



lingoda

Music genres influenced by technology

SPEAKING

LEVEL
Advanced

NUMBER
C1_4064S_EN

LANGUAGE
English

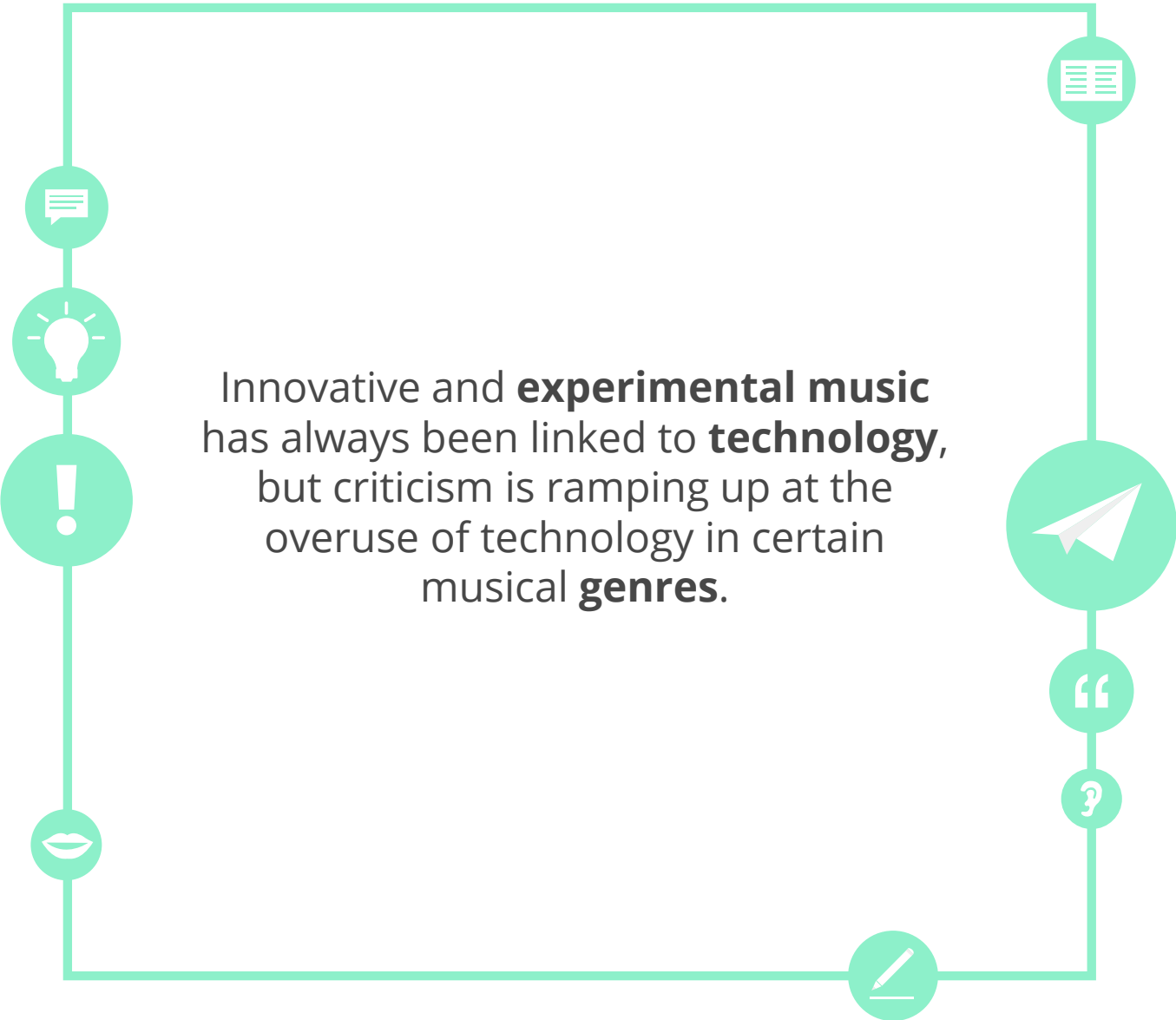




Goals

- Can read, listen to and understand a complex text about music and technology.
- Can discuss the role of technology in modern music making and speculate on the future of music.





