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## **Level 3 – 8th February 2024**

### **Taylor Swift makes history with fourth best album win**

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2402/240209-taylor-swift-grammy.html>

## **Contents**

The Article	2	Discussion (Student-Created Qs)	15
Warm-Ups	3	Language Work (Cloze)	16
Vocabulary	4	Spelling	17
Before Reading / Listening	5	Put The Text Back Together	18
Gap Fill	6	Put The Words In The Right Order	19
Match The Sentences And Listen	7	Circle The Correct Word	20
Listening Gap Fill	8	Insert The Vowels (a, e, i, o, u)	21
Comprehension Questions	9	Punctuate The Text And Add Capitals	22
Multiple Choice - Quiz	10	Put A Slash ( / ) Where The Spaces Are	23
Role Play	11	Free Writing	24
After Reading / Listening	12	Academic Writing	25
Student Survey	13	Homework	26
Discussion (20 Questions)	14	Answers	27

**Please try Levels 0, 1 and 2 (they are easier).**

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# THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2402/240209-taylor-swift-grammy.html>

Taylor Swift has made history at the 2024 Grammy Awards. The singer-songwriter superstar is the first artist to win best album of the year four times. The Grammys are given for outstanding achievements in the music industry. By winning for the fourth time, Ms Swift overtook music legends Frank Sinatra and Stevie Wonder. She won for her album "Midnights". In her acceptance speech, she said: "I would love to tell you that this is the best moment of my life, but I feel this happy when I finish a song...or when I'm rehearsing with my dancers or my band, or getting ready to go to Tokyo to play a show." She added: "All I wanna do is keep being able to do this. I love it so much. It makes me so happy."

Taylor Swift was born in 1989. She began writing songs professionally at the age of 14. In 2005, she signed with Big Machine Records to become a country singer. Since then, she has branched out into a variety of music styles. She has moved from country, to rock, to electronic, synth-pop and hip-hop. She is now the biggest music star in the world and has sold over 200 million records. A movie of her 2023-2024 concert tour "Eras" is the highest-grossing concert film ever. She is also a huge influencer of popular culture and is on Forbes magazine's list of the World's 100 Most Powerful Women. Wikipedia describes Swift as being, "a philanthropist and an advocate for artists' rights and women's empowerment".

Sources: <https://www.grammy.com/news/taylor-swift-album-of-the-year-2024-grammys-speech>  
<https://www.rollingstone.com/music/music-news/grammys-2024-recap-taylor-swift-sza-miley-cyrus-1234961256/>  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Taylor\\_Swift](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Taylor_Swift)

# WARM-UPS

**1. TAYLOR SWIFT:** Students walk around the class and talk to other students about Taylor Swift. 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?

history / singer-songwriter / superstar / album / legends / the best moment / happy / writing songs / country music / music styles / hip-hop / concert your / popular culture

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

**3. THE GREATEST:** Students A **strongly** believe Taylor Swift is the greatest ever singer; Students B **strongly** believe otherwise. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**4. MUSIC LEGENDS:** What do you know about these artists? What do you want to know? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	What I Know	What I Want to Know
Taylor Swift		
Frank Sinatra		
Beyonce		
David Bowie		
Jay Z		
Tina Turner		

**5. HISTORY:** Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "history". 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 genres at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Country
- Rock
- Pop
- Hip-hop
- Electronic
- Reggae
- Classical
- Jazz

# VOCABULARY MATCHING

## Paragraph 1

- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| 1. superstar   | a. Practicing a play, piece of music, or other work for later public performance                             |
| 2. artist      | b. Very, very, very, very good.  |
| 3. outstanding | c. An area of business in a country.   |
| 4. achievement | d. A very, very, very famous and successful singer, actor or sports player.                                  |
| 5. industry    | e. An exact point in time.   |
| 6. moment      | f. A person who practices or performs things, such as a singer, sculptor, film-maker, actor, or dancer, etc. |
| 7. rehearsing  | g. A thing done successfully with effort, skill, or courage.   |

## Paragraph 2

- |                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| 8. professionally  | h. There being lots of different things of a similar kind.                       |
| 9. signed          | i. A person who can change people's minds, usually on social media.              |
| 10. branched out   | j. A person who publicly supports or recommends a particular issue or policy.    |
| 11. variety        | k. Promised to work or do something putting your name on a contract.             |
| 12. influencer     | l. A person who helps others, especially by giving lots of money to good causes. |
| 13. philanthropist | m. Moved into different kinds of activities.                                     |
| 14. advocate       | n. Done or performed for money.  |

