

# London

## Activity 1

**Listen for words in the text which mean the same as:**

*Respectable* \_\_\_\_\_

*Top class* \_\_\_\_\_

*Refused* \_\_\_\_\_

*Completely full* \_\_\_\_\_

*Auto-nominated* \_\_\_\_\_

*Being famous for the wrong reasons* \_\_\_\_\_

*Complicated* \_\_\_\_\_

*To not be influenced by fame and success* \_\_\_\_\_

## Activity 2

**Answer the following questions:**

*How did Mick Jagger and Keith Richards meet?*

\_\_\_\_\_

*Why were Decca records so keen to sign the Stones?*

\_\_\_\_\_

*Who had nominated Brian Jones as the group's leader?*

\_\_\_\_\_

*Why was he later asked to leave the group?*

\_\_\_\_\_

*How did the 1969 tour of the States 'enhance' their reputation?*

\_\_\_\_\_

*Under what circumstances did Ron Wood join the group?*

\_\_\_\_\_

*How many official members of the group are there at the time of sending this card?*

\_\_\_\_\_

### Activity 3

#### Listen and complete the gaps

If Liverpool's The Beatles were the clean-cut boys that any girl could take home to meet the parents, then London's The Rolling Stones were those bad boys that your mother would have \_\_\_\_\_ about.

Mick Jagger and Keith Richards had been at school in London together and when they met Brian Jones in 1962 the band was born. Bill Wyman was added as bassist and Charlie Watts was eventually chosen as the \_\_\_\_\_, even though he was from a jazz background. The Cavern Club in Liverpool was The Beatles home venue and it was the Crawdaddy Club in Richmond, London where the Stones mainly played, soon \_\_\_\_\_ the reputation as London's premier live act. They \_\_\_\_\_ a deal with Decca records, the label famous for having turned down the chance to sign The Beatles. At least they got this one right.

They were soon touring Europe and The States and the concert venues were packed with \_\_\_\_\_ fans. Jagger and Richards were writing some great songs that rivalled, and in my humble opinion, even surpassed those being penned by Lennon and McCartney. They were breaking new \_\_\_\_\_ both musically and in their role as rock stars. Brian Jones, the self-proclaimed leader of the band, was having some serious problems with drugs and alcohol and realised that Mick and Keith's \_\_\_\_\_ and stage presence were overshadowing his contribution. He even lost his long-time girlfriend to Keith, who would later marry and have children together. The rest of the group felt that he'd become a \_\_\_\_\_ and so in June 1969 they effectively sacked him and replaced him with Mick Taylor. Less than a month later he was found dead in his swimming pool and to this day nobody is really sure what happened. Only two days later the Stones played a \_\_\_\_\_ concert in London's Hyde park in front of over 200,000 fans. With things as they were at the time the concert wasn't exactly their best. \_\_\_\_\_ they went from strength to strength.

Another US tour followed, this time playing in huge sports stadiums. The Stones had truly broken the American market and justifiably, again in my opinion, \_\_\_\_\_ themselves as The Greatest Rock and Roll Band In The World. It was while on this tour that their 'infamy' was to be furthered. While playing at the Altmont \_\_\_\_\_ in California a young man was killed by the Hells Angels, who had reportedly been hired by the Stones a security for the concert, something which even to this day they strongly \_\_\_\_\_. At the time of the killing the band were playing 'Under my thumb', and not 'Sympathy for the Devil' as many people \_\_\_\_\_ believe. Even so, the latter was dropped from their live shows for many years.

The legendary music continued. Albums such as Sticky Fingers, Exile on Main Street and Goats Head Soup were recorded and form the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Stones' musical history. By this time they no longer lived in The UK for tax reasons and instead had taken up residence in France. The line-up changed once again in 1976 when Mick Taylor left. He had been unhappy at the mistreatment he received from the others, especially Keith Richards. He was replaced by Ron Wood who had just left The Faces following Rod Stewart's decision to go solo.