Innovative and **experimental music** has always been linked to **technology**, but criticism is ramping up at the overuse of technology in certain musical **genres**.



Your taste

What is your favourite **genre** of music? Has your musical **taste** always been the same?





Listening to music

**Where and when
do you like
listening to music?**

in the car

while studying

when I'm alone



World music

Do you listen to artists from different countries? How many languages and nationalities are represented in your music collection?





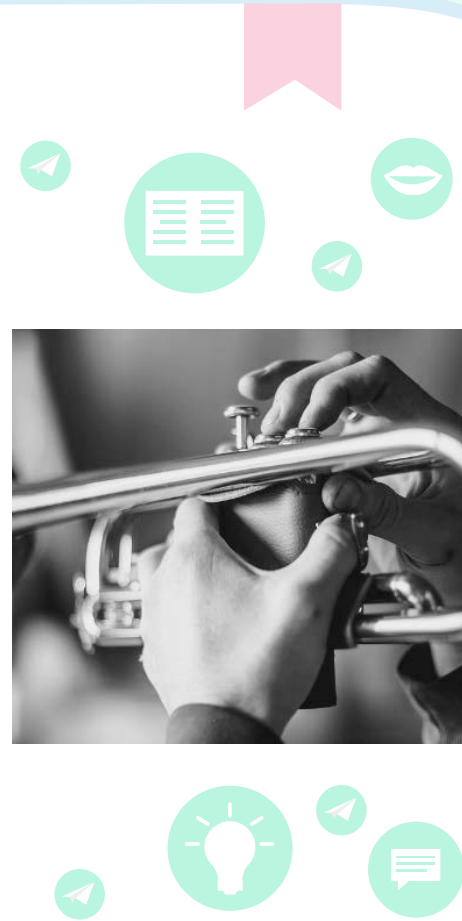
Karaoke

Do you ever sing **karaoke**?
Do you think you sound good or
would you like to change your
voice?



Music genres influenced by technology

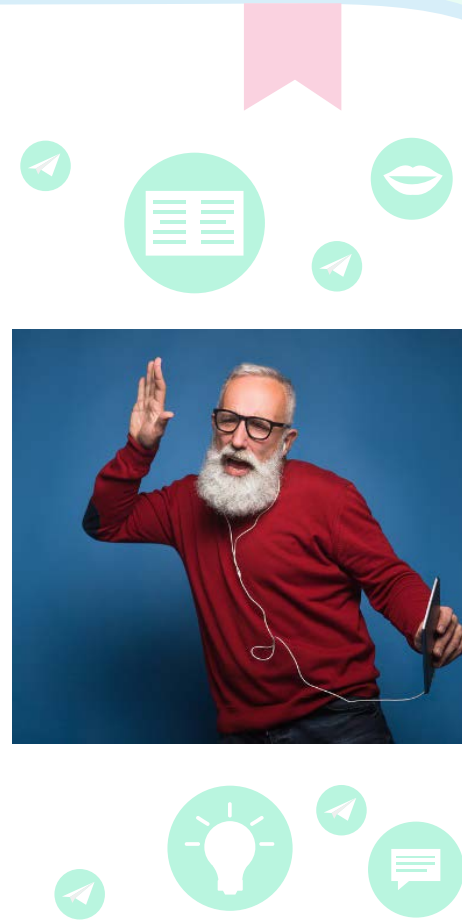
From ambient and breakbeat, through jungle to speed garage, electronic music and its **subgenres** are growing every year. The **proliferation** of electronic music **attests** to its popularity among listeners and consumers, but not all musicians and critics have been so quick to **embrace** this genre.