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2402/240209-taylor-swift-grammy.html>

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

1. Taylor Swift won the best album award for four years in a row. **T / F**
2. A Grammy is awarded for the most records sold. **T / F**
3. Taylor Swift said the award was the best moment in her life. **T / F**
4. All Taylor Swift wants to do is sing, make music and dance. **T / F**
5. Taylor Swift signed her first record contract when she was 14. **T / F**
6. The article says Taylor Swift is the world's biggest music star. **T / F**
7. Forbes magazine named Ms Swift as the world's most powerful woman. **T / F**
8. Taylor Swift does a lot for the rights of women and artists. **T / F**

**2. SYNONYM MATCH:** (The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- |                          |                |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| 1. <b>outstanding</b>    | a. concert     |
| 2. <b>legends</b>        | b. champion    |
| 3. <b>rehearsing</b>     | c. giver       |
| 4. <b>show</b>           | d. calls       |
| 5. <b>happy</b>          | e. excellent   |
| 6. <b>branched out</b>   | f. practicing  |
| 7. <b>ever</b>           | g. superstars  |
| 8. <b>describes</b>      | h. in history  |
| 9. <b>philanthropist</b> | i. cheerful    |
| 10. <b>advocate</b>      | j. diversified |

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

- |   |                       |
|---|-----------------------|
| 1. outstanding                            | a. dancers or my band |
| 2. this is the best moment                | b. rights             |
| 3. when I'm rehearsing with my            | c. so happy           |
| 4. All I wanna do is keep being           | d. of music styles    |
| 5. It makes me                            | e. concert film ever  |
| 6. She began writing songs professionally | f. able to do this    |
| 7. she has branched out into a variety    | g. culture            |
| 8. the highest-grossing                   | h. of my life         |
| 9. a huge influencer of popular           | i. achievements       |
| 10. an advocate for artists'              | j. at the age of 14   |

# GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2402/240209-taylor-swift-grammy.html>

Taylor Swift has made history at the 2024 Grammy Awards. The singer-songwriter superstar is the first (1) \_\_\_\_\_ to win best album of the year four times. The Grammys are given for outstanding achievements in the music (2) \_\_\_\_\_. By winning for the fourth time, Ms Swift overtook music (3) \_\_\_\_\_ Frank Sinatra and Stevie Wonder. She won for her album "Midnights". In her acceptance (4) \_\_\_\_\_, she said: "I would love to tell you that this is the best (5) \_\_\_\_\_ of my life, but I feel this happy when I finish a song...or when I'm (6) \_\_\_\_\_ with my dancers or my band, or getting (7) \_\_\_\_\_ to go to Tokyo to play a show." She added: "All I wanna do is keep being able to do this. I love it so much. It makes me so (8) \_\_\_\_\_."

*rehearsing*  
*industry*  
*speech*  
*artist*  
*ready*  
*happy*  
*moment*  
*legends*

Taylor Swift was born in 1989. She began (9) \_\_\_\_\_ songs professionally at the age of 14. In 2005, she (10) \_\_\_\_\_ with Big Machine Records to become a country singer. Since then, she has branched out into a (11) \_\_\_\_\_ of music styles. She has moved from country, to rock, to electronic, synth-pop and hip-hop. She is now the biggest music (12) \_\_\_\_\_ in the world and has sold over 200 million records. A movie of her 2023-2024 concert (13) \_\_\_\_\_ "Eras" is the highest-grossing concert film ever. She is also a huge influencer of (14) \_\_\_\_\_ culture and is on Forbes magazine's (15) \_\_\_\_\_ of the World's 100 Most Powerful Women. Wikipedia describes Swift as being, "a philanthropist and an advocate for artists' (16) \_\_\_\_\_ and women's empowerment".

