



17 In this lesson you will hear a part of a radio documentary presenting the history of rock'n'roll. But first listen to the words and phrases that appear in this text:

a phenomenon – *zjawisko, fenomen*

to evolve – *ewoluować*

to feature – *cechować*

a back beat – *rodzaj rytmu, popularny w latach '60 i '70*

a blend – *mieszanka*

to perform – *wykonywać*

to approve of – *pochwalać, akceptować*

naughty – *nieprzyzwoity*

to introduce – *wprowadzić*

a falsetto – *falset*

an anthem – *hymn*

a 'flower generation' – *pokolenie dzieci kwiatów*

to reject – *odrzucać*

to advocate – *popierać, być zwolennikiem*

unprecedented – *bez precedensu, niespotykany*

an impact – *wpływ*

a genre – *gatunek, rodzaj*



18 And now listen to the recording:

Rock'n'roll is not just a form of popular music. It is a cultural phenomenon. It evolved in the United States in the late 1940s and dominated American music in the early 1950s.

Classic rock'n'roll features vocals, electric guitars, an electric bass guitar and a strong back beat. Other instruments, such as the saxophone and the piano, are common in some styles. Rock'n'roll was inspired by jazz, blues and gospel. Some even call it a blend of black rhythm-and-blues with white country-and-western.

The first rock'n'roll hits were performed by Bill Haley, Chuck Berry, Little Richard, Elvis Presley, and Roy Orbison. The music, first popular in

small clubs and on the radio, quickly became a new wave of popular culture. However, not everybody was excited about this music. Many parents did not approve of suggestive dancing, naughty lyrics and loud beat and did not let their children listen to it. But teenagers loved this new kind of music.

With the new music came new styles of dancing. Elvis Presley introduced new moves and concepts to dancing. In fact, his dancing was so new and controversial that they would not allow it to be seen on television.

On the other hand, Little Richard's singles featured his boogie-woogie piano and falsetto scream. One of his songs, "Tutti Frutti" still has the most inspired rock lyric on record: A WOP BOP ALU BOP A WOP BAM BOOM! He inspired artists such as Michael Jackson, Kiss, and James Brown.

In the late 1960s rock music changed. Many songs became the anthems of the 'flower generation', which rejected the established culture and advocated extreme liberalism in politics and lifestyle. New bands like the Grateful Dead, Santana, Janis Joplin, and Jimi Hendrix were introduced.

Rock'n'roll had an unprecedented social impact. It influenced lifestyles, fashion, and language. And although music genres constantly evolve, the great rock'n'roll stars will live forever in the hearts and stereos of rock fans.



19 After listening to the recording, answer the following questions. Decide whether the statements are true or false according to what you have heard in the recording.

1. In the 1950s rock'n'roll revolutionized popular music culture. True or false?
2. Rock'n'roll was inspired by genres such as jazz, blues and gospel. True or false?
3. Rock'n'roll was first popular on television. True or false?
4. Rock'n'roll was enjoyed by people of all generations. True or false?
5. The 'flower generation' rejected established institutions and advocated peace. True or false?