Music genres influenced by technology

Electronic music is really nothing new, and electronic instruments have been used in creating music for over 100 years. The electric guitar is perhaps the best known and most widely-used electric instrument, but there are also the electric piano, harp, and violin, among many others. There is very little **controversy** surrounding these instruments, and in pop and rock music the electric guitar dominates the acoustic, both in recording studios and live performances. Other genres, such as country and bluegrass, still prefer the acoustic guitar.





Music genres influenced by technology



It is the tools which are used to help us create music that are most often criticised. Software can now be used to tune and perfect notes, **chords**, and voices so that any of our mistakes can be immediately erased. Some critics say that this makes creating music too easy, and not a job for anyone with special talent. Others have noted that the creation of music is now solely about ideas rather than the ability to play an instrument to an extremely high level – this could be **interpreted** positively or negatively.



Vocabulary – do you know what these words mean?

subgenre

proliferation

attest (to)

embrace

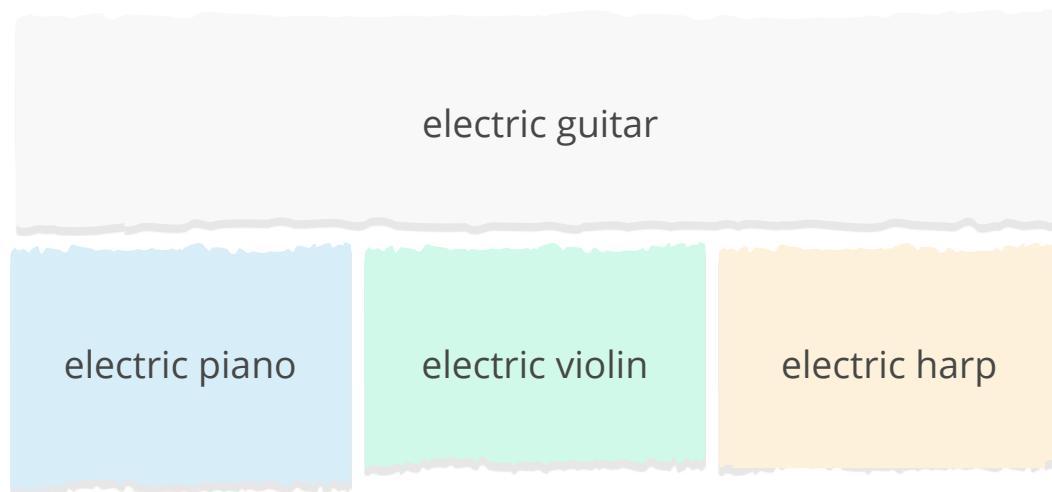
controversy

chords



Electronic music

**Do you play any of these instruments or know someone who does?
If you could play any instrument, what would it be and why?
Do you listen to music which uses these instruments?**





Acoustic instruments

Which genres of music are mentioned in the text as retaining a preference for the acoustic guitar? Do you like that kind of music? Do you know any other genres which use acoustic instruments?





Unscramble and then answer the questions

A

think it is

and not talent?

music is now

Do you

all about ideas

true that

B

thing or

thing?

a positive

a negative

Would

this be





Get ready to listen



The next few slides will focus on training your listening comprehension



While you are listening...

Put these in the order that you hear them.
Why were they significant in the listening text?

smaller bands

embrace change

raw record

pushing buttons



Fill in the gaps

Fill in the gaps with vocabulary from the listening, and then answer the questions.

mind-altering
substances

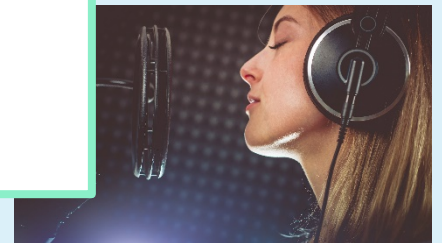
under fire

preaching

experimental

overlaid

1. Which genre of music has come _____ recently?
2. What was the artist _____ about when accepting an award?
3. Is it true that EDM can only be enjoyed when taking _____?
4. What can be _____ digitally? What consequences has this had?
5. What kind of music does the text describe as _____? Is it positive or negative?





