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Susan Boyle's at No 1 – 'I Dreamed a Dream'

Long version of English lesson plan = 1 or 2 x 90 mins

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Ideas and Articles by David Robinson	

14th December 2009

Category: Entertainment / Music / Susan Boyle
Level: Intermediate / Upper intermediate

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THE ARTICLE

Susan Boyle's at No 1 – 'I Dreamed a Dream'

Britain's Got Talent superstar Susan Boyle, 48, has made history with the release of her new album '*I Dreamed a Dream*'. The album was the fastest selling debut album in history in the UK for a female artist. It sold a staggering 411,820 copies in its first week. In the U.S. it also went straight to the top - selling 701,000 copies in its first week. The shy spinster from Blackburn in West Lothian, Scotland, captured the heart of millions of people worldwide in 2009 on the British talent show with her singing of '*I Dreamed a Dream*'. Miss Boyle is set to be No 1 in the UK and many other countries over Christmas. The album is named after the *Les Miserables* tune that she sang at her audition. Miss Boyle, who has a minor learning difficulty, recorded the new album weeks after suffering a breakdown following her overnight success. When news broke of her album's success Miss Boyle released a brief statement through her management company - saying, "It's fantastic!"

To recall: Susan Boyle first appeared on *Britain's Got Talent* TV show in April 2009. When asked what her dream was she replied, "To be a professional singer." She added she was inspired by Elaine Paige. What happened next is legendary. Anyone who has seen her first performance must surely agree it gives you goose bumps when watching it. It certainly brings a tear or two to the eye and must be one of the most inspiring moments on TV. Within 3 days she became an overnight global sensation. Miss Boyle became a huge hit on *YouTube* with more than 25 million worldwide hits in the first week alone. She went on to the semi-final, then the final, but was beaten in it by the British dance troupe 'Diversity'. By now Miss Boyle was suffering massive pressure, so was not at her best. Afterwards she suffered a breakdown. The Susan Boyle Phenomenon however rapidly grew bigger and bigger. The rest they say is history. That *YouTube* figure has since grown to more than 300m hits!

Miss Boyle recently took America by storm where she was promoting

Susan Boyle – 'I Dreamed a Dream' – 14th December 2009

her new album. Miss Boyle sang *Wild Horses* – a Rolling Stone song – a track from her new album on *America's Got Talent* TV show. She was recently named one of the 'People of the Year' on NBC. Amazon said the new CD was the top pre-ordered CD in the USA in its 14 year history. Boy does America absolutely love Susan Boyle!

One of the judges Simon Cowell, who signed Miss Boyle to his Syco record label, admitted that he had been 'incredibly judgemental' when he first saw the singer at her audition. Cowell, 50, said: "I think Susan Boyle was good for all of us. She was certainly good for me because I look at me in that first audition and I saw something which I didn't particularly like, which was incredibly judgemental." Simon Cowell said in another interview: "I'm incredibly proud of Susan. The success could not have happened to a lovelier person. She did it her way and made a dream come true. In *Britain's Got Talent* she opened her mouth and the world fell in love with her, which is why her album has been the fastest selling of any woman making her debut."

Piers Morgan another of the judges on the British TV talent show described Susan Boyle as a feisty, funny lady with huge talent. He described her performance as: "One of the most extraordinary things I have ever seen." The Susan Boyle story is truly one of the best to come out of 2009. Piers Morgan summed it up nicely: "It's the story of how one woman from a Scottish village set the whole world alight with the sheer force of her personality and raw, undiscovered talent."

Miss Boyle became known as 'the Hairy Angel' following her first performance on the TV talent show, as her eyebrows were then rather bushy. She is also known as 'SuBo'. Miss Boyle has said that 'Fame was like a steam-roller - it flattened me'. Following her breakdown she said she is determined it won't happen again. She became Google UK's second fastest rising search topic in 2009! Miss Boyle and her cat Pebbles really are now global sensations. When asked what she believes her appeal is she said, "I suppose it's a bit of a Cinderella story isn't it?" It is and, like all good fairy tales, this one has a happy ending. Fantastic.

Class watch this link if possible: Susan Boyle on *YouTube*: Her first performance on *Britain's Got Talent* - April 2009: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9lp0IWv8OZY>

LET'S START

1. Susan Boyle: Who is Susan Boyle? Think of 3 things you know about Susan Boyle. Go round the room swapping details.

2. Dictation: The teacher will read 4 to 6 lines of the article slowly and clearly. Students will write down what they hear. The teacher will repeat the passage slowly again. Self correct your work from page 2 - filling in spaces and correcting mistakes. Be honest with yourself on the number of errors. Advise the teacher of your total number of errors. Less than 5 is very good. 10 is acceptable. Any more is room for improvement! More than 20 - we need to do some work!

