The Arts and Media

Music, films, books and pictures, the theatre and the news, and the words of critics and careful readers, from A1 to C2.

A1–C2 · English Vocabulary, Lesson 34

I don't mind jazz · a gripping plot · steal the show

Music, films, pictures *A1–A2*

song	singer
band	concert
guitar	piano
violin	drum
film	cinema
actor	artist
painting	museum

play the guitar · go to the cinema · I like reading (+ -ing)

Books, TV and news *A1–A2*

book	story
writer	magazine
TV	programme
cartoon	radio
newspaper	the news
camera	photo
ticket	video

the news is singular: The news is at six.

Reviews, theatre, news *B1–B2*

Kinds: thriller, comedy, horror film, documentary, science fiction, crime novel, biography · pop, rock, classical, jazz, folk

Reviews: plot, cast, setting, ending, critic · gripping, moving, hilarious, predictable, overrated, a must-see

Theatre: play, musical, stage, stalls, interval, matinée, standing ovation, sell out

News: headline, front page, article, reporter, journalist, editor, broadsheet, tabloid

Headlines: Fire closes theatre (= has closed) · Museum to open gallery (= will open)

*The **plot** was **gripping**, and the **cast** got a **standing ovation**.*

argumento = plot · una crítica = a review · un crítico = a critic

Criticism and media *C1–C2*

Criticism: genre, satire, parody, pastiche, a cult classic · derivative, self-indulgent, understated, a tour de force, critically acclaimed

Media: bias, impartiality, due impartiality, partisan, editorial line, a leader, the licence fee, the Royal Charter

Evidence: misinformation, disinformation, clickbait, spin, a deepfake · allege, claim, admit, deny, concede

Idioms: steal the show, in the limelight, a hard act to follow, behind the scenes, make headlines, hot off the press

*A **derivative** script, but her performance was **a tour de force**: she **stole the show**.*

disinformation = on purpose · misinformation = maybe a mistake

Likes and opinions

- *What kind of music do you like?*
- *I love it. / I don't mind it. / I hate it.*
- *My favourite film is …*
- *It's gripping, but the ending is predictable.*

Common mistakes

- ~~I like read.~~ → I like **reading**.
- ~~The news are bad.~~ → The news **is** bad.
- ~~the argument of the film~~ → the **plot**
- ~~an editorial~~ (company) → a **publisher**

Words with a past

- **news**: "new things", not north-east-west-south
- **soap opera**: 1930s radio serials paid for by soap firms
- **paparazzi**: Paparazzo, in Fellini's *La Dolce Vita*
- **photograph**: Greek light + writing (1839)

My new words

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