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## Level 6

### Jay Z receives top songwriting honor

19th June, 2017

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1706/170619-jay-z.html>

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**Please try Levels 5 and 4 (they are easier).**

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# THE ARTICLE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1706/170619-jay-z.html>

The rapper Jay Z has been recognized for his prolific and influential songwriting career by being inducted into the Songwriters Hall of Fame. He becomes the first hip-hop artist to be inducted into the Hall. The Hall's mission is to, "preserve, honor and celebrate the legacy of the great songwriters whose work has enriched the world's culture". Jay Z's real name is Shawn Carter. He grew up in a poor area of New York, where he went to school with future rappers The Notorious B.I.G. and Busta Rhymes. He got into hip-hop and became one of the best-selling musicians of all time. He has sold more than 100 million albums worldwide. He is also a successful businessman and owns an upmarket sports bar in New York and the music streaming service Tidal.

Former U.S. President Barack Obama inducted Jay Z into the Songwriters Hall of Fame. Obama expressed his admiration for Jay Z, saying: "Like all of you, I am a fan, and I've been listening to Jay Z since I was a young and hungry state senator. I'm pretty sure I'm still the only president to listen to Jay Z's music in the [White House]." Mr Obama said Jay Z should also be considered a "true American original" for his contribution to rap and American culture. He called Jay Z the "greatest rapper of all time". Jay Z's music publisher Jon Platt accepted the award on his behalf. He said: "[Jay Z] would tell up-and-coming hip-hop artists today that there can be no mistake or question that you are indeed songwriters."

Sources: <http://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/obama-honors-jay-z-songwriters-hall-fame-n773371>  
<http://www.npr.org/sections/therecord/2017/06/16/533200940/barack-obama-honors-jay-z-at-songwriters-hall-of-fame-gala>  
<http://www.billboard.com/articles/columns/hip-hop/7833651/jay-z-inducted-songwriters-hall-of-fame>

# WARM-UPS

**1. RAP MUSIC:** Students walk around the class and talk to other students about rap music. Change partners often and share your findings.

**2. CHAT:** In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

rapper / prolific / influential / celebrate / legacy / songwriters / poor / musicians / admiration / fan / listening / original / contribution / award / up-and-coming/ mistake

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

**3. SONGWRITING:** Students A **strongly** believe rap is the best form of songwriting; Students B **strongly** believe it isn't. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**4. WORLD CULTURE:** How has rap changed world culture? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	How?	Has It Affected You?
Music		
Fashion		
Dance		
Movies		
Language		
Social awareness		

**5. ARTIST:** Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "artist". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

**6. MUSIC GENRES:** Rank these with your partner. Put the best music genres at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Hip-Hop
- Country
- Rock
- Latin
- Techno
- Jazz
- Heavy metal
- Punk

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1706/170619-jay-z.html>

**1. TRUE / FALSE:** Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- a. Jay Z is the first hip-hop artist to be in the Songwriters Hall of Fame. **T / F**
- b. Jay Z went to school with two men who also became rappers. **T / F**
- c. Jay Z has sold over 100 million albums. **T / F**
- d. Jay Z owns a sports bar in Los Angeles. **T / F**
- e. Barack Obama started listening to Jay Z a few years ago. **T / F**
- f. Mr Obama said a few presidents listened to Jay Z in the White House. **T / F**
- g. Mr Obama considered Jay Z to be the best rapper ever. **T / F**
- h. A music publisher told rappers to ask questions and make no mistakes. **T / F**

## 2. SYNONYM MATCH:

Match the following synonyms. The words in **bold** are from the news article.

