

Spotify will not ban AI-made music

28th September 2023



Artificial intelligence websites such as ChatGPT and Google's Bard are less than a year old, but they have been asking many questions. One question is whether music and art produced by AI is real music and art. Daniel Ek, the boss of the music streaming site Spotify, has

answered this question. He said there are many uses of AI for making music that are OK. He told the BBC that Spotify has no plans to ban all music created by artificial intelligence. This includes the auto-tune software that helps singers correct their pitch and can add vocal effects to a singer's voice. Mr Ek said auto-tunes improves music. One use of AI Mr Ek did not like was software for mimicking (copying) the voice of an artist.

Daniel Ek said using AI in music will be debated for "many, many years". He said the biggest problem is when AI copies the voice of other singers. Spotify deleted one song created by the AI platform Ghostwriter. The software copied the voices of the singers Drake, and The Weeknd. The song was even submitted for a Grammy music award, but it was rejected. Neither Drake nor The Weeknd knew about the song. Mr Ek highlighted how serious the problem of cloning singers' voices is. He said: "You can imagine someone uploading a song, claiming to be Madonna, even if they're not." He said it will be difficult to tell if a song is "sung" by a bot or a human. He added that the future of music production is going to be "tricky".

Sources: [bbc.com](https://www.bbc.com) / [cybernews.com](https://www.cybernews.com) / [yahoo.com](https://www.yahoo.com)

Writing

AI should never be used to produce music or art. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

artificial intelligence / websites / ChatGPT / music / streaming / auto-tunes / software debate / voice / singers / song / music award / uploading / bot / human / the future

True / False

- 1) ChatGPT has been making music for many years. T / F
- 2) The boss of Spotify said AI-generated music is the best. T / F
- 3) Spotify's boss said auto-tune software helps to make music better. T / F
- 4) Spotify's boss disagrees with software that copies singers' voices. T / F
- 5) Spotify's boss said people won't talk about AI and music for too long. T / F
- 6) The singer Drake made a song with the AI platform Ghostwrite. T / F
- 7) Spotify's boss said it's OK to upload a song and pretend to be Madonna. T / F
- 8) Spotify's boss said the future of music will be tricky. T / F

Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------|
| 1. such as | a. removed |
| 2. produced | b. assists |
| 3. ban | c. discussed |
| 4. helps | d. created |
| 5. artist | e. important |
| 6. debated | f. like |
| 7. deleted | g. turned down |
| 8. rejected | h. difficult |
| 9. serious | i. prohibit |
| 10. tricky | j. singer |

Discussion – Student A

- a) What are your favourite kinds of music?
- b) What do you think of music created by artificial intelligence?
- c) What do you think of ChatGPT and Bard?
- d) Is music made with AI real music?
- e) Should streaming sites ban music created with artificial intelligence?
- f) What do you think of singers using the auto-tune software?
- g) What do you think of AI copying the voice of other singers?
- h) Is the music of today or the music of the 60s, 70s and 80s best?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Artificial intelligence websites such | a. correct their pitch |
| 2. the boss of the music streaming | b. by a bot or a human |
| 3. music created | c. music |
| 4. software that helps singers | d. going to be tricky |
| 5. Mr Ek said auto-tunes improves | e. Grammy music award |
| 6. AI copies the | f. as ChatGPT |
| 7. The song was even submitted for a | g. singers' voices is |
| 8. how serious the problem of cloning | h. by artificial intelligence |
| 9. tell if a song is "sung" | i. voice of other singers |
| 10. the future of music production is | j. site Spotify |

Discussion – Student B

- What do you think about what you read?
- What will people say in the AI-music debate?
- Should AI-generated music be allowed to get music awards?
- What's best – vinyl, CDs or streaming?
- Would you like to be a singer?
- Is music getting better or worse?
- Why might the future of music be 'tricky'?
- What questions would you like to ask Mr Ek?

Spelling

- Artificial entecliingle
- music and art orcduped by AI
- the music mietsargn site Spotify
- add vocal efscfte
- auto-tunes vesiorpm music
- the evcio of an artist
- edetadb for many, many years
- Spotify deletde one song
- submitted for a Grammy music wrdaa
- it was eerctjd
- diogalnpu a song
- music production is going to be yrtcki

Answers – Synonym Match

1. f	2. d	3. i	4. b	5. j
6. c	7. a	8. g	9. e	10. h

Role Play

Role A – Pop

You think pop 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, jazz or classical.

Role B – 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): pop, jazz or classical.

Role C – Jazz

You think jazz 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, pop or classical.

Role D – 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, jazz or pop.

Speaking – Music

Rank these with your partner. Put the best genres at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|-----------|-------------|
| • Pop | • Jazz |
| • Rock | • Electro |
| • Country | • Reggae |
| • Hip-hop | • Classical |

Answers – True False

1	F	2	F	3	T	4	T	5	F	6	F	7	F	8	T
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.