2	Captain
c	Engine room	3	On board cook
d	On deck	4	Ships engineer
e	On a tender	5	Fan
f	Mess/lounge/dining room	6	Prime Minister Harold Wilson
g	Toilet on board	7	Boss of 60s pirate radio station
h	Food store	8	Film crew
i	Up the mast	9	Head of the BBC
j	In a bunk bed by a porthole	10	Famous pop star

The teacher can moderate the session.

SPEAKING - 2

Mayday, mayday!

It is 1965. You and your colleagues are DJs on a pirate radio ship. Choose your radio station. One of you is broadcasting to 10m people. It is force 10. Suddenly the anchor chain breaks. Oh dear! What happens next is up to you and your colleagues...Look at the below situations – pick a few – add some of your own. Act out a short sketch of this situation. Try to see the funny & the serious side!

1	DJ broadcasting	5	Lifeboat man
2	Cook in galley	6	Captain
3	Chief engineer in Engine room	7	Your choice
4	DJ in bunk	8	Your choice

The teacher can moderate the session.

PUT THE ARTICLE BACK TOGETHER

Put the article back together

- () offshore giants changed the face of British broadcasting. Other ship based pirates like Swinging Radio England, Britain Radio and Radio Scotland soon joined them in the North Sea. The
- () British parliament who blamed rock n roll for the moral and cultural decline of its pubescent juveniles. The movie is about a group of DJs that captivate Britain, playing the music that
- () week! Pirate radio however played rock and pop from the high seas 24 hours a day. 25m people – over half the population of Britain – listened to the pirates every single day. Set during
- () Phillip Seymour Hoffman and Emma Thompson. Most of them play rock n roll martyrs. Let me recall. In 1966 – British music's finest era – the BBC played just 2 hours of rock n roll every
- () the summer of love period the movie captures the rebellious pirate radio movement that was loved by mop-top sporting blokes and mini-skirt-clad birds but loathed by the
- () Richard Curtis (Four Weddings, Notting Hill, Blackadder) *The Boat That Rocked* is set aboard *Radio Rock*, a fictitious pirate radio station moored somewhere off England in the 1960s. It is
- () sees the 45th anniversary of pirate radio. Radio Caroline first broadcast pop music to the UK during Easter 1964. Moored outside territorial waters it was soon joined by Radio London. These two
- (1) Easter 2009 sees the launch of a new British film called *The Boat That Rocked*. It is a comedy set in the world of 1960s UK pirate radio. It is about rock, boys and a boat. Written by
- () pirates also broadcast from former WWII forts in the Thames estuary. Radio City, Radio Sutch, Radio Essex & Radio 390 were such pirates.
- () presumably based loosely on former offshore 60s pirates Radio Caroline and Radio London. With a cast of top comedy talent the new film is set to be a hoot. The cast includes Bill Nighy,
- () defines a generation and stands up to the government that tries to shut the station down. Watch out also for the groovy outfits, the 45s & the transistor radio under the pillow. Easter 2009 also

LANGUAGE: CORRECT WORD: Choose the correct words from a–d below and write them in the article.

(1)___ 2009 sees the launch of a new (2)___ film called *The boat that rocked*. It is a (3)___ set in the world of 1960s UK pirate (4)___ . It is about rock, boys and a (5)___ . Written by Richard Curtis (Four Weddings, Notting Hill, Blackadder) *The Boat That Rocked* is set aboard *Radio Rock*, a fictitious pirate radio station moored somewhere off England in the 1960s. It is presumably based loosely on former offshore 60s pirates Radio Caroline and Radio London. With a cast of top comedy talent the new film is set to be a hoot. The cast includes Bill Nighy, Phillip Seymour Hoffman and Emma Thompson. Most of them play rock n roll martyrs. Let me recall. In 1966 – British music’s finest era – the BBC played just 2 hours of rock n roll every week! Pirate radio however played rock and pop from the high seas 24 hours a day. 25m people – over half the population of Britain – listened to the pirates every single day. Set during the summer of love period the movie captures the rebellious pirate radio movement that was loved by moptop-sporting (6)___ and mini-skirt-clad (7)___ but loathed by the British parliament who blamed rock n roll for the moral and cultural decline of its pubescent juveniles. The movie is about a group of DJs that captivate Britain, playing the music that defines a generation and stands up to the government that tries to shut the station down. Watch out also for the groovy outfits, the (8)___ & the (9)___ radio under the pillow. Easter 2009 also sees the 45th anniversary of pirate radio. Radio Caroline first broadcast pop music to the UK during Easter 1964. Moored outside territorial waters it was soon joined by Radio London. These two (10)___ giants changed the face of British broadcasting. Other ship based pirates like Swinging Radio England, Britain Radio and Radio Scotland soon joined them in the North Sea. The pirates also broadcast from former (11)___ (12)___ in the Thames estuary. Radio City, Radio Sutch, Radio Essex & Radio 390 were such pirates.