3. Reading: The students should now read the article aloud, swapping readers every paragraph.

4. Vocabulary: Students now look through the article and underline any vocabulary they do not know. Look in dictionaries. Discuss and help each other out. The teacher will go through and explain any unknown words or phrases.

5. The article: Students look through the article with the teacher.

- a) What is the article about?
- b) What do you think about the article?
- c) What do you think about her first performance?
(It would be a good idea to show the link in the article)
- d) Would you like to be a singer on a TV talent show?

6. Let's write! An e-mail: Write and send an e-mail to your teacher about **Susan Boyle**. Imagine you met her, went to see her. How was she? Your e-mail can be read out in class.

7. Let's tell a story! Below are 20 words and phrases from the article. Use them to compile your own story about **Susan Boyle**. (Imagine!) Add 2 words of your own. Tell your story to your partner. (*Maybe tick off your words as you tell it*)

1	YouTube	11	final
2	No 1	12	a breakdown
3	Scotland	13	legendary
4	'I Dreamed a Dream'	14	<i>Les Miserables</i>
5	overnight success	15	300m hits!
6	Pebbles	16	raw, undiscovered talent
7	spinster	17	SuBo
8	hairy angel	18	Simon Cowell
9	Susan Boyle	19	Cinderella story
10	album / CD	20	<i>Britain's Got Talent</i>
Your choice 1 _____		Your choice 2 _____	

The teacher will choose some pairs to discuss their stories in front of the class.

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8. Let's do 'The Article Quiz': With your partner or in small groups: (1 point for each correct answer. Lose ½ point if you look at the article for help!)

Student A

- 1) Where is Susan Boyle from?
- 2) What is the name of Susan Boyle's new album?
- 3) Name the talent show.
- 4) In what month did Susan Boyle first appear on the talent show?
- 5) Who beat Susan Boyle in the final?
- 6) How many people have watched Susan Boyle on *YouTube*?

Student B

- 1) How many copies of Susan Boyle's new album were sold in the UK in the first week?
- 2) Name the record label.
- 3) Name two of the judges from the talent show.
- 4) What fairy tale is mentioned?
- 5) What is the name of Susan Boyle's cat?
- 6) What song did Susan Boyle sing on *America's Got Talent* TV show?

9. Let's talk! Susan Boyle: In pairs. Imagine you are in a café bar. Over a coffee discuss Susan Boyle, her success. What you both think about her? Compare her to other similar success stories. Would you like to be in her shoes? Try to make it light hearted. *5-minutes*.

10. Let's debate: In pairs. Students A think TV talent shows are great for new artists. Students B think otherwise. Explain why.

11. Let's think! TV talent shows: Think of 5 different TV talent shows. Add 5 reasons why they are successful. Write them below. Explain to your partner why you chose these? Which ones do you like and watch?

5 TV talent shows	5 reasons why they are successful
1	1
2	2
3	3
4	4
5	5

The teacher will choose some pairs to discuss their findings in front of the class.

12. Let's think! Susan Boyle: Swap partners. With your new partner on the board write as many words to do with **Susan Boyle** as you can. *One-two minutes*. Compare with other teams. Using your words compile a short dialogue together.

13. Let's compile! Sentences: Choose six/nine of the words from No 12. Write two/three sentences using two/three words in each. Underline your chosen words. The teacher will if necessary correct your work. Students might be asked to read their sentences aloud.

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14. Sentence starters: Finish these sentence starters. Correct your mistakes. Compare what other people have written.

- a) 'I Dreamed a Dream' _____
- b) Susan Boyle _____
- c) *Britain's Got talent* _____
- d) SuBo _____
- e) 'The Hairy Angel' _____

15. Presentation: In pairs, groups or individually: Prepare in class or at home a 2 minute presentation on **TV talent shows**. Stand at the front of the class to give your presentation to the class. The class can vote on the best presentation. Class – After the presentations go through the strong and weak points on each presentation. Learn from the results.

16. Let's unscramble: Try to unscramble the following sentences:

- 1) Boyle *Talent On* appeared *Britain's Got* Susan first
- 2) Paige Boyle by inspired Elaine Miss was
- 3) It story suppose a it's a I Cinderella isn't bit of?
- 4) Sensations Pebbles Boyle global Miss her really now are cat and
- 5) Scotland from about one woman story the it's

(answers are on page 16)

17. Let's talk! At a talent contest: *In pairs/groups/as a class.* Imagine you are at a TV talent contest! You are either contestants or are the TV interviewer on the show. The TV interviewer is about to interview the contestants live on air. The interviewer's job is to find out about the contestants. The contestants describe what they are about to do live on stage. Also a bit about themselves. (Imagine!) The commentator can interview several of the class. Try to add some fun into the show! *5-10 minutes.*

18. Let's chat! In pairs: One of you is speaking on your mobile **or** computer to your friend on Skype in another country. You are telling them all about the talent show you have just been *to/on*. You were **EITHER** a member of the audience and you describe who and what you saw **OR** you were a contestant and tell how it really was! Your friend can ask the questions.