EDM

Answer these questions.



1

Do you think most modern-day musicians produce their music without the help of technology?

2

Can you think of a solo musician or band who have not used some kind of electronic assistance in their work?

3

Has electronic music reduced music creation to the feat of pushing buttons?



Positives

**What positives does the text say electronic music has brought?
Do you agree that these are positive changes?**





Experimental music

Discuss what other types of music aside from EDM were described as experimental in the past.





Your band...



You have decided to have a career change and start a band! Describe what kind of music you would like to produce and whether or not you will have any electronic influences. Will you be a solo artist using a loop pedal or a Saxophonist? The music world is your oyster!



The future

Can you imagine how music will sound in 50 years' time?

- Will we have reverted to the past and gone acoustic, or will technology have changed the sound completely?





Preparation for debate

Music is devolving because technology is making it easier and easier to produce.

Debate this topic.

Divide into two halves and come up with ideas for your side of the debate.

instruments

software

acoustic

genre



Now, have your debate. Remember you can refute points at the end.

Music is devolving because technology is making it easier and easier to produce.

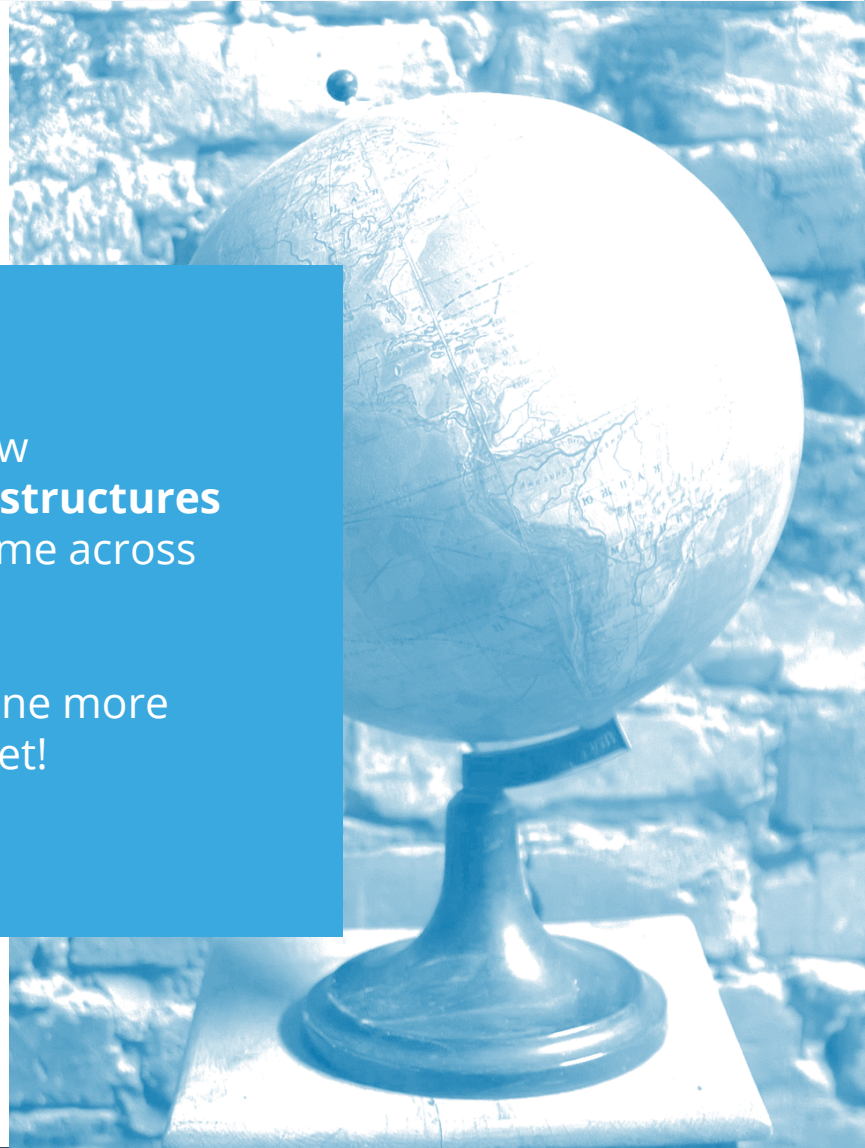




Reflect on this lesson

Take a moment to review any new **vocabulary, phrases, language structures** or **grammar points** you have come across for the first time in this lesson.