- |                         |                 |
|-------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>1. recognized</b>    | a. improved     |
| <b>2. prolific</b>      | b. deemed       |
| <b>3. inducted into</b> | c. productive   |
| <b>4. enriched</b>      | d. respect      |
| <b>5. musicians</b>     | e. emerging     |
| <b>6. admiration</b>    | f. acknowledged |
| <b>7. considered</b>    | g. performers   |
| <b>8. original</b>      | h. certainly    |
| <b>9. up-an-coming</b>  | i. admitted to  |
| <b>10. indeed</b>       | j. free spirit  |

**3. PHRASE MATCH:** (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- |  |                           |
|--|---------------------------|
| 1. recognized for his prolific and influential | a. for Jay Z              |
| 2. celebrate the legacy of                     | b. service                |
| 3. enriched the world's                        | c. and American culture   |
| 4. one of the best-selling                     | d. coming hip-hop artists |
| 5. music streaming                             | e. the great songwriters  |
| 6. Obama expressed his admiration              | f. be no mistake          |
| 7. his contribution to rap                     | g. songwriting career     |
| 8. Platt accepted the award on his             | h. culture                |
| 9. up-and-                                     | i. musicians of all time  |
| 10. there can                                  | j. behalf                 |

# GAP FILL

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1706/170619-jay-z.html>

The rapper Jay Z has been recognized for his (1) \_\_\_\_\_ and influential songwriting career by being inducted into the Songwriters Hall of Fame. He becomes the first hip-hop (2) \_\_\_\_\_ to be inducted into the Hall. The Hall's (3) \_\_\_\_\_ is to, "preserve, honor and celebrate the legacy of the great songwriters whose work has (4) \_\_\_\_\_ the world's culture". Jay Z's real name is Shawn Carter. He grew up in a poor area of New York, where he went to school with future (5) \_\_\_\_\_ The Notorious B.I.G. and Busta Rhymes. He got into hip-hop and became one of the best-(6) \_\_\_\_\_ musicians of all time. He has sold more than 100 million (7) \_\_\_\_\_ worldwide. He is also a successful businessman and owns an upmarket sports bar in New York and the music (8) \_\_\_\_\_ service Tidal.

*rappers*

*artist*

*albums*

*prolific*

*streaming*

*enriched*

*selling*

*mission*

Former U.S. President Barack Obama inducted Jay Z into the Songwriters Hall of Fame. Obama (9) \_\_\_\_\_ his admiration for Jay Z, saying: "Like all of you, I am a (10) \_\_\_\_\_, and I've been listening to Jay Z since I was a young and hungry state (11) \_\_\_\_\_. I'm pretty sure I'm still the only president to listen to Jay Z's music in the [White House]." Mr Obama said Jay Z should also be (12) \_\_\_\_\_ a "true American original" for his (13) \_\_\_\_\_ to rap and American culture. He called Jay Z the "greatest rapper of all time". Jay Z's music publisher Jon Platt accepted the (14) \_\_\_\_\_ on his behalf. He said: "[Jay Z] would tell up-and-(15) \_\_\_\_\_ hip-hop artists today that there can be no mistake or question that you are (16) \_\_\_\_\_ songwriters."

*award*

*senator*

*expressed*

*indeed*

*considered*

*coming*

*fan*

*contribution*

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1706/170619-jay-z.html>

- 1) The rapper Jay Z has been recognized for his \_\_\_\_\_ songwriting career
  - a. prolific and influenced
  - b. prolific and influences
  - c. prolific and influential
  - d. prolific and influentially
- 2) He becomes the first hip-hop artist to be \_\_\_\_\_ Hall
  - a. inducted into the
  - b. conducted into the
  - c. impacted into the
  - d. compacted into the
- 3) The Hall's mission is to preserve, honor and celebrate the \_\_\_\_\_ great songwriters
  - a. lethargy of the
  - b. legally of the
  - c. regally of the
  - d. legacy of the
- 4) He got into hip-hop and became one of the best-selling \_\_\_\_\_ time
  - a. musicians off all
  - b. musicians of every
  - c. musicians of all
  - d. musician of all
- 5) owns an upmarket sports bar in New York and the music \_\_\_\_\_ Tidal
  - a. stream in service
  - b. streaming service
  - c. steaming service
  - d. stream in service
- 6) Obama expressed his \_\_\_\_\_ Jay Z
  - a. admiration at
  - b. admiration from
  - c. admiration by
  - d. admiration for
- 7) I've been listening to Jay Z since I was a young and \_\_\_\_\_ senator
  - a. hungrily state
  - b. hungry state
  - c. hungriness state
  - d. hungrier state
- 8) Mr Obama said Jay Z should also be considered a " \_\_\_\_\_ "
  - a. truth American original
  - b. true Americana original
  - c. true American original
  - d. true American originally
- 9) Jay Z's music publisher Jon Platt accepted the award \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. in his behalf
  - b. on his behalf
  - c. off his behalf
  - d. at his behalf
- 10) there can be no mistake or question that you are \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. indeed songwriters
  - b. in deed songwriters
  - c. indie songwriters
  - d. in did songwriters

# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1706/170619-jay-z.html>

The rapper Jay Z has been recognized (1) \_\_\_\_\_ and influential songwriting (2) \_\_\_\_\_ inducted into the Songwriters Hall of Fame. He becomes the first hip-hop artist to be inducted into the Hall. The Hall's (3) \_\_\_\_\_ "preserve, honor and celebrate the legacy of the great songwriters whose (4) \_\_\_\_\_ the world's culture". Jay Z's real name is Shawn Carter. He grew up in a poor area of New York, where he went to school with future rappers The Notorious B.I.G. and Busta Rhymes. He got into hip-hop and became one of the best-selling musicians (5) \_\_\_\_\_. He has sold more than 100 million albums worldwide. He is also a successful businessman (6) \_\_\_\_\_ upmarket sports bar in New York and the music streaming service Tidal.

Former U.S. President Barack Obama inducted Jay Z into the Songwriters Hall of Fame. Obama expressed (7) \_\_\_\_\_ Jay Z, saying: "Like all of you, I am a fan, and I've been listening to Jay Z since I was a (8) \_\_\_\_\_ state senator. I'm pretty sure I'm still the only president (9) \_\_\_\_\_ Jay Z's music in the [White House]." Mr Obama said Jay Z should also be considered a "true American original" for (10) \_\_\_\_\_ rap and American culture. He called Jay Z the "greatest rapper of all time". Jay Z's music publisher Jon Platt accepted the award (11) \_\_\_\_\_. He said: "[Jay Z] would tell up-and-coming hip-hop artists today that there can be no mistake or question that (12) \_\_\_\_\_ songwriters."

# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1706/170619-jay-z.html>

1. What kind of career did the article say Jay Z has had?
2. How many hip-hop artists were in the Hall of Fame before Jay-Z?
3. What did the Hall of Fame say the work of songwriters enrich?
4. Where did Jay Z meet the rapper Busta Rhymes?
5. How many albums has Jay Z sold?
6. When did Barack Obama first start listening to Jay Z?
7. Where did Barack Obama say he listened to Jay Z?
8. What did Barack Obama say Jay Z should be considered as?
9. Who is Jon Platt?
10. What kind of hip-hop artists might Jay Z call definite songwriters?



# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1706/170619-jay-z.html>

- 1) What kind of career did the article say Jay Z has had?
  - a) an event-filled one
  - b) prolific and influential
  - c) a crazy one
  - d) a slow-moving one
- 2) How many hip-hop artists were in the Hall of Fame before Jay-Z?
  - a) 3
  - b) 2
  - c) 1
  - d) 0
- 3) What did the Hall of Fame say the work of songwriters enrich?
  - a) world culture
  - b) themselves
  - c) rap
  - d) American life
- 4) Where did Jay Z meet the rapper Busta Rhymes?
  - a) in a recording school
  - b) at a concert
  - c) at school
  - d) at the White House
- 5) How many albums has Jay Z sold?
  - a) just fewer than 100 million
  - b) over 100 million
  - c) 100 million
  - d) around 100 million
- 6) When did Barack Obama first start listening to Jay Z?
  - a) after he became President
  - b) 2011
  - c) when he was young
  - d) when he met his wife
- 7) Where did Barack Obama say he listened to Jay Z?
  - a) in his car
  - b) in the bath
  - c) while jogging
  - d) in the White House
- 8) What did Barack Obama say Jay Z should be considered as?
  - a) an American original
  - b) a poet
  - c) a role model
  - d) a contributor
- 9) Who is Jon Platt?
  - a) Jay Z's music publisher
  - b) the Hall of Fame boss
  - c) a rap music critic
  - d) a rapper
- 10) What kind of hip-hop artists might Jay Z call definite songwriters?
  - a) underground rappers
  - b) up-and-coming songwriters
  - c) those from New York
  - d) gangsta rappers

# ROLE PLAY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1706/170619-jay-z.html>

## **Role A – Hip-Hop**

You think hip-hop is the best musical genre. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their genres. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): classical, rock or techno.

## **Role B – Classical**

You think classical is the best musical genre. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their genres. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): hip-hop, rock or techno.

## **Role C – Rock**

You think rock is the best musical genre. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their genres. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): classical, hip-hop or techno.

## **Role D – Techno**

You think techno is the best musical genre. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their genres. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): classical, rock or hip-hop.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1706/170619-jay-z.html>

**1. WORD SEARCH:** Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'hip' and 'hop'.

<b>hip</b>	<b>hop</b>
------------	------------

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS:** Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**3. GAP FILL:** In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

**4. VOCABULARY:** Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

**5. TEST EACH OTHER:** Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• prolific</li><li>• artist</li><li>• work</li><li>• future</li><li>• got</li><li>• bar</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• expressed</li><li>• fan</li><li>• state</li><li>• original</li><li>• called</li><li>• mistake</li></ul>
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# RAP MUSIC SURVEY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1706/170619-jay-z.html>

Write five GOOD questions about rap music in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

# RAP MUSIC DISCUSSION

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

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What springs to mind when you hear the word 'rap'?
3. What do you know about Jay Z?
4. Why hasn't a rapper been honored in this way before?
5. Who is your favourite songwriter and why?
6. How has Jay Z enriched the world's culture?
7. How is rap different from other forms of music?
8. How much of a role model is Jay Z?
9. What advice would you give to Jay Z?
10. How important is rap?

*Jay Z receives top songwriting honor – 19th June, 2017*  
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# RAP MUSIC DISCUSSION

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

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'songwriter'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. What music does your country's leader like?
15. Who is your favourite singer, and why?
16. What do you think of a U.S. President listening to rap?
17. Who is the greatest rapper of all time?
18. Why do people question whether rappers are songwriters?
19. Will a rapper ever win the Nobel Prize for Literature?
20. What questions would you like to ask Jay Z?

# DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

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

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

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# DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

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

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

# LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1706/170619-jay-z.html>

The rapper Jay Z has been (1) \_\_\_\_\_ for his prolific and influential songwriting career by being inducted (2) \_\_\_\_\_ the Songwriters Hall of Fame. He becomes the first hip-hop artist to be inducted into the Hall. The Hall's (3) \_\_\_\_\_ is to, "preserve, honor and celebrate the (4) \_\_\_\_\_ of the great songwriters whose work has enriched the world's culture". Jay Z's real name is Shawn Carter. He grew up in a poor area of New York, where he went to school with future rappers The Notorious B.I.G. and Busta Rhymes. He got into hip-hop and became one of the best-selling musicians of (5) \_\_\_\_\_ time. He has sold more than 100 million albums worldwide. He is also a successful businessman and owns an upmarket sports bar in New York and the music (6) \_\_\_\_\_ service Tidal.

