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Vocabulary: music 词汇: 音乐

Are you one of those people who find the world of Western classical music a bit **snobbish** and **inaccessible**? The Proms – or the BBC Promenade Concerts to give the world's largest music festival its full name - might help you **change your mind**.

For eight weeks every summer, the Royal Albert Hall in London opens its doors to **all-comers** and puts on a music show that is varied and **wide-ranging**. Some music lovers want to get as close as possible to the **conductor**. They are happy to stand up to listen to **orchestras** and **soloists** playing **symphonies**, **overtures** and **concertos** by the world's top **composers** – all for just £5.



Classical music for all at a great price

The festival has been going since 1895 and has always tried to be informal and relatively cheap. The Prommers – the classical music **groupies** who like to stand – typify this relaxed ethos. Before performances, they shout out jokes and every time the lid of the piano is lifted they shout “**heave**” **in unison**.

One of the highlights of the Proms is the Last Night, which has a worldwide **screening**. Popular classics are played while the Prommers wave flags and sing along to the **catchy** tunes. The Last Night is so popular with audiences that a ballot has to be held - several months in advance - so that everyone who wants a ticket has a chance of getting one. But it has been criticised by some for being too British and **jingoistic**.

In recent years the Proms have grown so that they now include simultaneous screenings in other British cities, lunchtime concerts, talks, children's Proms, film and rock music, musicals, Indian classical music, and even tunes from the BBC series “Dr Who”. The expanding offer is proving popular with audiences old and new. Perhaps classical music isn't quite so **elitist**, after all.

词汇表请参看答案与词汇部分

Glossary 词汇表

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------------|
| snobbish | 势利的，自傲的 |
| inaccessible | 难以接触的，难懂的 |
| to change one's mind | 改变某人对某事的看法 |
| all-comers | 所有来者 |
| wide-ranging | 范围广的 |
| a conductor | (乐队) 指挥 |
| an orchestra | 管弦乐队 |
| a soloist | 独唱者，独奏者 |
| a symphony | 交响乐，交响曲 |
| an overture | 序曲，序乐 |
| a concertos | 协奏曲 |
| a composer | 作曲者，作曲家 |
| a groupie | 乐团迷，狂热追随者 |
| to heave | 举起 |
| in unison | 齐声，一致地 |
| a screening | 播放 |
| catchy | 琅琅上口的 |
| jingoistic | 极端爱国主义的，大国主义的 |
| elitist | 精英化的，高级的 |

Quiz 测验与练习

1. 阅读课文并回答问题。

1. What do some people think of classical music, according to the author?
2. Do the Proms offer a large selection of music?
3. How do the Prommers shout when the piano lid is lifted?
4. Why has the Last Night of the Proms received some negative comments?
5. Why does the author think the widening of the range of the Proms may improve the image of classical music?

2. 请你在不参考课文的情况下完成下列练习。从每个表格中选择一个意思合适的单词填入句子的空格处。

1. He's a bit _____. He only mixes with people who own smart cars and have lots of money.

| | | | |
|------------|----------|--------------|----------|
| jingoistic | snobbish | inaccessible | informal |
|------------|----------|--------------|----------|

2. My boss is often criticised _____ being out of touch with the rest of her staff.

| | | | |
|-------|------|----|-----|
| about | over | at | for |
|-------|------|----|-----|

3. This box is really heavy. It's going to take two of us to _____ it into the back of the car.

| | | | |
|------|------|-------|------|
| find | give | heave | open |
|------|------|-------|------|

4. If I hear a _____ tune on the radio I often find it stays in my head for weeks.

| | | | |
|--------|--------------|-----------|---------|
| catchy | wide-ranging | screening | relaxed |
|--------|--------------|-----------|---------|

5. The conference ran smoothly. All the delegates were provided with a _____ translation of the speeches.

| | | | |
|----------|---------|---------|--------------|
| informal | elitist | popular | simultaneous |
|----------|---------|---------|--------------|

答案

1. 阅读课文并回答问题。

1. What do some people think of classical music, according to the author?
Some people might think it is snobbish and inaccessible.
2. Do the Proms offer a large selection of music?
Yes, they are varied and wide-ranging.
3. How do the Prommers shout when the piano lid is lifted?
They all shout together – in unison.
4. Why has the Last Night of the Proms received some negative comments?
Because some critics think it is too British and jingoistic.
5. Why does the author think the widening of the range of the Proms may have helped to improve the image of classical music?
Because it may make classical music seem less elitist.

2. 请你在不参考课文的情况下完成下列练习。从每个表格中选择一个意思合适的单词填入句子的空格处。

1. He's a bit **snobbish**. He only mixes with people who own smart cars and have lots of money.
2. My boss is often criticised **for** being out of touch with the rest of her staff.
3. This box is really heavy. It's going to take two of us to **heave** it into the back of the car.
4. If I hear a **catchy** tune on the radio, I often find it stays in my head for weeks.
5. The conference ran smoothly. All the delegates were provided with a **simultaneous** translation of the speeches.