

Language for ...

entertainment

Age: Adult

Level: Intermediate

Length: 45–60 minutes

Language Focus: key vocabulary associated with entertainment

Skills: speaking, reading

Materials: one copy of the worksheet per student

Aims: to provide students with the language needed to talk about different types of entertainment



What are red words?

Ninety per cent of the time, speakers of English use just 7,500 words in speech and writing. These words appear in the Macmillan Dictionary in red and are graded with stars. One-star words are frequent, two-star words are more frequent and three-star words are the most frequent. 'Language for' lessons are based on red words and encourage students to improve their English through communicative tasks using collocation and commonly used phrases.

- 1 As a lead-in to the lesson, ask students to work in pairs and discuss their favourite film, play, singer and/or band. Listen to their ideas as a class. Encourage students to report what their partner said. Next, tell students that today they are going to read a text about entertainment in London and elicit if anyone in the class has ever been. If so, what did they do there? If not, what do they think they can do there?
- 2 Give a copy of the worksheet to each student.
- 3 Ask students to work individually to rank the forms of entertainment in exercise 1a, then get them to compare their rankings in pairs. Next, ask students to report their partner's answers to the whole class and find out which form of entertainment is the most popular.
- 4 Ask students to work individually and complete exercise 1b. Have them compare their answers in pairs and then check the answers with the whole class.
- 5 You may need to review or pre-teach the following vocabulary in preparation for the reading: *grab a bite to eat, sold out, guidebook, sightseeing, tourist, reservation*. Ask students to read the text once, then choose the correct words in exercise 2a without looking back at the text. Then have them read the text to check their answers. They should be able to find all the correct answers in context but check briefly with the whole class to make sure.
- 6 Before students begin exercise 2b, ask them to work in pairs and predict what vocabulary items might go in the gaps. Listen to their ideas as a class but do not correct them at this stage. Then ask the students to read the text again to check their answers.
- 7 Put students into groups of three or four to complete exercise 3a. Their task is to use the words given to write seven pieces of advice for visitors to London in their own words, i.e. not simply copying sections from the text. For example, the first one could be 'It isn't a good idea to buy theatre tickets from touts as they will be more expensive.' Feed back on what they have written as a class.



Teaching tip: Asking students to report what their partner said after pair work encourages them to listen carefully to each other. It also shifts the focus of the language they are using from the first person singular to the third person singular with the resultant changes in form that brings.

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- 8** Exercise 3b focuses on some common two-word phrases from the text. This exercise can be done individually. Check answers with the whole class.
- 9** Divide students into pairs for exercise 4. Nominate one student as A and the other as B. A should give advice to B about the first four items mentioned and then they should swap roles.
- 10** As a wind-up, ask students to talk about the best entertainment in their town or city and/or the best concert, play, etc they have ever been to.
- 3a** students' own answers
- 3b** 1 d
2 c
3 f
4 a
5 b
6 e
- 4** students' own answers

KEY:

1a students' own answers

1b

- 1 performance
- 2 production
- 3 service
- 4 entertainment

2a

- 1 reconstruction
- 2 audience
- 3 sold out
- 4 genuine
- 5 venues
- 6 take place
- 7 cinemas

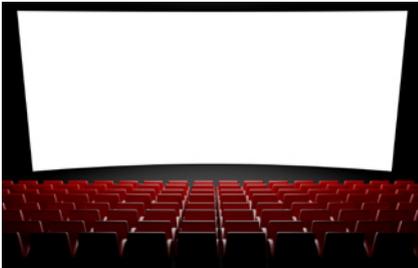
2b

- 1 renowned
- 2 cheapest
- 3 popular
- 4 touts
- 5 offer
- 6 modern
- 7 taste

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1 Warmer



a Put these activities in order from 1 (your favourite) to 6 (the one you like the least):

- _____ watching a film at the cinema
- _____ going to a play at the theatre
- _____ listening to a classical music concert
- _____ going to a rock music event
- _____ eating out with friends
- _____ going on a tour of a new place

b Complete the table. Look in the text to find the missing words if necessary.