19. Let's compare! In a group in a circle. A quick fire session. The teacher asks the class, **"I love talent shows because..."**

AFTER READING / LISTENING

1. TRUE / FALSE: After reading the article guess whether these sentences are true (T) or false (F):

- | | |
|---|-------|
| a. Susan Boyle first appeared on Superstars | T / F |
| b. Susan Boyle is from Wales | T / F |
| c. 'I Dreamed a Dream' is from the musical <i>Mamma Mia</i> | T / F |
| d. Susan Boyle's debut has received more than 300m hits on <i>YouTube</i> | T / F |
| e. Susan Boyle's cat is called Kitty | T / F |
| f. Susan Boyle is also known as 'the Hairy Angel' | T / F |
| g. Susan Boyle hit No 1 in the UK and the USA with her new album | T / F |
| h. Miss Boyle is a divorcee | T / F |

2. SYNONYM MATCH: Match the following synonyms from the article:

- | | |
|----------------|--------------|
| a. Sheer | High point |
| b. Shy | Fable |
| c. Spinster | First step |
| d. Talent | Worldwide |
| e. Top | Adore |
| f. Breakdown | Single woman |
| g. Fairy tales | Crack up |
| h. Global | Coy |
| i. Debut | Gift |
| j. Love | Total |

3. PHRASE MATCH: Match the following phrases from the article:

- | | |
|--|---|
| a. The album was the fastest selling debut | <i>Britain's Got Talent</i> TV show in April 2009 |
| b. It sold a staggering 411,820 copies | a breakdown. |
| c. In the U.S. it also went | Miss Boyle released a brief statement |
| d. Miss Boyle is set to be No 1 in the UK | was suffering massive pressure |
| e. The album is named after | album in history in the UK |
| f. When news broke of her albums success | is history. |
| g. Susan Boyle first appeared on | and many other countries over Christmas |
| h. By now Miss Boyle | in its first week. |
| i. Afterwards she suffered | the <i>Les Miserables</i> tune |
| j. The rest they say | straight to the top |

GAP FILL: READING

Put the words into the gaps in the text.

Susan Boyle's at No 1 – 'I Dreamed a Dream'

Britain's Got Talent superstar Susan Boyle, 48, has made _____ with the release of her new album '*I Dreamed a Dream*'. The album was the fastest selling _____ album in history in the UK for a female artist. It sold a _____ 411,820 copies in its first week. In the U.S. it also went straight to the top - selling 701,000 copies in its first week. The shy spinster from Blackburn in West Lothian, Scotland, captured the heart of millions of people worldwide in 2009 on the British talent show with her singing of '*I Dreamed a Dream*'. Miss Boyle is set to be No 1 in the UK and many other countries over Christmas. The _____ is named after the *Les Miserables* tune that she sang at her _____. Miss Boyle, who has a _____ learning difficulty, recorded the new album weeks after suffering a breakdown following her overnight success. When news broke of her album's success Miss Boyle released a brief _____ through her management company - saying, "It's _____!"

To recall: Susan Boyle first appeared on *Britain's Got Talent* TV show in April 2009. When asked what her dream was she replied, "To be a professional _____." She added she was inspired by Elaine Paige. What happened next is _____. Anyone who has seen her first _____ must surely agree it gives you goose bumps when watching it. It certainly brings a _____ or two to the eye and must be one of the most inspiring moments on TV. Within 3 days she became an overnight global _____. Miss Boyle became a huge hit on *YouTube* with more than 25 million worldwide hits in the first week alone. She went on to the semi-final, then the final, but was beaten in it by the British dance troupe 'Diversity'. By now Miss Boyle was suffering massive _____, so was not at her best. Afterwards she suffered a breakdown. The Susan Boyle _____ however rapidly grew bigger and bigger. The rest they say is history. That *YouTube* figure has since grown to more than 300m _____!

debut

album

minor

history

fantastic

staggering

audition

statement

performance

singer

phenomenon

tear

hits

sensation

legendary

pressure

GAP FILL: LISTENING

Listen and fill in the spaces.