*signed*  
*star*  
*list*  
*writing*  
*popular*  
*variety*  
*rights*  
*tour*

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2402/240209-taylor-swift-grammy.html>

- 1) The Grammys are given for outstanding achievements in \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. the music industrial
  - b. the musically industry
  - c. the music in dust try
  - d. the music industry
- 2) I would love to tell you that this is the best moment \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. of my life
  - b. of my live
  - c. of my alive
  - d. of my leaf
- 3) I feel this happy when I finish a song...or \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. when I'm rehearse in
  - b. when I'm rehearsal
  - c. when I'm rehearsing
  - d. when I'm rehearse sing
- 4) or getting ready to go to Tokyo to \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. play a slow
  - b. play a snow
  - c. play a show
  - d. play a shoe
- 5) I love it so much. It makes \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. me so hoppy
  - b. me so hippy
  - c. me so happily
  - d. me so happy
- 6) In 2005, she signed with Big Machine Records to become \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. a country singer
  - b. a countries singer
  - c. a country's singer
  - d. a countryside singer
- 7) Since then, she has branched out into a \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. varieties of music
  - b. variety off music
  - c. variety of music
  - d. various of music
- 8) her 2023-2024 concert tour "Eras" is the highest-grossing \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. concert film never
  - b. concert film ever
  - c. concert film every
  - d. concert film even
- 9) She is also a huge influencer \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. of poplar culture
  - b. of polar culture
  - c. off popular culture
  - d. of popular culture
- 10) Wikipedia describes Swift as being a philanthropist and an advocate \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. for artists' lights
  - b. for artists' sights
  - c. for artists' tights
  - d. for artists' rights

# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2402/240209-taylor-swift-grammy.html>

Taylor Swift has made history at the 2024 Grammy Awards. The singer-songwriter superstar is the first (1) \_\_\_\_\_ best album of the year four times. The Grammys (2) \_\_\_\_\_ outstanding achievements in the music industry. By winning for the fourth time, Ms Swift (3) \_\_\_\_\_ Frank Sinatra and Stevie Wonder. She won for her album "Midnights". In her acceptance speech, she said: "I would love to tell you that this is the (4) \_\_\_\_\_ my life, but I feel this happy when I finish a song...or when I'm rehearsing with my dancers or my band, or (5) \_\_\_\_\_ go to Tokyo to play a show." She added: "All I wanna do is (6) \_\_\_\_\_ to do this. I love it so much. It makes me so happy."

Taylor Swift was born in 1989. She (7) \_\_\_\_\_ professionally at the age of 14. In 2005, (8) \_\_\_\_\_ Big Machine Records to become a country singer. Since then, she has branched out into (9) \_\_\_\_\_ music styles. She has moved from country, to rock, to electronic, synth-pop and hip-hop. She is now the biggest music star in the world and (10) \_\_\_\_\_ 200 million records. A movie of her 2023-2024 concert tour "Eras" is the highest-grossing concert film ever. She is also a huge influencer (11) \_\_\_\_\_ and is on Forbes magazine's list of the World's 100 Most Powerful Women. Wikipedia describes Swift as being, "a philanthropist and an advocate (12) \_\_\_\_\_ and women's empowerment".



# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2402/240209-taylor-swift-grammy.html>

1. What is given for outstanding achievements in the music industry?
2. What's the name of the album that won the Grammy for the best album?
3. What is Taylor Swift happy about finishing?
4. Who does Ms Swift like rehearsing with?
5. Where did Taylor Swift say she was ready to do a show?
6. When did Taylor Swift start writing songs professionally?
7. What's the name of a record label that Swift signed with?
8. How many records has Taylor Swift sold?
9. Where is Ms Swift in a Forbes list of the world's most powerful women?
10. Who does Ms Swift advocate for besides artists?

# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2402/240209-taylor-swift-grammy.html>

- 1) What is given for outstanding achievements in the music industry?
  - a) cash
  - b) a Grammy
  - c) a trophy
  - d) a handprint in LA
- 2) What's the name of the album that won the Grammy for the best album?
  - a) Evenings
  - b) Middays
  - c) Mornings
  - d) Midnights
- 3) What is Taylor Swift happy about finishing?
  - a) a song
  - b) a tour
  - c) a book
  - d) 2023
- 4) Who does Ms Swift like rehearsing with?
  - a) alone
  - b) her family
  - c) her dancers and band
  - d) children
- 5) Where did Taylor Swift say she was ready to do a show?
  - a) New York
  - b) Tokyo
  - c) anywhere
  - d) the Super Bowl
- 6) When did Taylor Swift start writing songs professionally?
  - a) aged 14
  - b) aged 15
  - c) aged 16
  - d) aged 17
- 7) What's the name of a record label that Swift signed with?
  - a) Big Records Machine
  - b) Machine Big Records
  - c) Big Machine Records
  - d) Records Big Machine
- 8) How many records has Taylor Swift sold?
  - a) over 200 million
  - b) exactly 200 million
  - c) slightly fewer than 200 million
  - d) around 200 million
- 9) Where is Ms Swift in a Forbes list of the world's most powerful women?
  - a) in the top 100
  - b) first
  - c) in the top ten
  - d) 13th
- 10) Who does Ms Swift advocate for besides artists?
  - a) music producers
  - b) journalists
  - c) children
  - d) women

# ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2402/240209-taylor-swift-grammy.html>

## **Role A – Country**

You think country is the best music 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): rock, classical or jazz.

## **Role B – Rock**

You think rock is the best music 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): country, classical or jazz.

## **Role C – Classical**

You think classical is the best music 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): rock, country or jazz.

## **Role D – Jazz**

You think jazz is the best music 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): rock, classical or country.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2402/240209-taylor-swift-grammy.html>

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

<b>award</b>	<b>album</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>• artist</li><li>• legends</li><li>• speech</li><li>• moment</li><li>• band</li><li>• able</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• began</li><li>• signed</li><li>• variety</li><li>• movie</li><li>• huge</li><li>• describes</li></ul>
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# TAYLOR SWIFT SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2402/240209-taylor-swift-grammy.html>

Write five GOOD questions about Taylor Swift 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.

# TAYLOR SWIFT DISCUSSION

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

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'award'?
3. What do you know about Taylor Swift?
4. What do you think of music awards shows?
5. What do you think is the best album ever?
6. What was the best moment of your life?
7. Who is the best singer in the world at the moment?
8. Would you like to be a singer-songwriter superstar?
9. What makes you happy?
10. What advice do you have for Taylor Swift?

*Taylor Swift makes history with fourth best album win – 8th February 2024*  
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# TAYLOR SWIFT 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 'singer'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. What do you think about Taylor Swift?
15. What would you like to write songs about?
16. What is the best music genre?
17. What do you think of popular culture?
18. Who are the most powerful women in the world?
19. How could Taylor Swift change the world?
20. What questions would you like to ask Taylor Swift?

# 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 <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2402/240209-taylor-swift-grammy.html>

Taylor Swift has made history at the 2024 Grammy Awards. The singer-songwriter superstar is the first (1) \_\_\_\_\_ to win best album of the year four times. The Grammys are given (2) \_\_\_\_\_ outstanding achievements in the music industry. By winning for the fourth time, Ms Swift (3) \_\_\_\_\_ music legends Frank Sinatra and Stevie Wonder. She won for her album "Midnights". In her acceptance (4) \_\_\_\_\_, she said: "I would love to tell you that this is the best moment of my life, but I feel this happy when I finish a song...or when I'm rehearsing (5) \_\_\_\_\_ my dancers or my band, or getting ready to go to Tokyo to play a show." She added: "All I wanna do is keep being able to do this. I love it (6) \_\_\_\_\_ much. It makes me so happy."

Taylor Swift was born in 1989. She began writing songs professionally (7) \_\_\_\_\_ the age of 14. In 2005, she signed with Big Machine Records to become a (8) \_\_\_\_\_ singer. Since then, she has branched out into a (9) \_\_\_\_\_ of music styles. She has moved from country, to rock, to electronic, synth-pop and hip-hop. She is now the biggest music star in the world and has sold over 200 million records. A movie of her 2023-2024 concert (10) \_\_\_\_\_ "Eras" is the highest-grossing concert film ever. She is also a (11) \_\_\_\_\_ influencer of popular culture and is on Forbes magazine's list of the World's 100 Most Powerful Women. Wikipedia describes Swift as being, "a philanthropist and an advocate (12) \_\_\_\_\_ artists' rights and women's empowerment".