	Verb	Noun
1.	perform	
2.	produce	
3.	serve	
4.	entertain	

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ENTERTAINMENT IN LONDON

London is one of the world's great cities. Millions of tourists visit each year and spend their days sightseeing: visiting London's historical museums, monuments and buildings, shopping for souvenirs in Oxford Street or Bond Street, or bargain hunting in one of London's markets. But what can they do when it's night and too dark to take selfies in front of another of London's famous landmarks? Here are a few tips to help tourists enjoy the nightlife in the UK's capital city.

1 Go to the theatre

London is renowned for its theatres. There are about forty theatres in the West End of London alone. London theatres offer a wide range of shows – from classical performances to modern productions. Musicals are often popular with audiences and some of the best known shows are regularly sold out, so it's a good idea to book a ticket as soon as you can. Don't buy tickets from touts outside the theatre though. They will be extremely expensive and may not be genuine. The Shakespeare Globe Theatre is a reconstruction of a round theatre from Shakespeare's time and watching a play there is an incredible experience!

Tip – If you go to the Globe Theatre, remember that over half the audience has to stand for the entire play, just as in Shakespeare's time, so you may not want to buy the cheapest ticket!



2 Go to a concert

Whether you are a fan of classical or modern music, London has a lot to offer you. There are classical concerts at the Albert Hall, the Royal Festival Hall, the Barbican and many others. The English National Ballet and the Royal Opera House also have regular performances. London has a huge modern music scene (pop, rock, reggae, blues and many others). As well as the bigger music venues, there are hundreds of smaller venues offering free live music from groups or solo artists. Whatever your taste in music, you are sure to find a concert somewhere.

Tip - Look out for free classical music performances. These often take place in churches in central London.

3 Go and watch a film

Central London has many multiplex cinemas showing the latest blockbuster movies. Many cinemas show films in 3D and some also offer sofas and a drinks service to your seat. So no more rushing to grab a bite to eat before the movie!

Tip – Tickets are more expensive at the weekend so it is a good idea to plan your cinema visit for earlier in the week, especially Monday or Tuesday.

4 Go on a tour

If you have read the guidebook and are bored of the usual daytime tours, why not learn about the city at night? Whether you would prefer to walk or relax on a bus, London has lots of different night time tours to entertain, inform or even scare you! Whichever you choose, you will get a different view of the city.

Tip – You don't always need to make a reservation for these tours. However, some of the scary tours may not be suitable for young children.

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2 Text

a. Choose the correct word. Then read the text and check your answers.

1. The Globe Theatre is a **rebuilding/reconstruction** of a theatre from Shakespeare's time.
2. At the Globe theatre more than half the **audience/people** will have to stand for the entire play.
3. Some shows are regularly **sold/sold out**.
4. Tickets bought from people outside the theatre may not be **genuine/true**.
5. There are a lot of classical music **venues/places** in London.
6. Classical music performances often **take part/take place** in churches.
7. Central London has many multiplex **cinemas/theatres**.

b. Read the text again and fill in the missing information.

1. London is _____ for its theatres.
2. You may not want to buy the _____ ticket at the Globe Theatre!
3. Musicals are often _____ with audiences.
4. Don't buy tickets from _____ outside the theatre.
5. London has a lot to _____ fans of classical or modern music.
6. The city has a huge _____ music scene.
7. Whatever your _____ in music, you are sure to find a concert somewhere.

3 Language in use

a. Work in a group. Write some advice in your own words for visitors to London. Include these words from the text:

touts	in advance	Globe Theatre
free classical music		reservation
cheap cinema tickets		young children



1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____

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b. Match the words in the left-hand column with those in the right-hand column to make two-word phrases from the text.

- | | |
|----------------|-----------|
| 1. live | a. scene |
| 2. blockbuster | b. known |
| 3. solo | c. movie |
| 4. music | d. music |
| 5. best | e. city |
| 6. capital | f. artist |

4 Communicate

Work with a partner.

A A friend from another city (or country) is visiting your city for four days next week.

Suggest some entertainment for each of the four evenings that they would like.

B You are visiting your friend in another city (or country) for four days next week.

Ask him or her to suggest some entertainment for each of the four evenings.

B likes: eating out, going to the cinema, modern music, ballet

B doesn't like: musicals, opera, very loud music

Red Words

movie*	best***	seat***	music***	transport***	artist***	fine***	live **	public***
known**	reconstruction*	audience***	genuine**	venue**	advance**			