1.	(a)	Christmas	(b)	Easter	(c)	New Year	(d)	Today
2.	(a)	Irish	(b)	Dutch	(c)	British	(d)	English
3.	(a)	comedy	(b)	thriller	(c)	romance	(d)	western
4.	(a)	cinema	(b)	TV	(c)	internet	(d)	radio
5.	(a)	ocean liner	(b)	submarine	(c)	yacht	(d)	boat
6.	(a)	men	(b)	guys	(c)	blokes	(d)	male
7.	(a)	birds	(b)	sluts	(c)	bitches	(d)	women
8.	(a)	CDs	(b)	45rpm	(c)	33rpm	(d)	78rpm
9.	(a)	walkman	(b)	iPod	(c)	mobile	(d)	transistor
10.	(a)	ashore	(b)	onshore	(c)	shore	(d)	offshore
11.	(a)	WWI	(b)	Norman	(c)	WWII	(d)	Napoleonic
12.	(a)	castles	(b)	forts	(c)	bunkers	(d)	tunnels

Easter, pirates & the boats that rocked (V1) – 23rd March 2009

GRAMMAR 1: MIDWAY:

Put the words into the gaps in the text.

Easter, pirates & the boats that rocked

Easter 2009 sees the launch of a new British film called *The Boat (1)___ Rocked*. It is a comedy set in the world of 1960s UK pirate radio. It is about rock, boys and a boat. Written by Richard Curtis (Four Weddings, Notting Hill, Blackadder) *The Boat That Rocked* is set aboard *Radio Rock*, a fictitious pirate radio station moored somewhere off England in the 1960s. It is presumably based loosely on former offshore 60s pirates Radio Caroline and Radio London. (2)___ a cast of top comedy talent the new film is set to be a hoot. The cast includes Bill Nighy, Phillip Seymour Hoffman and Emma Thompson. (3)___ of (4)___ play rock n roll martyrs.

Let me recall. In 1966 – British music's finest era – the BBC played (5)___ 2 hours of rock n roll (6)___ week! Pirate radio however played rock and pop (7)___ the high seas 24 hours a day. 25m people – (8)___ half the population of Britain – listened to the pirates every single day.

Set during the summer of love period the movie captures the rebellious pirate radio movement that was loved by moptop-sporting blokes and mini-skirt-clad birds but loathed by the British parliament who blamed rock n roll for the moral and cultural decline of its pubescent juveniles. The movie is about a group of DJs (1)___ captivate Britain, playing the music that defines a generation and stands up to the government that tries to shut the station down. Watch out also for the groovy outfits, the 45s & the transistor radio under the pillow.

Easter 2009 (2)___ sees the 45th anniversary of pirate radio. Radio Caroline first broadcast pop music to the UK during Easter 1964. Moored outside territorial waters it was (3)___ joined by Radio London. (4)___ two offshore giants changed the face of British broadcasting. (5)___ ship based pirates like Swinging Radio England, Britain Radio and Radio Scotland soon joined (6)___ in the North Sea. The pirates also broadcast (7)___ former WWII forts in the Thames estuary. Radio City, Radio Sutch, Radio Essex & Radio 390 were (8)___ pirates.

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them

Easter, pirates & the boats that rocked (V1) – 23rd March 2009
GRAMMAR 2: EASY:

Put the words into the gaps in the text.

**Easter, pirates & the boats that
rocked**

Easter 2009 sees the launch (1)___ a new British film called *The Boat That Rocked*. It is a comedy set in the world of 1960s UK pirate radio. It is about rock, boys (2)___ a boat. Written (3)___ Richard Curtis (Four Weddings, Notting Hill, Blackadder) *The Boat That Rocked* is set aboard *Radio Rock*, a fictitious pirate radio station moored somewhere off England in the 1960s. It is presumably based loosely (4)___ former offshore 60s pirates Radio Caroline and Radio London. With a cast of top comedy talent the new film is set to be a hoot. The cast includes Bill Nighy, Phillip Seymour Hoffman and Emma Thompson. Most of them play rock n roll martyrs.

Let (5)___ recall. (6)___ 1966 – British music's finest era – the BBC played just 2 hours of rock n roll every week! Pirate radio however played rock and pop from (7)___ high seas 24 hours (8)___ day. 25m people – over half the population of Britain – listened to the pirates every single day.

Set during the summer of love period the movie captures the rebellious pirate radio movement that was loved by mop-top-sporting blokes and mini-skirt-clad birds (1)___ loathed by the British parliament (2)___ blamed rock n roll for (3)___ moral and cultural decline of (4)___ pubescent juveniles. The movie is about a group of DJs that captivate Britain, playing the music that defines a generation and stands up to the government that tries (5)___ shut the station down. Watch out also (6)___ the groovy outfits, the 45s & the transistor radio under the pillow.

