



BBC WORLD SERVICE LEARNING ENGLISH

X Factor: A Music Industry Perspective
音乐界对《英国偶像》的看法

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Is the X Factor Good for the Music Industry?

《英国偶像》选秀比赛对音乐产业有好处吗？

Read the text below and do the activity that follows.

阅读下面的短文，然后完成练习：

Britain's newest singing star is a 27-year-old former painter-decorator called Matt Cardle.

The winner of this year's X Factor has already released his first single, which is widely expected to become this year's Christmas number one.

But not everyone is celebrating with him. Many musicians object to what they see as the X Factor's excessive influence on the British music industry.

They are particularly critical of the show's creator, Simon Cowell, who both produces the TV show and signs the winners to his own record label, making millions in the process.

"The thing I find incredible is that Simon Cowell gets paid an enormous amount of money to promote his own acts," says Mat Osman of Britpop band Suede.

Osman believes that Cowell should be "paying a fortune" to put his acts on primetime TV.

"It just seems to be the greatest con of all time. But well done to him," he continues. "It's a genius scam."

Bernard Sumner of New Order sees the problem slightly differently: "What they're singing on X Factor is just other people's music. It's not creative."

Yet rock legend Alice Cooper defended the show, saying: "The advantage the X Factor has is that it's not exclusive.

"The X Factor's more refreshing. They're wide open: if you're really unique at something, bring it in and, if it's really professional, [they] will go with it."

Love it or hate it, the X Factor's success is undeniable. Underground rap artist Dan Le Sac's view on the show is one of a resigned realist: "It simply doesn't matter. It's fun, it's entertainment."

"It may be a horrific thing but if people enjoy it, they should be allowed to. You should be allowed to love the trash as well as the meaningful stuff."

Glossary 词汇表

painter-decorator – 油漆工	single – 单曲
Christmas number one – 圣诞节期间排行榜第一	excessive influence – 过度的影响
creator – 创造者	record label – 唱片公司
acts – 艺人或表演乐队	paying a fortune – 出高价
primetime TV – 黄金时段电视	con – 骗局, 欺骗
genius scam – 天衣无缝的骗局	rock legend – 摇滚乐传奇人物
exclusive – 独家的	refreshing – 耳目一新的
undeniable – 不可否认的	underground rap artist – 地下饶舌艺人
resigned realist – 顺其自然的现实主义者	horrific – 恐怖的
trash – 垃圾	meaningful stuff – 意味深长的东西

1. Reading Quiz 阅读测验

Are these sentences true or false? Circle the correct answer.

以下句子哪句是真?哪句是假?请圈出正确答案。

1. Matt Cardle's first single is likely to be successful.
True / False
2. Many musicians think Simon Cowell has too much influence.
True / False
3. Bernard Sumner believes real musicians should play their own music.
True / False
4. Alice Cooper believes the show is too exclusive.
True / False
5. Rapper Dan Le Sac believes that the viewers should be allowed to enjoy the show if they want to.
True / False

2. Jumbled Sentences 调整句子顺序

Without looking back at the article, put the words in the right order to make the sentences correct.

在不看原文的情况下，调整下列打乱了顺序的句子，重新写出正确的语句。

1. "people's music other What just X Factor is they're singing on."

2. " the X Factor is The advantage that has it's not exclusive."

3. " the greatest time just seems It to be of all con."

4. The single winner of this first year's X Factor has released already his.

5. Matt Cardle is singing called Britain's newest star.

6. Simon Cowell are the show's creator particularly critical They of.

3. Label the Rock Band 选词填空

Label the parts of the picture with vocabulary from below.

请从以下方框中选出正确的词语填在横线上。

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____



4. _____ 5. _____ 6. _____

lighting

speaker

drums

foot pedal

electric guitar

stage

4. Wordsearch 单词搜索

Try to find the words associated with this week's article in the puzzle below.

There are ten words to find. Words can be written horizontally (g), vertically (i) or diagonally (m)

请在下面的字谜游戏中，找出与本文有关的英语单词来。

共有10个单词，其组成方式可能以水平的 (g) 垂直的 (i) 或对角的 (m) 形式出现。

a	g	w	h	u	i	a	n	d	s	w	h	r
s	i	n	g	l	e	i	r	e	a	j	j	i
f	s	f	t	u	f	r	t	c	h	j	m	e
o	w	s	p	d	s	e	r	o	f	d	t	c
r	e	f	r	e	s	h	i	n	g	s	r	d
t	f	e	i	h	f	d	c	v	s	d	a	h
u	s	h	m	j	k	i	o	m	h	t	s	g
n	c	r	e	a	t	o	r	u	l	k	h	j
e	a	c	t	s	i	o	u	h	j	b	n	j
k	l	h	i	y	u	i	o	t	y	g	h	j
g	h	j	m	l	k	m	b	n	r	e	s	w
a	h	k	e	x	c	l	u	s	i	v	e	r
u	n	d	e	n	i	a	b	l	e	h	d	e

single	creator	acts	undeniable	exclusive
trash	refreshing	primetime	fortune	con

Answers 答案

1. Reading Quiz 阅读测验

1. Matt Cardle's first single is likely to be successful. **True**
2. Many musicians think Simon Cowell has too much influence. **True**
3. Bernard Sumner believes real musicians should play their own music. **True**
4. Alice Cooper believes the show is too exclusive. **False**
5. Rapper Dan Le Sac believes that the viewers should be allowed to enjoy the show if they want to. **True**

3. Label the Rock Band 选词填空

1. speaker
2. lighting
3. electric guitar
4. drums
5. stage
6. foot pedal

2. Jumbled Sentences 调整句子顺序

1. "What they're singing on X Factor is just other people's music."
2. "The advantage The X Factor has is that it's not exclusive."
3. "It just seems to be the greatest con of all time."
4. The winner of this year's X Factor has already released his first single.
5. Britain's newest singing star is a 27-year-old former painter-decorator called Matt Cardle.
6. They are particularly critical of the show's creator, Simon Cowell.

4. Wordsearch 单词搜索

s	i	n	g	l	e															
f									c											
o			p						o										t	
r	e	f	r	e	s	h	i	n	g										r	
t			i																a	
u			m																s	
n	c	r	e	a	t	o	r												h	
e	a	c	t	s																
			i																	
			m																	
			e	x	c	l	u	s	i	v	e									
u	n	d	e	n	i	a	b	l	e											