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Level 1 – 11th April 2024

Chechnya bans music that is too slow or too fast

FREE online quizzes, mp3 listening and more for this lesson here:

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2404/240411-music-tempo-1.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 2 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2404/240411-music-tempo-1.html>

Chechnya has made a rule about music speed. It has banned songs that are too fast or too slow. It said all music and songs should have a tempo of between 80 to 116 beats per minute. Eighty beats per minute is much slower than most modern pop music. However, Russia's national anthem is 76 beats per minute. There has been no word about whether it can be played. It seems likely it will not have to follow the new rule.

The ban on up-tempo and down-tempo music is to protect Chechnya's culture. The Moscow Times said it was, "to root out any hint of Westernization". Chechnya's leader said "Borrowing musical culture from other people's is [not allowed]." The culture minister said the ban will give children their cultural heritage. Local artists must rewrite their songs to follow the new rule. People will no longer be able to listen to techno music or many pop songs.

Sources: <https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2024/04/05/chechnya-forbids-music-outside-80-116-bpm-tempo-a84755>
<https://www.politico.eu/article/culture-ministry-russian-republic-chechnya-ban-western-songs/>
<https://news.sky.com/story/chechnya-bans-music-that-is-too-fast-or-too-slow-13110266>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2404/240411-music-tempo-1.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Chechnya has made a rule about | a. anthem |
| 2. songs that are | b. new rule |
| 3. a tempo of between 80 to 116 | c. modern pop music |
| 4. slower than most | d. too fast |
| 5. Russia's national | e. beats per minute |
| 6. There has been | f. music speed |
| 7. It seems likely it will not | g. no word |
| 8. follow the | h. have to |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. down-tempo | a. able to |
| 2. protect Chechnya's | b. to techno music |
| 3. root out any hint | c. rule |
| 4. give children their cultural | d. culture |
| 5. artists must | e. heritage |
| 6. follow the new | f. of Westernization |
| 7. People will no longer be | g. rewrite their songs |
| 8. listen | h. music |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2404/240411-music-tempo-1.html>

Chechnya has (1) _____ about music speed. It has banned songs that (2) _____ or too slow. It said all music and songs should (3) _____ of between 80 to 116 beats per minute. Eighty beats per minute is much (4) _____ modern pop music. However, Russia's (5) _____ 76 beats per minute. There has been no word about whether it can be played. It (6) _____ will not have to follow the new rule.

The (7) _____ and down-tempo music is to protect Chechnya's culture. The Moscow Times said it was, "to root out (8) _____ Westernization". Chechnya's leader said "Borrowing (9) _____ other people's is [not allowed]." The culture minister said the (10) _____ children their cultural heritage. Local (11) _____ their songs to follow the new rule. People will no (12) _____ to listen to techno music or many pop songs.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2404/240411-music-tempo-1.html>

Chechnya has made a rule about music speed. It has banned songs that are too fast or too slow. It said all music and songs should have a tempo of between 80 to 116 beats per minute. Eighty beats per minute is much slower than most modern pop music. However, Russia's national anthem is 76 beats per minute. There has been no word about whether it can be played. It seems likely it will not have to follow the new rule. The ban on up-tempo and down-tempo music is to protect Chechnya's culture. The Moscow Times said it was "to root out any hint of Westernization". Chechnya's leaders said "Borrowing musical culture from other people's is [not allowed]". The culture ministers said the ban will give children their cultural heritage. Local artists must rewrite their songs to follow the new rule. People will no longer be able to listen to techno music or many pop songs.

MUSIC SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2404/240411-music-tempo-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about 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.

WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2404/240411-music-tempo-1.html>

Write about **music** for 10 minutes. Read and talk about your partner's paper.