Former U.S. President Barack Obama inducted Jay Z into the Songwriters Hall of Fame. Obama (7) \_\_\_\_\_ his admiration for Jay Z, saying: "Like all of you, I am a fan, and I've been listening to Jay Z since I was a young and (8) \_\_\_\_\_ state senator. I'm pretty sure I'm (9) \_\_\_\_\_ the only president to listen to Jay Z's music in the [White House]." Mr Obama said Jay Z should also be considered a "true American original" for his contribution (10) \_\_\_\_\_ rap and American culture. He called Jay Z the "greatest rapper of all time". Jay Z's music publisher Jon Platt accepted the award (11) \_\_\_\_\_ his behalf. He said: "[Jay Z] would tell up-and-coming hip-hop artists today that there can be no mistake or question that you are (12) \_\_\_\_\_ songwriters."

**Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.**

- |     |               |                |                |                 |
|-----|---------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 1.  | (a) recognize | (b) recognized | (c) recognizes | (d) recognition |
| 2.  | (a) as to     | (b) into       | (c) unto       | (d) onto        |
| 3.  | (a) missals   | (b) missive    | (c) missile    | (d) mission     |
| 4.  | (a) legislate | (b) legacy     | (c) legalize   | (d) legend      |
| 5.  | (a) every     | (b) all        | (c) whole      | (d) entire      |
| 6.  | (a) steaming  | (b) storming   | (c) streaming  | (d) stomping    |
| 7.  | (a) confessed | (b) repressed  | (c) expressed  | (d) compressed  |
| 8.  | (a) strangely | (b) eagerly    | (c) hungry     | (d) angry       |
| 9.  | (a) never     | (b) once       | (c) ever       | (d) still       |
| 10. | (a) to        | (b) of         | (c) for        | (d) on          |
| 11. | (a) on        | (b) to         | (c) at         | (d) of          |
| 12. | (a) recede    | (b) concede    | (c) indeed     | (d) deeds       |

# SPELLING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1706/170619-jay-z.html>

## Paragraph 1

1. prolific and lunnletfia
2. songwriting ecrrae
3. celebrate the gacyle
4. cdhieren the world's culture
5. one of the best-selling inmiuascs
6. an areputkm sports bar

## Paragraph 2

7. Obama expressed his onimadairt for Jay Z
8. state nsaoret
9. a true American girnaoli
10. his iotcnnriobt to rap
11. accepted the award on his afeblh
12. you are indeed rnewrgtioss



# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1706/170619-jay-z.html>

**Number these lines in the correct order.**

- ( ) admiration for Jay Z, saying: "Like all of you, I am a fan, and I've been listening to Jay Z since I was a young and
- ( ) selling musicians of all time. He has sold more than 100 million albums worldwide. He is also a successful
- ( ) into the Hall. The Hall's mission is to, "preserve, honor and celebrate the legacy of the great songwriters whose
- ( ) being inducted into the Songwriters Hall of Fame. He becomes the first hip-hop artist to be inducted
- ( ) contribution to rap and American culture. He called Jay Z the "greatest rapper of all time". Jay Z's music
- ( ) work has enriched the world's culture". Jay Z's real name is Shawn Carter. He grew up in a poor
- ( ) hungry state senator. I'm pretty sure I'm still the only president to listen to Jay Z's
- ( ) businessman and owns an upmarket sports bar in New York and the music streaming service Tidal.
- ( **1** ) The rapper Jay Z has been recognized for his prolific and influential songwriting career by
- ( ) coming hip-hop artists today that there can be no mistake or question that you are indeed songwriters."
- ( ) music in the [White House]." Mr Obama said Jay Z should also be considered a "true American original" for his
- ( ) publisher Jon Platt accepted the award on his behalf. He said: "[Jay Z] would tell up-and-
- ( ) Former U.S. President Barack Obama inducted Jay Z into the Songwriters Hall of Fame. Obama expressed his
- ( ) area of New York, where he went to school with future rappers The Notorious B.I.G. and Busta Rhymes. He got into hip-hop and became one of the best-

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1706/170619-jay-z.html>

1. prolific and influential songwriting career Recognized for his .
2. becomes artist the to first be hip inducted hop He - .
3. has work whose Songwriters culture world's the enriched .
4. selling - best the of one Became time - all of musicians .
5. has million sold albums more worldwide than He 100 .
6. young listening was been Jay Z I I've to since .
7. president House in Jay Z's to The the listen only White music to .
8. to original rap for A his true contribution American .
9. called the of He Jay Z rapper time greatest all .
10. Jay Z hip up- today coming tell artists - would hop and- .

# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1706/170619-jay-z.html>

The rapper Jay Z has been *recognition / recognized* for his prolific and influential songwriting *career / careen* by being inducted into the Songwriters Hall of Fame. He becomes the first hip-hop artist to *be / been* inducted into the Hall. The Hall's *mission / missionary* is to, "preserve, honor and celebrate the *lethargy / legacy* of the great songwriters whose work has *enriched / enriching* the world's culture". Jay Z's real name is Shawn Carter. He grew up in a poor area of New York, where he went to school with future rappers The Notorious B.I.G. and Busta Rhymes. He *got / get* into hip-hop and became one of the best-selling musicians *from / of* all time. He has sold more than 100 million albums worldwide. He is also a successful businessman and *owes / owns* an upmarket sports bar in New York and the music *steaming / streaming* service Tidal.

Former U.S. President Barack Obama inducted Jay Z *into / onto* the Songwriters Hall of Fame. Obama expressed his *admires / admiration* for Jay Z, saying: "Like all of you, I am *the / a* fan, and I've been listening to Jay Z since I was a young and *hungrily / hungry* state senator. I'm pretty sure I'm still the only *president / precedent* to listen to Jay Z's music in the [White House]." Mr Obama said Jay Z should also be *considered / considerable* a "true American *originality / original*" for his contribution to rap and American culture. He called Jay Z the "greatest rapper of all time". Jay Z's music publisher Jon Platt *accepts / accepted* the award on his *behoove / behalf*. He said: "[Jay Z] would tell up-and-coming hip-hop artists today that there can be no mistake or question that you are *indeed / deed* songwriters."

**Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.**

# INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1706/170619-jay-z.html>

Th\_ r\_ pp\_ r J\_ y Z h\_ s b\_ \_ n r\_ c\_ gn\_ z\_ d f\_ r h\_ s pr\_ l\_ f\_ c  
\_ nd \_ nfl\_ \_ nt\_ \_ l s\_ ngwr\_ t\_ ng c\_ r\_ \_ r by b\_ \_ ng \_ nd\_ ct\_ d  
\_ nt\_ th\_ S\_ ngwr\_ t\_ rs H\_ ll\_ f\_ F\_ m\_ . H\_ b\_ c\_ m\_ s th\_  
f\_ rst h\_ p\_ h\_ p\_ \_ rt\_ st\_ t\_ b\_ \_ nd\_ ct\_ d \_ nt\_ th\_ H\_ ll. Th\_  
H\_ ll's m\_ ss\_ \_ n\_ s\_ t\_ , "pr\_ s\_ rv\_ , h\_ n\_ r\_ \_ nd c\_ l\_ br\_ t\_  
th\_ l\_ g\_ cy\_ \_ f th\_ gr\_ t\_ s\_ ngwr\_ t\_ rs wh\_ s\_ w\_ rk h\_ s  
\_ nr\_ ch\_ d th\_ w\_ rld's c\_ lt\_ r\_ ". J\_ y Z's r\_ \_ l\_ n\_ m\_ \_ s  
Sh\_ wn C\_ rt\_ r. H\_ gr\_ w\_ \_ p\_ \_ n\_ \_ p\_ \_ r\_ r\_ \_ \_ f N\_ w Y\_ rk,  
wh\_ r\_ h\_ w\_ nt\_ t\_ sch\_ \_ l\_ w\_ th\_ f\_ t\_ r\_ \_ r\_ pp\_ rs Th\_  
N\_ t\_ r\_ \_ \_ s B\_ .G. \_ nd B\_ st\_ Rhym\_ s. H\_ g\_ t\_ \_ nt\_ h\_ p\_  
h\_ p\_ \_ nd b\_ c\_ m\_ \_ n\_ \_ f th\_ b\_ st\_ s\_ ll\_ ng m\_ s\_ c\_ \_ ns\_ \_ f  
\_ ll\_ t\_ m\_ . H\_ h\_ s\_ s\_ ld m\_ r\_ th\_ n 100 m\_ ll\_ \_ n\_ \_ lb\_ ms  
w\_ rldw\_ d\_ . H\_ \_ s\_ \_ ls\_ \_ s\_ cc\_ ssf\_ l\_ b\_ s\_ n\_ ssm\_ n\_ \_ nd  
\_ wns \_ n\_ \_ pm\_ rk\_ t\_ sp\_ rts b\_ r\_ \_ n N\_ w Y\_ rk \_ nd th\_  
m\_ s\_ c\_ str\_ \_ m\_ ng s\_ rv\_ c\_ T\_ d\_ l.

