

An Interview with Sting

In this session of description of people, you will practice these activities:

1. Listening for main subjects
2. Listening for details
3. Listening for referents
4. Making inference

Pre-listening

Activity 1. Look at the picture of a famous singer, Sting. What do you know about this person? Do you know his songs?



Now, read some information about Sting.

- *Sting, born in 1951, is a British singer, songwriter, and actor, who gained popularity as the lead singer for the British rock trio the Police during the late 1970s and early 1980s. Sting is also regarded for his subsequent career as a solo recording artist, bandleader, and actor.*
- *Born in Wallsend, England, Sting received training in classical piano and taught himself to play the guitar as a child. While pursuing a career in teaching, he played the bass in jazz groups and began singing. In 1977, however, he turned to music as a full-time profession.*
- *Active in politics, Sting toured as a solo performer with Amnesty International in 1988 and became involved in efforts to save the Brazilian rain forest in 1990. In 2003 he was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and published a volume of memoirs, Broken Music. In 2007 the Police reunited for a performance at the Grammy Awards and*

*announced that they would tour North America later that year.
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Activity 2. In the following interview with Sting, you are going to hear these words. Before you listen, make sure you understand these words. Find the meaning of each word.

<i>charts</i>	<i>nickname</i>	<i>bee</i>	<i>former (adj.)</i>	<i>lake house</i>
<i>touring</i>	<i>career</i>	<i>pensioner</i>		<i>encourage</i>
<i>enthusiasm</i>	<i>charities</i>	<i>foundation</i>		<i>aid</i>

Listening 

Activity 3. Listen to the interview. While listening, read the list below and tick (V) to the subjects which are mentioned in the interview.

- Sting's songs
- How Sting got his nickname
- Sting's family
- Some of Sting's music performances
- Sting's personal life
- Sting's award-winning moments
- Sting's charities

Activity 4. Listen to the interview again, and write what you know about these topics based on the interview.

1. The Genius :
2. Gordon Matthew Sumner :
3. Trudie Styler :
4. Munich :
5. Rain Forest Foundation :

6. Hard Rock Café :

Activity 5. Based on the interview, fill the blanks or choose True or False.

1. Sting has been in his career for ____ years.
2. His nicknames are _____.
3. He was called Sting because _____.
4. "They started calling me 'Stinger'." They refer to_____.
5. He has got ____ children from his present wife.
6. It is rare that he stays in England. [T / F]
7. He also has a ____ in Tuscany, Italy.
8. He has been to Germany quite a lot. [T / F]
9. He is living a happy life. [T / F]
10. "It's no fun to have a star at home, because *he* always wants to call the room service." *He* refers to_____.
11. When he is retired, Sting wants to do different things. [T / F].
12. Concerts held for his foundation is dedicated to help people from poverty. [T / F]

Post Listening

Activity 6. In your own words, make a paragraph about Sting. At the end of the paragraph, write what you think of Stink and what you like about him.
