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Making an International Star



1. Read the story

Look at the pictures on these pages.
What is the story about? Now read it.

KOREA ¹At 13, the Korean pop singer BoA made her first CD. It was **immediately** popular. In 2004, four years later, she won MTV's "Most **Influential** Asian Artist" award*.

²How did BoA **become** a **star** so fast? The people at a Korean recording studio** wanted a **future** girl star. They looked everywhere. When BoA's older brother went to the studio and sang for them, they asked, "Do you have a younger sister?"

³The answer to their question was BoA. She was only 11, but she sang and danced beautifully. The people at the studio were excited and quickly told

her **parents** about their **plan**. ⁴BoA's parents **were against** it. They wanted their daughter to study, not sing. But **at last** they agreed.

⁵The studio immediately gave BoA Japanese and English lessons. (An **international** star needs languages!) Later she got dance and music lessons.

⁶Now BoA performs for huge **crowds** in Asia and is ready to conquer*** the world.

* award: something that you win for very good work

** recording studio: a place that makes music

*** conquer: to win something by fighting for it

NEW WORDS

immediately *adv*

influential *adj*

become *v*

star *n*

future *adj*

parent *n*

plan *n*

be against *v*

at last *adv*

international *adj*

crowd *n*

>> See Glossary on page 96. >>

2. Rate the story

How much did you like it? Mark an X.

Not at All

A Lot

1

2

3

4

5

3. Check your comprehension

Put the sentences in the correct order. Number them 1–6.

- a. ___ BoA made her first CD.
- b. ___ Now the star performs for crowds in Asia.
- c. ___ Her parents said OK to the recording studio's plan.
- d. ___ BoA got lessons in English and Japanese.
- e. ___ The people at the studio were excited about BoA.
- f. ___ BoA's brother told the recording studio about his younger sister.

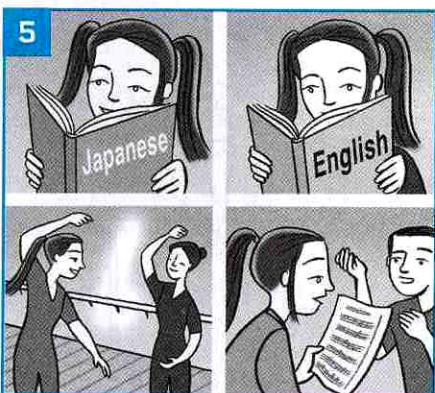
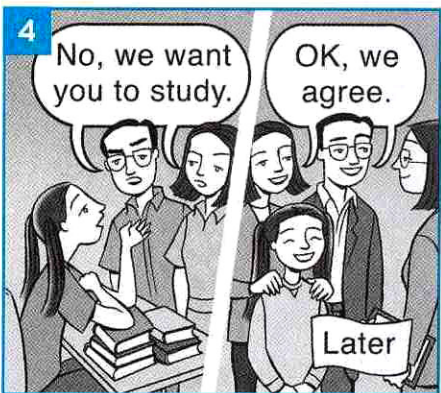
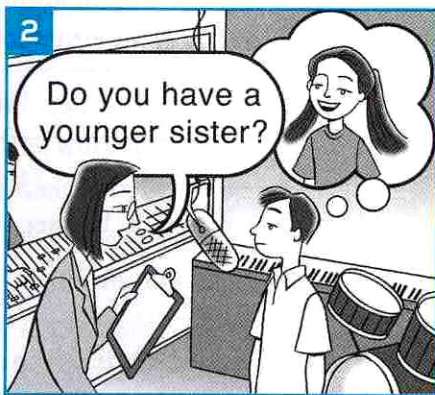
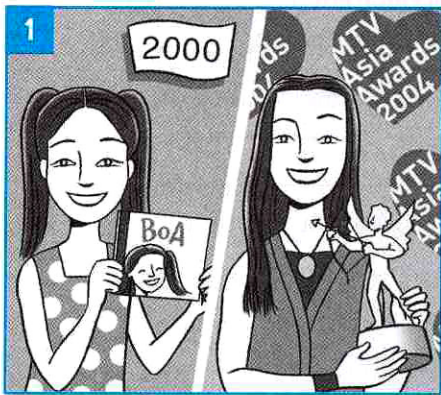
4. Check your vocabulary

Complete the sentences with the New Words.

- a. BoA is an influ_____ Asian pop st_____.
- b. She wanted to bec_____ a singer at 11, but her mother and father were aga_____ it.
- c. But BoA's par_____s agreed at l_____.
- d. Now BoA is an inter_____ star and performs for big c_____s in Asia.

5. Listen to the story track 36

Now listen to the story two or three times. Look at the pictures below as you listen.



6. Retell the story

Cover the story and look at the pictures above. Retell the story using the New Words.

7. Answer the questions

About the story...

- a. What did BoA win in 2004?
- b. Who made her a star?
- c. How did her parents feel about the recording studio's plan?
- d. Who does BoA perform for?

About you...

- e. What question would you like to ask BoA?
- f. Would you like to become a star? Why or why not?
- g. Which music or sports stars are influential in your country?
- h. What plans do you have for your future?

8. Learn word partnerships

Study the partnerships below. Complete the sentences so they are true for you.

INTERNATIONAL		
an international	star language problem flight (soccer) match organization	<p>BoA is an international pop star. <i>English is an international language.</i> <i>Pollution is an international problem.</i> <i>I'm taking an international flight to Istanbul.</i> <i>We played in an international match.</i> <i>The UN is an international organization.</i></p>

- a. I really like the international star _____.
- b. I would like to take an international _____ to _____.
- c. _____ is an _____ problem. We need to work on it together!

9. Learn word groups

Complete the sentences so they are true. Use words from the pictures.

STARS



a singer



an actor



an athlete



a dancer



a musician

- a. Jackie Chan is _____, and Leonardo DiCaprio and Nicole Kidman are, too.
- b. Tiger Woods is _____, and Ichiro Suzuki and Yao Ming are, too.
- c. I would like to be _____ but not _____.

10. Take a dictation track 37

Use your own paper to write the dictation. Check your answers on page 87.

11. Complete the story

Use the words from the box to complete the story.

become star plans parents international crowds

Becoming a World-Famous Violinist

PHILADELPHIA, USA When she was just three years old, Sarah Chang asked her (1) _____ for a violin*. At eight, the little girl began to perform with the best orchestras** in New York City and Philadelphia. She made her first CD at nine. Sarah is a (2) _____—one of the best violinists*** ever. She plays her violin for (3) _____ in many countries in the world.

How did Sarah, now 23, (4) _____ an (5) _____ star? She worked a lot when she was a child and a teenager. She played her violin for three hours every day after school. “Really, I was never interested in anything but music,” she explains.

Born in Philadelphia to Korean parents, Sarah had a lot of help with her future (6) _____. Her father was her first violin teacher, and her mother writes and plays music. Her recording studio helped her, too. “I love to perform,” says Sarah,



“but I’m still learning—about music and about life.”

* violin: a musical instrument made of wood, with strings

** orchestras: big groups of people who play different musical instruments together

*** violinists: people who play the violin



Talk about the stories

Imagine that you and a partner are BoA and Sarah Chang. You are meeting for the first time. Tell each other about your lives.