Ed Sheeran

Edward Christopher Sheeran, or Ed as he is better known, was born on 17th February 1991 in West Yorkshire. He is a guitarist, songwriter, singer and record producer. As a child, he began learning how to play the guitar and started writing his own songs whilst at high school. He recorded his first music in 2004 and moved to London in 2008.

In 2010, Ed visited Los Angeles in America. It was on this trip that he was spotted by Jamie Foxx, an American singer, songwriter and producer. Jamie was very impressed with Ed's musical talent and invited him to record in his studio. Meanwhile, Sheeran's fan base was growing through his videos released on YouTube.

Did You Know?

Ed has been awarded an MBE for his services to charity and music.

In 2011, he was signed by Asylum Records. Not long after this, he played his debut single, 'The A Team', on UK television before it was released as a single in the UK, selling over 58 000 copies in the first week. The single was also very successful in countries such as Germany, Japan and New Zealand, plus many more.

Ed's first album was called '+', and featured many hits such as 'You Need Me, I Don't Need You' and 'Lego House'. The album was very successful and within six months had sold over one million copies in the UK alone. After this success, Sheeran won Brit awards for Best British Male Solo Artist and British Breakthrough Act of the Year in 2012. He later supported Taylor Swift on her tour which saw his popularity rise in the USA.

In June 2014, Ed achieved his first number one hit in the UK with 'Sing', then released his second album, 'x'. This album was number one in both the UK and the USA, and he followed it with a world tour.

After winning more awards in 2015, Ed took a break from music and social media. He returned with his next album '÷' in 2017. It went straight to number one in many countries around the world.

Sheeran headlined Glastonbury Festival in 2017. He performed with only his trademark loop pedal and guitar. Ed creates all the sounds on stage by himself, repeats them to build up the backing track, then sings over the top. His success continues to rise around the world.

Questions

1. What is Ed's full name?

_____

2. What is Ed known for?

_____

3. He started writing songs at:

- [ ] primary school
- [ ] high school
- [ ] college
- [ ] university

4. Ed went to Los Angeles in the year _____, where he was spotted by _____.

5. Which video-sharing website helped Ed's popularity to rise?

_____

6. Why do you think performing his first single on UK television was a good idea?

_____

_____

_____

7. Which fact shows that Ed is a charitable person?

_____

_____

_____

8. Match up the correct facts:

In 1991,	he headlined at the Glastonbury Festival.
In 2011,	he won his first Brit Awards.
In 2012,	he was born.
In 2017,	he got a record deal.

9. How does Ed perform his music?

10. Do you like Ed's music? Why/Why not?
If yes, what is your favourite track and why?

Answers

1. What is Ed's full name?
   Ed's full name is Edward Christopher Sheeran.

2. What is Ed known for?
   Ed is known for being a guitarist, songwriter, singer, and record producer.

3. He started writing songs at:

   - [ ] primary school
   - [x] high school
   - [ ] college
   - [ ] university

4. Ed went to Los Angeles in the year **2010**, where he was spotted by **Jamie Foxx**.

5. Which video-sharing website helped Ed's popularity to rise?
   YouTube helped Ed's popularity to rise.

6. Why do you think performing his first single on UK television was a good idea?
   Example answer: I think performing his first single on TV was a good idea because it was a way of advertising his music to lots of people who might then go and buy the track.

7. Which fact shows that Ed is a charitable person?
   Ed supports many charities and has been awarded an MBE for services to music and charity.

8. Match up the correct facts:

In 1991,	he headlined at the Glastonbury Festival.
In 2011,	he won his first Brit Awards.
In 2012,	he was born.
In 2017,	he got a record deal.

9. How does Ed perform his music?
   Ed performs with his loop pedal and guitar. He creates all the sounds on stage, repeats them to build up the backing track then sings over the top.

10. Do you like Ed's music? Why/Why not?

    If yes, what is your favourite track and why?

    Children's own responses.