More albums, and more \_\_\_\_\_. Richards got into serious trouble in Canada because of his heroin \_\_\_\_\_. Mick's tangled love life took a new twist when he divorced his first wife Bianca, mother of Jade Jagger, and took up with Texan supermodel Jerry Hall, the then partner of Roxy Music singer Bryan Ferry. He and Jerry went on to have three children together before \_\_\_\_\_ up in 1999 following Mick's fathering another child with another model. Ron Wood was having addiction problems of his own, and it was only really Charlie who managed to keep his feet on the \_\_\_\_\_.

Anyway, back to the music. The late seventies and early eighties saw the release of the albums Some Girls, Emotional Rescue and Tattoo You, personally speaking the last of their great albums. However, they have continued to make music \_\_\_\_\_ never having replaced Bill Wyman who left in 1991. At the time of sending this card they are on the biggest world tour \_\_\_\_\_ to date, A Bigger Bang. Indeed, in February of 2006 they played to a record 1.5 million fans on Rio de Janeiro's Copacabana beach. Will it be their last tour? Who knows. The same question has been asked many times before.

This student worksheet is free to download and print for use in the classroom or for self-study. It is meant to be used in conjunction with the listening file which is available in mp3 format. However, the transcript can be used not only to check answers but also for reading comprehension and vocabulary

## Transcript

If Liverpool's The Beatles were the clean-cut boys that any girl could take home to meet the parents, then London's The Rolling Stones were those bad boys that your mother would have nightmares about.

Mick Jagger and Keith Richards had been at school in London together and when they met Brian Jones in 1962 the band was born. Bill Wyman was added as bassist and Charlie Watts was eventually chosen as the drummer, even though he was from a jazz background. The Cavern Club in Liverpool was The Beatles home venue and it was the Crawdaddy Club in Richmond, London where the Stones mainly played, soon gaining the reputation as London's premier live act. They signed a deal with Decca records, the label famous for having turned down the chance to sign The Beatles. At least they got this one right.

They were soon touring Europe and The States and the concert venues were packed with screaming fans. Jagger and Richards were writing some great songs that rivalled, and in my humble opinion, even surpassed those being penned by Lennon and McCartney. They were breaking new ground both musically and in their role as rock stars. Brian Jones, the self-proclaimed leader of the band, was having some serious problems with drugs and alcohol and realised that Mick and Keith's songwriting and stage presence were overshadowing his contribution. He even lost his long-time girlfriend to Keith, who would later marry and have children together. The rest of the group felt that he'd become a liability and so in June 1969 they effectively sacked him and replaced him with Mick Taylor. Less than a month later he was found dead in his swimming pool and to this day nobody is really sure what happened. Only two days later the Stones played a huge concert in London's Hyde park in front of over 200,000 fans. With things as they were at the time the concert wasn't exactly their best. Nevertheless they went from strength to strength.

Another US tour followed, this time playing in huge sports stadiums. The Stones had truly broken the American market and justifiably, again in my opinion, labelled themselves as The Greatest Rock and Roll Band In The World. It was while on this tour that their 'infamy' was to be furthered. While playing at the Altmont raceway in California a young man was killed by the Hells Angels, who had reportedly been hired by the Stones a security for the concert, something which even to this day they strongly deny. At the time of the killing the band were playing 'Under my thumb', and not 'Sympathy for the Devil' as many people wrongly believe. Even so, the latter was dropped from their live shows for many years.

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More albums, and more controversy. Richards got into serious trouble in Canada because of his heroin addiction. Mick's tangled love life took a new twist when he divorced his first wife Bianca, mother of Jade Jagger, and took up with Texan supermodel Jerry Hall, the then partner of Roxy Music singer Bryan Ferry. He and Jerry went on to have three children together before splitting up in 1999 following Mick's fathering another child with another model. Ron Wood was having addiction problems of his own, and it was only really Charlie who managed to keep his feet on the ground.

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