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

- |     |               |                 |             |              |
|-----|---------------|-----------------|-------------|--------------|
| 1.  | (a) artistry  | (b) artist      | (c) artisan | (d) arty     |
| 2.  | (a) to        | (b) for         | (c) by      | (d) as       |
| 3.  | (a) undertook | (b) mistook     | (c) took    | (d) overtook |
| 4.  | (a) speak     | (b) speech      | (c) speaks  | (d) speaking |
| 5.  | (a) to        | (b) with        | (c) of      | (d) at       |
| 6.  | (a) to        | (b) such        | (c) so      | (d) at       |
| 7.  | (a) of        | (b) to          | (c) at      | (d) in       |
| 8.  | (a) rural     | (b) countryside | (c) country | (d) town     |
| 9.  | (a) various   | (b) varies      | (c) vary    | (d) variety  |
| 10. | (a) tour      | (b) yarn        | (c) trip    | (d) holiday  |
| 11. | (a) huge      | (b) enormously  | (c) biggest | (d) well     |
| 12. | (a) at        | (b) from        | (c) for     | (d) under    |



# SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2402/240209-taylor-swift-grammy.html>

## Paragraph 1

1. The singer-ogsirwtner superstar
2. given for uttodnaisng achievements
3. in the music disuntry
4. In her cetpaaccne speech
5. this is the best ommnet
6. when I'm eersraihng with my dancers

## Paragraph 2

7. writing songs epirsofanolsly
8. Since then, she has nabcrehd out
9. a rveiaty of music styles
10. A movie of her 2023-2024 onccret tour
11. a huge nfuinelcer of popular culture
12. an ovacdate for artists' rights

# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2402/240209-taylor-swift-grammy.html>

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

- ( ) culture and is on Forbes magazine's list of the World's 100 Most Powerful Women. Wikipedia describes
- ( ) songwriter superstar is the first artist to win best album of the year four times. The Grammys are given for
- ( ) legends Frank Sinatra and Stevie Wonder. She won for her album "Midnights". In her acceptance
- ( ) show." She added: "All I wanna do is keep being able to do this. I love it so much. It makes me so happy."
- ( ) Taylor Swift was born in 1989. She began writing songs professionally at the age of 14. In 2005, she signed
- ( ) tour "Eras" is the highest-grossing concert film ever. She is also a huge influencer of popular
- ( ) of music styles. She has moved from country, to rock, to electronic, synth-pop and hip-hop. She is now
- ( ) a song...or when I'm rehearsing with my dancers or my band, or getting ready to go to Tokyo to play a
- ( ) outstanding achievements in the music industry. By winning for the fourth time, Ms Swift overtook music
- ( ) with Big Machine Records to become a country singer. Since then, she has branched out into a variety
- ( ) speech, she said: "I would love to tell you that this is the best moment of my life, but I feel this happy when I finish
- ( ) the biggest music star in the world and has sold over 200 million records. A movie of her 2023-2024 concert
- ( ) Swift as being, "a philanthropist and an advocate for artists' rights and women's empowerment".
- ( **1** ) Taylor Swift has made history at the 2024 Grammy Awards. The singer-

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2402/240209-taylor-swift-grammy.html>

1. best album times . Win four the year of
2. the achievements in for industry . outstanding Given music
3. moment of best the This life . is my
4. I a feel I happy when finish song .
5. I do keep doing is All this . wanna
6. songs began 14 . aged professionally writing She
7. a music into of styles . out Branched variety
8. now She is the star . biggest music world's
9. is She of popular culture . huge a influencer
10. being Swift describes as Wikipedia a philanthropist .

# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2402/240209-taylor-swift-grammy.html>

Taylor Swift has made history at the 2024 Grammy *Rewards / Awards*. The singer-songwriter superstar is the first *artistry / artist* to win best album of the year *four / fourth* times. The Grammys are *given / giving* for outstanding achievements in the music industry. By winning for the fourth time, Ms Swift *overtook / undertook* music legends Frank Sinatra and Stevie Wonder. She won for her album "Midnights". In her *accept / acceptance* speech, she said: "I would love to tell you that this is the best moment of my *live / life*, but I feel *this / such* happy when I finish a song...or when I'm rehearsing with my dancers or my band, or *getting / got* ready to go to Tokyo to play a show." She added: "All I wanna do is keep being able to do this. I love it so much. It makes me *such / so* happy."