Susan Boyle's at No 1 – 'I Dreamed a Dream'

'Britain's Got Talent' superstar Susan Boyle, 48, _____ the release of her new album 'I Dreamed a Dream'. The album was the _____ album in history in the UK for a female artist. It sold a staggering 411,820 copies in its first week. In the U.S. it also went straight to the top - selling 701,000 copies in its first week. The shy spinster from Blackburn in West Lothian, Scotland, _____ millions of people worldwide in 2009 on the British talent show with her singing of 'I Dreamed a Dream'. Miss Boyle _____ the UK and many other countries over Christmas. The album is named after the *Les Miserables* tune that she sang at her audition. Miss Boyle, who has a _____, recorded the new album weeks after suffering a breakdown following her overnight success. When news broke of her album's success Miss Boyle released _____ through her management company - saying, "It's fantastic!"

To recall: Susan Boyle _____ *Britain's Got Talent* TV show in April 2009. When asked what her dream was she replied, "_____ singer." She added she was inspired by Elaine Paige. What happened next is legendary. Anyone who has seen her first performance must surely agree it gives you _____ watching it. It certainly brings a tear or two to the eye and must be one of the most inspiring moments on TV. Within 3 days she became _____ sensation. Miss Boyle became a huge hit on *YouTube* with more than 25 million worldwide hits in the first week alone. She went on to the semi-final, then the final, but was beaten in it by the _____ 'Diversity'. By now Miss Boyle was suffering massive pressure, so was not at her best. Afterwards she suffered a breakdown. The Susan Boyle Phenomenon however rapidly grew bigger and bigger. The rest _____. That *YouTube* figure has since grown to more than 300m hits!

DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

- a. Did the headline make you want to read the article?
- b. Have you got raw, undiscovered talent in you?
- c. What is the best story to come out of 2009?
- d. Are you going to buy the new Susan Boyle album?
- e. Have you watched Susan Boyle's first performance on *YouTube*?
- f. What do you think of Simon Cowell?
- g. Are there too many talent shows on TV these days?
- h. Why don't many people play instruments on TV talent shows these days?
- i. Do you know anyone who has suffered a breakdown? How did you help them?
- j. What is Susan Boyle's appeal?



STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

- a. What do you think about what you read?
- b. What do you think of Susan Boyle?
- c. When did you first hear about Susan Boyle?
- d. Would you like to be a singer on a TV talent show?
- e. Have you got talent? What is your talent?
- f. Is the Susan Boyle story a bit of a Cinderella story?
- g. Have you been inspired by Susan Boyle?
- h. Do you watch *YouTube*? What do you watch on there?
- i. Would you like to visit Scotland? If yes, where?
- j. Did you like this discussion?

SPEAKING

Let's brainstorm! A talent show:

Allow 10-20 minutes

Small groups

You are ALL about to appear on a top TV talent show!

Decide first whether you will **EITHER** all be individual acts **OR** appear together as one act!

Brainstorm some ideas: What you will do on the show? How will you go about it?

Choose a spokesperson who can present your ideas to the class at the end of your preparation. Present it visually or use the board etc... Try to be imaginative! *10-20 minutes.*

	Your ideas
1) The name of your act. What you will do? What you will wear?	
2) Will you be a singer/play an instrument/other?	
3) What song you will sing/play?	
4) Describe the practise you have done	
5) How your act will look on stage i.e. with dancers, lighting etc...	
6) Your <i>choice/theme</i>	

The teacher can moderate the session.

PUT THE ARTICLE BACK TOGETHER

Put the article back together

- () replied, "To be a professional singer." She added she was inspired by Elaine Paige. What happened next is legendary. Anyone who has seen her first performance must surely agree it gives you goose bumps when watching
- () people worldwide in 2009 on the British talent show with her singing of 'I Dreamed a Dream'. Miss Boyle is set to be No 1 in the UK and many other countries over Christmas. The album is named after the *Les Miserables* tune
- (1) 'Britain's Got Talent' superstar Susan Boyle, 48, has made history with the release of her new album 'I Dreamed a Dream'. The album was the fastest selling debut album in history in the UK for a female artist. It sold a
- () Miss Boyle released a brief statement through her management company - saying, "It's fantastic!" To recall: Susan Boyle first appeared on *Britain's Got Talent* TV show in April 2009. When asked what her dream was she
- () best. Afterwards she suffered a breakdown. The Susan Boyle Phenomenon however rapidly grew bigger and bigger. The rest they say is history. That *YouTube* figure has since grown to more than 300m hits!
- () staggering 411,820 copies in its first week. In the U.S. it also went straight to the top - selling 701,000 copies in its first week. The shy spinster from Blackburn in West Lothian, Scotland, captured the heart of millions of
- () it. It certainly brings a tear or two to the eye and must be one of the most inspiring moments on TV. Within 3 days she became an overnight global sensation. Miss Boyle became a huge hit on *YouTube* with more than 25
- () that she sang at her audition. Miss Boyle, who has a minor learning difficulty, recorded the new album weeks after suffering a breakdown following her overnight success. When news broke of her albums success
- () million worldwide hits in the first week alone. She went on to the semi-final, then the final, but was beaten in it by the British dance troupe 'Diversity'. By now Miss Boyle was suffering massive pressure, so was not at her

LANGUAGE: Choose the correct words from a–d below and write them in the article.