F\_ rm\_ r\_ \_ .S. Pr\_ s\_ d\_ nt B\_ r\_ ck\_ \_ b\_ m\_ \_ nd\_ ct\_ d J\_ y Z  
\_ nt\_ th\_ S\_ ngwr\_ t\_ rs H\_ ll\_ f\_ F\_ m\_ . \_ b\_ m\_ \_ xpr\_ ss\_ d  
h\_ s\_ \_ dm\_ r\_ t\_ \_ n f\_ r J\_ y Z, s\_ y\_ ng: "L\_ k\_ \_ ll\_ f\_ y\_ , \_  
\_ m\_ \_ f\_ n, \_ nd \_ 'v\_ b\_ \_ n l\_ st\_ n\_ ng t\_ J\_ y Z s\_ nc\_ \_  
w\_ s\_ \_ y\_ \_ ng \_ nd h\_ ngry st\_ t\_ s\_ n\_ t\_ r. \_ 'm pr\_ tty s\_ r\_ \_  
\_ 'm st\_ ll th\_ \_ nly pr\_ s\_ d\_ nt t\_ l\_ st\_ n\_ t\_ J\_ y Z's m\_ s\_ c  
\_ n th\_ [Wh\_ t\_ H\_ s\_ ]." Mr\_ \_ b\_ m\_ s\_ \_ d J\_ y Z sh\_ \_ ld  
\_ ls\_ b\_ c\_ ns\_ d\_ r\_ d\_ \_ "tr\_ \_ \_ m\_ r\_ c\_ n\_ r\_ g\_ n\_ l" f\_ r h\_ s  
c\_ ntr\_ b\_ t\_ \_ n t\_ r\_ p\_ \_ nd \_ m\_ r\_ c\_ n\_ c\_ lt\_ r\_ . H\_ c\_ ll\_ d  
J\_ y Z th\_ "gr\_ \_ t\_ st\_ r\_ pp\_ r\_ \_ f\_ \_ ll\_ t\_ m\_ ". J\_ y Z's m\_ s\_ c  
p\_ bl\_ sh\_ r J\_ n Pl\_ tt\_ \_ cc\_ pt\_ d th\_ \_ w\_ rd\_ \_ n h\_ s b\_ h\_ lf.  
H\_ s\_ \_ d: "[J\_ y Z] w\_ \_ ld t\_ ll\_ \_ p\_ \_ nd\_ c\_ m\_ ng h\_ p\_ h\_ p  
\_ rt\_ sts t\_ d\_ y th\_ t\_ th\_ r\_ c\_ n b\_ \_ n\_ m\_ st\_ k\_ \_ r  
q\_ \_ st\_ \_ n th\_ t\_ y\_ \_ \_ r\_ \_ nd\_ \_ d\_ s\_ ngwr\_ t\_ rs."