Taylor Swift was born in 1989. She began writing songs *professional / professionally* at the age of 14. In 2005, she *singed / signed* with Big Machine Records to become a *countryside / country* singer. Since then, she has *branched / twigged* out into a variety *by / of* music styles. She has moved from country, to rock, to electronic, synth-pop and hip-hop. She is now the biggest music star *in / on* the world and has sold over 200 million records. A movie of her 2023-2024 concert tour "Eras" is the highest-grossing concert film *never / ever*. She is also a huge influencer of popular culture and is on Forbes magazine's list *of / to* the World's 100 Most Powerful Women. Wikipedia describes Swift *has / as* being, "a philanthropist and an advocate *at / for* artists' rights and women's empowerment".

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

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

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2402/240209-taylor-swift-grammy.html>

T\_y\_l\_r Sw\_ft h\_s m\_d\_ h\_st\_ry \_t th\_ 2024 Gr\_mmy  
\_w\_rds. Th\_ s\_ng\_r-s\_ngwr\_t\_r s\_p\_rst\_r \_s th\_ f\_rst  
\_rt\_st t\_ w\_n b\_st \_lb\_m \_f th\_ y\_\_r f\_\_r t\_m\_s. Th\_  
Gr\_mmys \_r\_ g\_v\_n f\_r \_\_tst\_nd\_ng \_ch\_\_v\_m\_nts \_n  
th\_ m\_s\_c \_nd\_stry. By w\_nn\_ng f\_r th\_ f\_\_rth t\_m\_,  
Ms Sw\_ft \_v\_r\_t\_\_k m\_s\_c l\_g\_nds Fr\_nk S\_n\_tr\_ \_nd  
St\_v\_\_ W\_nd\_r. Sh\_ w\_n f\_r h\_r \_lb\_m "M\_dn\_ghts".  
\_n h\_r \_cc\_pt\_nc\_ sp\_\_ch, sh\_ s\_\_d: "\_ w\_\_ld l\_v\_ t\_  
t\_ll y\_\_ th\_t th\_s \_s th\_ b\_st m\_m\_nt \_f my l\_f\_,  
b\_t \_ f\_\_l th\_s h\_ppy wh\_n \_ f\_n\_sh \_ s\_ng...r wh\_n  
\_'m r\_h\_\_rs\_ng w\_th my d\_nc\_rs \_r my b\_nd, \_r  
g\_tt\_ng r\_\_dy t\_ g\_ t\_ T\_ky\_ t\_ pl\_y \_ sh\_w." Sh\_  
\_dd\_d: "\_ll \_ w\_nn\_ d\_ \_s k\_\_p b\_\_ng \_bl\_ t\_ d\_  
th\_s. \_ l\_v\_ \_t s\_ m\_ch. \_t m\_k\_s m\_ s\_ h\_ppy."

T\_y\_l\_r Sw\_ft w\_s b\_rn \_n 1989. Sh\_ b\_g\_n wr\_t\_ng  
s\_ngs pr\_f\_ss\_\_n\_lly \_t th\_ \_g\_ \_f 14. \_n 2005, sh\_  
s\_gn\_d w\_th B\_g M\_ch\_n\_ R\_c\_rds t\_ b\_c\_m\_ \_  
c\_\_ntry s\_ng\_r. S\_nc\_ th\_n, sh\_ h\_s br\_nch\_d \_\_t \_nt\_  
\_ v\_r\_\_ty \_f m\_s\_c styl\_s. Sh\_ h\_s m\_v\_d fr\_m  
c\_\_ntry, t\_ r\_ck, t\_ \_l\_ctr\_n\_c, synth-p\_p \_nd h\_p-h\_p.  
Sh\_ \_s n\_w th\_ b\_gg\_st m\_s\_c st\_r \_n th\_ w\_rld \_nd  
h\_s s\_ld \_v\_r 200 m\_ll\_\_n r\_c\_rds. \_ m\_v\_\_ \_f h\_r  
2023-2024 c\_nc\_rt t\_\_r "\_r\_s" \_s th\_ h\_gh\_st-gr\_ss\_ng  
c\_nc\_rt f\_lm \_v\_r. Sh\_ \_s \_ls\_ \_ h\_g\_ \_nfl\_\_nc\_r \_f  
p\_p\_l\_r c\_lt\_r\_ \_nd \_s \_n F\_rb\_s m\_g\_z\_n\_'s l\_st \_f  
th\_ W\_rld's 100 M\_st P\_w\_rf\_l W\_m\_n. W\_k\_p\_d\_\_  
d\_scr\_b\_s Sw\_ft \_s b\_\_ng, "\_ ph\_l\_nthr\_p\_st \_nd \_n  
\_dv\_c\_t\_ \_f\_r \_rt\_sts' r\_ghts \_nd w\_m\_n's  
\_mp\_w\_rm\_nt".

