

# The Sound of Jamaica Activities

**B1**

## Part 1 Bob Marley: a Few Facts

**A. With your partners, write as many questions as you can about Bob Marley. Then, write all the answers you think you know. Finally, report what you have found to the class.**

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**B. Fill in the first 2 columns of this grid with the questions and information the class has found.**

What we think we know	What we want to know	What we found

**C. Read the article to see if you can check any information given by the class or find any answers to your questions. Write 'RIGHT' or 'WRONG' next to the sentences in the first column. In the third column, write the answers you found in the article and other information you think is important.**

**Highlight the questions for which you didn't find an answer in the article.**

## Part 2 Jamaica

D.1. On this map, colour Jamaica blue. Then write a few lines about its geography (location, climate, capital).



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2. In the Passport section of the article, pick out information about Jamaican economy today.

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### 3. The history of Jamaica

Read the Passport section of the article again and write the missing information. Be careful, use the verbs discover, become, conquer, remain in the right tense and voice (active or passive).

Jamaica \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_ in 1494. He was working for \_\_\_\_\_ which is why Jamaica \_\_\_\_\_ a \_\_\_\_\_ colony.

Later, Jamaica \_\_\_\_\_ by the British, so it \_\_\_\_\_ a British \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ and it \_\_\_\_\_ British until 1962, when it \_\_\_\_\_ independent.

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#### 4. Slavery in Jamaica.

a. Use the right relative pronoun (who, which, where, whose) to fill in the blanks in this text.

Slaves are people \_\_\_\_\_ belong to a master. Africans were transported to Jamaica, \_\_\_\_\_ they had to work for white plantation owners \_\_\_\_\_ sugar cane fields needed a big labour force. Even after 1838 black workers were very poor, \_\_\_\_\_ is the reason why they still worked on plantations.

#### b. What happened in 1838?

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Can you say the same thing a different way?

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### Part 3 Music in Jamaica

#### E.1. Can you name 3 famous Jamaican music types?

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#### 2. Read the following definitions and find which is which.

a. A musical genre that originated in Jamaica in the late 1950s and was the precursor to Reggae. It combined elements of Caribbean Mento with American jazz and rhythm and blues.

b. A musical genre that originated in Jamaica in the late 1960s. It is sometimes used to refer to popular Jamaican dance music. The songs are political protests. \_\_\_\_\_

c. A style of Jamaican folk music that typically uses acoustic instruments, such as acoustic guitar, banjo, hand drums, and the rhumba box. \_\_\_\_\_

#### F. Read paragraph 3 again.

1. Which word links slavery and music? \_\_\_\_\_

2. 'The black population had competitions to write songs called "Mento" that were sometimes comical and often political.' Can you imagine what the songs said?

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3. Now listen to Bob Marley's song "Get Up, Stand Up!" again. Can you find any 'political' words?

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G. In groups, prepare to give an oral presentation of Jamaica or Jamaican music or Bob Marley. You can use photos or music to make your presentation more interesting.

Don't forget to go back to **Activity C** and find missing answers, if there are any.

Before you start, decide on what makes a good presentation. Then practise with your partners, making sure your English is musical!