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1706/170619-jay-z.html>

the rapper jay z has been recognized for his prolific and influential songwriting career by being inducted into the songwriters hall of fame he becomes the first hip-hop artist to be inducted into the hall the hall's mission is to "preserve honor and celebrate the legacy of the great songwriters whose work has enriched the world's culture" jay z's real name is shawn carter he grew up in a poor area of new york where he went to school with future rappers the notorious big and busta rhymes he got into hip-hop and became one of the best-selling musicians of all time he has sold more than 100 million albums worldwide he is also a successful businessman and owns an upmarket sports bar in new york and the music streaming service tidal

former us president barack obama inducted jay z into the songwriters hall of fame obama expressed his admiration for jay z saying "like all of you i am a fan and i've been listening to jay z since i was a young and hungry state senator i'm pretty sure i'm still the only president to listen to jay z's music in the [white house]" mr obama said jay z should also be considered a "true american original" for his contribution to rap and american culture he called jay z the "greatest rapper of all time" jay z's music publisher jon platt accepted the award on his behalf he said "[jay z] would tell up-and-coming hip-hop artists today that there can be no mistake or question that you are indeed songwriters"

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1706/170619-jay-z.html>

The rapper Jay Z has been recognized for his prolific and influential songwriting career by being inducted into the Songwriters Hall of Fame. He became the first hip-hop artist to be inducted into the Hall. The Hall's mission is to "preserve, honor and celebrate the legacy of the great songwriters whose work has enriched the world's culture". Jay Z's real name is Shawn Carter. He grew up in a poor area of New York, where he went to school with future rappers The Notorious B.I.G. and Busta Rhymes. He got into hip-hop and became one of the best-selling musicians of all-time. He has sold more than 100 million albums worldwide. He is also a successful businessman and owns an upmarket sports bar in New York and the music streaming service Tidal. Former U.S. President Barack Obama inducted Jay Z into the Songwriters Hall of Fame. Obama expressed his admiration for Jay Z, saying: "Like all of you, I am a fan, and I've been listening to Jay Z since I was a young and hungry state senator. I'm pretty sure I'm still the only president to listen to Jay Z's music in the [White House]." Mr Obama said Jay Z should also be considered a "true American original" for his contribution to rap and American culture. He called Jay Z the "greatest rapper of all time". Jay Z's music publisher Jon Platt accepted the award on his behalf. He said: "[Jay Z] would tell up-and-coming hip-hop artists today that there can be no mistake or question that you are indeed songwriters."







# HOMework

**1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION:** Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

**2. INTERNET:** Search the Internet and find out more about this news. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. RAP MUSIC:** Make a poster about rap music. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

**4. NOBEL PRIZE:** Write a magazine article about rap lyrics winning the Nobel Prize for Literature. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against this.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

**5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?** Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

**6. LETTER:** Write a letter to an expert on rap music. Ask him/her three questions about it. Give him/her three of your opinions on rap. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## TRUE / FALSE (p.4)

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

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- |                  |                 |
|------------------|-----------------|
| 1. recognized    | a. acknowledged |
| 2. prolific      | b. productive   |
| 3. inducted into | c. admitted to  |
| 4. enriched      | d. improved     |
| 5. musicians     | e. performers   |
| 6. admiration    | f. respect      |
| 7. considered    | g. deemed       |
| 8. original      | h. free spirit  |
| 9. up-an-coming  | i. emerging     |
| 10. indeed       | j. certainly    |

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. Prolific and influential
2. None
3. World culture
4. At school in New York
5. Over 100 million
6. When he was young
7. The White House
8. A true American original
9. Jay Z's music publisher
10. Up-and-coming songwriters

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

1. b    2. d    3. a    4. c    5. b    6. c    7. d    8. a    9. a    10. b

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.  
(It's good for your English ;-)