Review them with your teacher one more time to make sure you don't forget!





Transcription

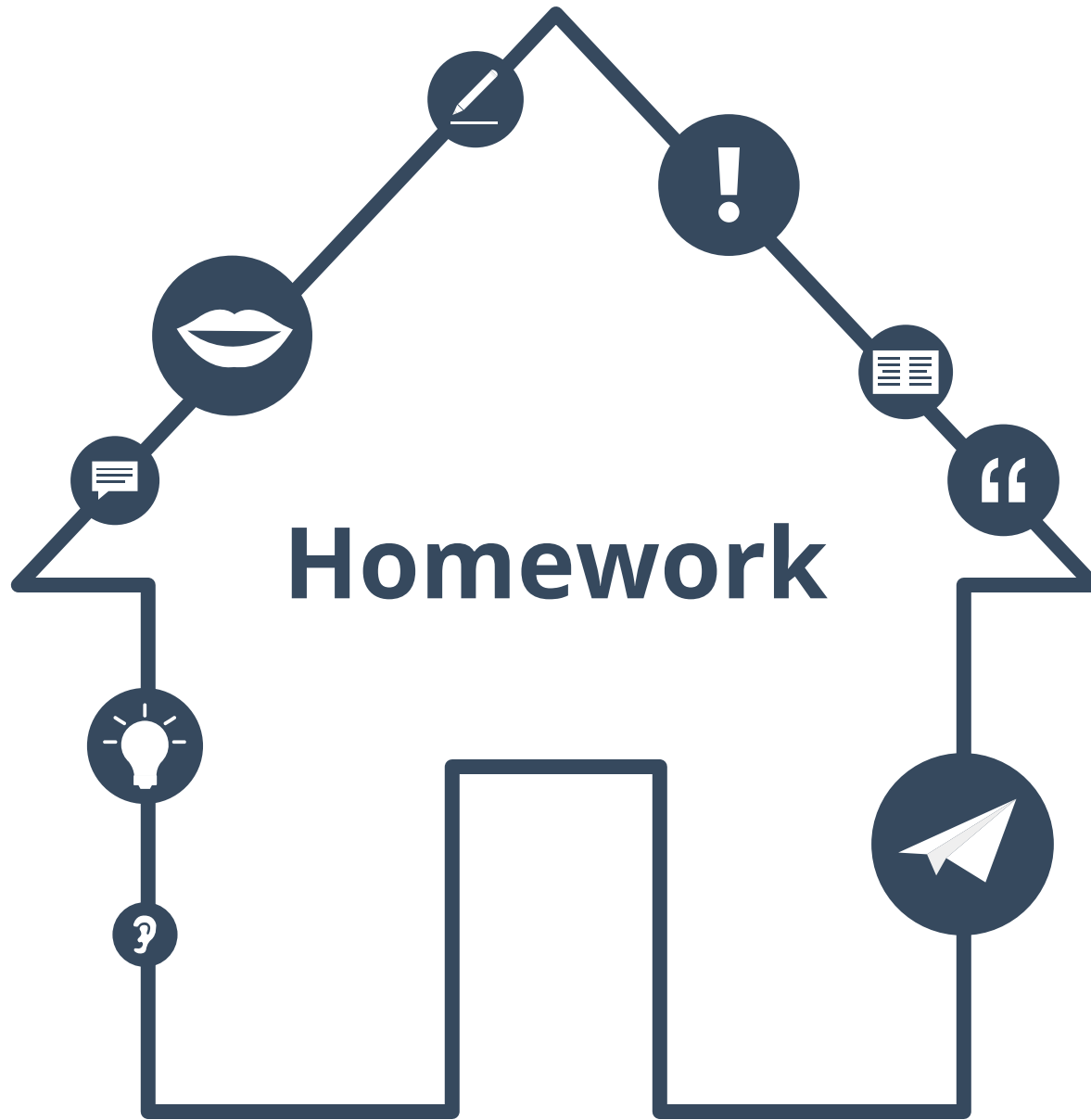
Electronic dance music, or EDM, is the genre which has come **under the most fire**. Famous musicians have been quick to criticise EDM, with one artist recently accepting a music award and **preaching** about his **raw** record, made without the help of computers. One musician believed that EDM cannot be enjoyed without having first taken **mind-altering substances**. Critics claim that with EDM, music has been reduced to the pushing of buttons, requiring no talent whatsoever.