Easter 2009 also sees the 45th anniversary of pirate radio. Radio Caroline first broadcast pop music to the UK (7) ___ Easter 1964. Moored outside territorial waters it was soon joined (8)___ Radio London. These two offshore giants changed the face of British broadcasting. Other ship based pirates like Swinging Radio England, Britain Radio and Radio Scotland soon joined them in the North Sea. The pirates also broadcast from former WWII forts in the Thames estuary. Radio City, Radio Sutch, Radio Essex & Radio 390 were such pirates.

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SPELLING TEST

The teacher will ask the class individually to spell the following words that are in the article:

1	fictitious	11	captivate
2	juveniles	12	eagerly
3	transistor	13	anticipated
4	anniversary	14	vessel
5	estuary	15	blatantly
6	generation	16	commercial
7	broadcast	17	evolved
8	martyrs	18	heyday
9	presumably	19	establishment
10	era	20	gradually

Your score: Pass = 12, Good = 15, Very good = 18, Excellent = 20

HOMEWORK

Newspaper article: Write an article on **"Pirate radio"**. (Minimum 200 words) Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Which article was best and why?

WRITING: IN CLASS:

Five-minute article: Write an article on **"Pirate radio"**. You have five minutes. The teacher will select some students to read out their work.

Countdown: Every minute the teacher may say, "You have xx minutes left".

ANSWERS - 1

True / False:

- a. F b. T c. F d. T e. T f. F g. F h. F

Synonym match:

- | | |
|---------------|--------------|
| a. Hoot | Hit |
| b. Launch | Start |
| c. Recall | Recollection |
| d. Martyr | Saint |
| e. Pirate | Privateer |
| f. Rebellious | Unruly |
| g. Clad | Cover |
| h. Movie | Film |
| i. 45rpm | 33rpm |
| j. Juveniles | Youths |

Phrase match:

- | | |
|---|---|
| a. Easter 2009 sees the launch of a new | British film called <i>The Boat That Rocked</i> |
| b. It is a comedy set in the world of | 1960s UK pirate radio |
| c. It is about rock, boys | and a boat. |
| d. <i>The Boat That Rocked</i> is set | aboard <i>Rock Radio</i> |
| e. a fictitious pirate radio station moored | somewhere off England in the 1960s |
| f. It is presumably based loosely | on former offshore 60s pirates |
| g. British music's | finest era |
| h. the BBC played just 2 hours of | rock n roll every week |
| i. Set during the | summer of love period |
| j. The movie is about a group of DJs | that captivate Britain, |

Gap fill: Easter, pirates & the boats that rocked: Easter 2009 sees the launch of a new British film called *The Boat That Rocked*. It is a comedy set in the world of 1960s UK **pirate** radio. It is about rock, boys and a **boat**. Written by Richard Curtis (Four Weddings, Notting Hill, Blackadder) *The Boat That Rocked* is set aboard *Radio Rock*, a fictitious pirate **radio** station moored somewhere off England in the 1960s. It is presumably based loosely on former **offshore** 60s pirates Radio Caroline and Radio London. With a cast of top comedy talent the new film is set to be a **hoot**. The cast includes Bill Nighy, Phillip Seymour Hoffman and Emma Thompson. Most of them play rock n roll **martyrs**. Let me recall. In 1966 – British music's finest era – the BBC played just 2 hours of rock n roll every week! Pirate radio however played rock and **pop** from the high seas 24 hours a day. 25m people – over half the population of Britain – listened to the **pirates** every single day. Set during the summer of **love** period the movie captures the rebellious pirate radio movement that was loved by mop-top-sporting **blokes** and mini-skirt-clad **birds** but loathed by the British parliament who blamed rock n roll for the moral and cultural decline of its pubescent juveniles. The movie is about a group of DJs that **captivate** Britain, playing the music that defines a generation and stands up to the government that tries to shut the station down. Watch out also for the groovy outfits, the 45s & the **transistor** radio under the pillow. Easter 2009 also sees the 45th anniversary of pirate radio. Radio Caroline first broadcast pop music to the UK during Easter 1964. Moored outside territorial waters it was soon joined by Radio London. These two offshore giants changed the face of British broadcasting. Other ship based pirates like Swinging Radio England, Britain Radio and Radio Scotland soon joined them in the North Sea. The pirates also **broadcast** from former WWII **forts** in the Thames estuary. Radio City, Radio Sutch, Radio Essex & Radio 390 were such pirates.

Language work:

- 1 - b 2 - c 3 - a 4 - d 5 - d 6 - c 7 - a 8 - b 9 - d 10 - d 11 - c 12 - b

Easter, pirates & the boats that rocked (V1) – 23rd March 2009