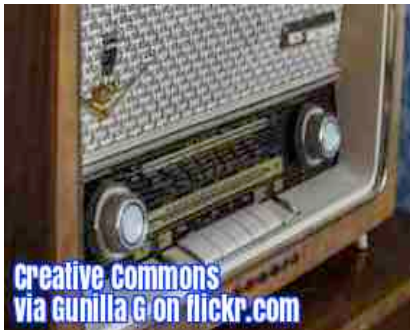


## Bulgarian radio can play modern music again

3rd March, 2017



Radio listeners in Bulgaria can now start listening to modern music again. For the past two months, they could only listen to music that was over 70 years old. A dispute over copyright meant the

Bulgarian National Radio (BNR) could not play any pop music. Listeners could only listen to classical music or folk songs that were recorded before World War II. In the European Union, copyright disappears 70 years after an artist's death. BNR has now signed a deal with the copyright organization. In the deal, BNR will pay more royalty fees. A part of these fees goes to the singer, band, composer or songwriter of a song or a piece of music. Every time the radio plays a song, it must pay royalties to the artist.

Something surprising happened during the two-month dispute over copyright and royalties. The number of listeners to BNR's shows increased by 20 per cent. After the radio station started playing only Bulgarian folk tunes, classical music and pre-war jazz, more people started listening to the radio. It seems many listeners are more interested in listening to older music than Justin Bieber and Taylor Swift. BNR is now thinking about changing its music programming. BNR boss Aleksandar Velev said there could even be new radio stations. Mr Velev told reporters: "We will not change the profiles of the current radio shows. Instead, we will launch new radio stations with more types of music."

Sources: [novonite.com](http://novonite.com) / [bbc.com](http://bbc.com) / [ctvnews.ca](http://ctvnews.ca)

## Writing

Old music is better than new music. Discuss.

## Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

radio / listeners / modern / pop music / classical / copyright / royalties / fees / artist / something / surprising / radio station / folk tunes / older music / profiles / reporters

## True / False

- a) Radio listeners in Bulgaria could not listen to pop music for two years. T / F
- b) The reason the radio could not play pop music was a copyright dispute. T / F
- c) Radio listeners could only listen to pre-World War II music. T / F
- d) The radio station has agreed to pay artists more in royalties. T / F
- e) The radio station got 20% more listeners by playing the older music. T / F
- f) The article said people in Bulgaria prefer Justin Bieber to old music. T / F
- g) The radio station boss said he would not change the programming. T / F
- h) The boss said there would not be any new radio stations. T / F

## Synonym Match

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

- |                          |                    |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. <b>start</b>          | a. payments        |
| 2. <b>dispute</b>        | b. considering     |
| 3. <b>disappears</b>     | c. agreement       |
| 4. <b>deal</b>           | d. argument        |
| 5. <b>fees</b>           | e. unexpected      |
| 6. <b>surprising</b>     | f. kinds           |
| 7. <b>seems</b>          | g. begin           |
| 8. <b>thinking about</b> | h. alter           |
| 9. <b>change</b>         | i. appears         |
| 10. <b>types</b>         | j. comes to an end |

## Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you think about what you read?
- b) What radio shows do you like, and why?
- c) Why do people say today's new music isn't very good?
- d) Is Justin Bieber's music better than music from the 1960s?
- e) Would you like to be a radio show host?
- f) Will the Internet end radio stations?
- g) What are the good things about new music?
- h) What questions would you like to ask the boss of the radio station?

## Phrase Match

- |   |                            |
|---|----------------------------|
| 1. music that was                               | a. after an artist's death |
| 2. A dispute over                               | b. two-month dispute       |
| 3. copyright disappears 70 years                | c. a deal                  |
| 4. BNR has now signed                           | d. programming             |
| 5. it must pay royalties                        | e. copyright               |
| 6. during the                                   | f. shows                   |
| 7. pre-   | g. of music                |
| 8. BNR is now thinking about changing its music | h. war jazz                |
| 9. the profiles of the current radio            | i. over 70 years old       |
| 10. radio stations with more types              | j. to the artist           |

## Discussion – Student B

- What do you think of radio?
- What do you know about copyright?
- Should singers get paid every time a radio station plays their music?
- Why is respecting copyright important?
- What are the good things about older music?
- What damage does illegal downloading do to singers and artists?
- What are royalties and why are they called royalties?
- How important are radio stations to you?

## Spelling

- Radio itsersenl in Bulgaria
- A dispute over potirghcy
- listen to slciaaslc music
- cdrodeer before World War II
- earsdasppi 70 years after
- pay seyaoirlt to the artist
- Something rspngsruii happened
- deescniar by 20 per cent
- more renetisetd
- the nurrctet radio shows
- we will anchul new radio stations
- more etyssp of music

### Answers – Synonym Match

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

## Role Play

### Role A – Classical

You think classical is the best kind of music. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their kinds. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): pop, rap or folk.

### Role B – Pop

You think pop is the best kind of music. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their kinds. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): classical, rap or folk.

### Role C – Rap

You think rap is the best kind of music. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their kinds. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): pop, classical or folk.

### Role D – Folk

You think folk is the best kind of music. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their kinds. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): pop, rap or classical.

## Speaking – Types of music

Rank these with your partner. Put the best types of music the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- |             |                 |
|-------------|-----------------|
| • classical | • hip-hop / rap |
| • pop       | • electro       |
| • folk      | • country       |
| • jazz      | • heavy rock    |

### Answers – True False

a	F	b	T	c	T	d	T	e	T	f	F	g	F	h	F
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.