On the other hand, EDM and electronic music in general have meant that band sizes could be reduced: many sounds can be created and **overlaid** digitally. Smaller bands means more flexibility, more opportunities for places to play, bringing more music directly to the public. Electronic music also allows artists to push the limits of possibilities, which is what creates new sounds and new genres. The music industry should embrace change; electronic music is **experimental**, and that is how a lot of the finest music is first described.



Answer key

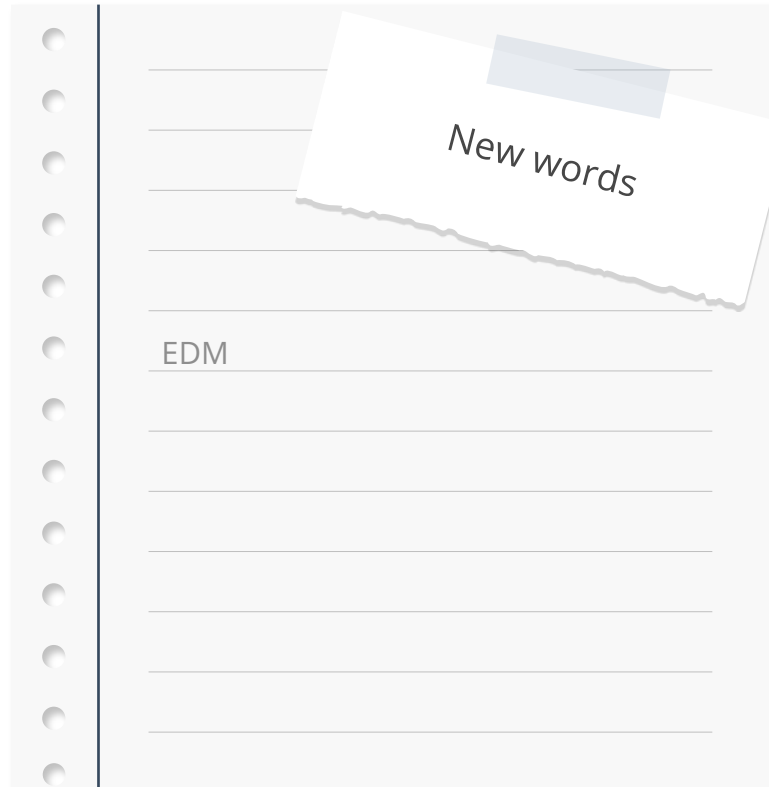
Exercise p. 17
1. under fire, 2. preaching, 3. mind-altering substances, 4. overlaid, 5. experimental





Vocabulary

Note down any new vocabulary you came across in this lesson.





Fill in the gaps with information from the text

1. Ambient and breakbeat are subgenres of _____ music.
2. Electronic instruments have been used for over _____ years.
3. Country and bluegrass prefer the _____ guitar.
4. One musician claimed EDM cannot be enjoyed without _____.
5. In the final line of the text, electronic music is described as _____.





Homework answer key

Exercise p. 30

1. electronic, 2. 100, 3. acoustic, 4. mind-altering substances, 5. experimental



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