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2402/240209-taylor-swift-grammy.html>

taylor swift has made history at the 2024 grammy awards the singersongwriter superstar is the first artist to win best album of the year four times the grammys are given for outstanding achievements in the music industry by winning for the fourth time ms swift overtook music legends frank sinatra and stevie wonder she won for her album midnights in her acceptance speech she said i would love to tell you that this is the best moment of my life but i feel this happy when i finish a song or when im rehearsing with my dancers or my band or getting ready to go to tokyo to play a show she added all i wanna do is keep being able to do this i love it so much it makes me so happy

taylor swift was born in 1989 she began writing songs professionally at the age of 14 in 2005 she signed with big machine records to become a country singer since then she has branched out into a variety of music styles she has moved from country to rock to electronic synthpop and hip hop she is now the biggest music star in the world and has sold over 200 million records a movie of her 2023/2024 concert tour eras is the highest grossing concert film ever she is also a huge influencer of popular culture and is on forbes magazines list of the worlds 100 most powerful women wikipedia describes swift as being a philanthropist and an advocate for artists rights and womens empowerment

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2402/240209-taylor-swift-grammy.html>

TaylorSwiftasmadehistoryatthe2024GrammyAwards.Thesinger-songwritersuperstaristhefirstartisttowinbestalbumoftheyearfourtimes.TheGrammysaregivenforoutstandingachievementsinthemusicindustry.Bywinningforthefourthtime,MsSwiftovertookmusiclegendsFrankSinatraandStevieWonder.Shewonforheralbum"Midnights".Inheracceptancespeech,shesaid:"Iwouldlovetotellyouthatthisisthebestmomentofmylife,butIfeelthishappywhenIfinishasong...orwhenI'mrehearsingwithmydancersormyband,orgettingreadytogotoTokyotoplayashow."Sheadded:"AllIwannadoiskeepbeingabletodothis.Ilovetosomuch.Itmakesmesohappy."TaylorSwiftwasbornin1989.Shebeganwritingsongsprofessionallyattheageof14.In2005,shesignedwithBigMachineRecordstobecomeacountrysinger.Sincethen,shehasbranchedoutintoavarietyofmusicstyles.Shehasmovedfromcountry,torock, toelectronic,synth-popandhip-hop.Sheisnowthebiggestmusicstari ntheworldandhassoldover200millionrecords.Amovieofher2023-2024concerttour"Eras"isthehighest-grossingconcertfilmever.SheisalsoahugeinfluencerofpopularcultureandisonForbesmagazine'slistoftheWorld's100MostPowerfulWomen.WikipediadescribesSwiftasbeing,"aphilanthropistandanadvocateforartists'rightsandwomen'sempowerment".







# 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 story. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. TAYLOR SWIFT:** Make a poster about Taylor Swift. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

**4. THE GREATEST:** Write a magazine article about Taylor Swift being the greatest music artist of all time. Include imaginary interviews with people who agree and disagree with 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 Taylor Swift. Ask him/her three questions about her. Give him/her three of your opinions of her. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## VOCABULARY (p.4)

1. d    2. f    3. b    4. g    5. c    6. e    7. a  
8. n    9. k    10. m    11. h    12. i    13. l    14. j

## TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

- 1 F    2 F    3 F    4 T    5 F    6 T    7 F    8 T

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

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

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

1. A Grammy
2. Midnights
3. A song
4. Her dancers and band
5. Tokyo
6. Aged 14
7. Big Machine Records
8. Over 200 million
9. In the top 100
10. Women

## WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.19)

1. Win best album of the year four times.
2. Given for outstanding achievements in the music industry.
3. This is the best moment of my life.
4. I feel happy when I finish a song.
5. All I wanna do is keep doing this.
6. She began writing songs professionally aged 14.
7. Branched out into a variety of music styles.
8. She is now the world's biggest music star.
9. She is a huge influencer of popular culture.
10. Wikipedia describes Swift as being a philanthropist.

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

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

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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