(1)___'s *Got Talent* superstar Susan Boyle, 48, has made history with the release of her new (2)___ '*I Dreamed a Dream*'. The album was the fastest selling debut album in history in the UK for a female artist. It sold a (3)___ 411,820 copies in its first week. In the U.S. it also went straight to the (4)___ - selling 701,000 copies in its first week. The shy (5)___ from Blackburn in West Lothian, Scotland, captured the heart of millions of people worldwide in 2009 on the British talent show with her singing of '*I Dreamed a Dream*'. Miss Boyle is set to be No 1 in the UK and many other countries over Christmas. The album is named after the *Les Miserables* tune that she sang at her audition. Miss Boyle, who has a minor learning difficulty, recorded the new album weeks after suffering a breakdown following her overnight success. When news broke of her albums success Miss Boyle released a brief statement through her management company - saying, "It's fantastic!"

To recall: Susan Boyle first appeared on *Britain's Got Talent* TV show in April 2009. When asked what her dream was she replied, "To be a professional (6)___." She added she was inspired by Elaine Paige. What happened next is legendary. Anyone who has seen her first performance must surely agree it gives you goose bumps when watching it. It certainly brings a tear or two to the eye and must be one of the most inspiring moments on TV. Within 3 days she became an overnight global sensation. Miss Boyle became a huge hit on *YouTube* with more than 25 million worldwide hits in the first week alone. She went on to the semi-final, then the final, but was beaten in it by the British dance (7)___ '*Diversity*'. By now Miss Boyle was suffering (8)___ pressure, so was not at her best. Afterwards she suffered a (9)___ . The Susan Boyle Phenomenon however rapidly grew (10)___ and bigger. The rest they say is history. That *YouTube* figure has since (11)___ to more than 300m (12)___!

1.	(a)	Scotland	(b)	Britain	(c)	England	(d)	Wales
2.	(a)	CD	(b)	album	(c)	single	(d)	download
3.	(a)	Stagger	(b)	staggered	(c)	staggering	(d)	staggers
4.	(a)	Top	(b)	stop	(c)	bop	(d)	mop
5.	(a)	Spin	(b)	spinster	(c)	spinsters	(d)	pinkster
6.	(a)	Singer	(b)	nurse	(c)	dancer	(d)	DJ
7.	(a)	troupe	(b)	troop	(c)	trouping	(d)	trouped
8.	(a)	massing	(b)	mass	(c)	massive	(d)	massed
9.	(a)	breakfast	(b)	Break dance	(c)	breakup	(d)	breakdown
10.	(a)	smaller	(b)	bigger	(c)	trigger	(d)	digger
11.	(a)	town	(b)	gown	(c)	brown	(d)	grown
12.	(a)	hit	(b)	hitting	(c)	hits	(d)	hitting

GRAMMAR 1: MIDWAY

Put the words into the gaps in the text.

Susan Boyle's at No 1 – 'I Dreamed a Dream'

Britain's Got Talent superstar Susan Boyle, 48, has made history (1)___ the release of her new album '*I Dreamed a Dream*'. The album was the fastest selling debut album in history in the UK for a female artist. It sold a staggering 411,820 copies in its first week. In the U.S. it (2)___ went straight to the top - selling 701,000 copies in its first week. The shy spinster (3)___ Blackburn in West Lothian, Scotland, captured the heart of millions of people worldwide in 2009 on the British talent show with her singing of '*I Dreamed a Dream*'. Miss Boyle is set to be No 1 in the UK and (4)___ other countries over Christmas. The album is named after the *Les Miserables* tune (5)___ she sang at her audition. Miss Boyle, who has a minor learning difficulty, recorded the new album weeks (6)___ suffering a breakdown following her overnight success. (7)___ news broke of her albums success Miss Boyle released a brief statement (8)___ her management company - saying, "It's fantastic!"

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To recall: Susan Boyle first appeared on *Britain's Got Talent* TV show in April 2009. (1)___ asked what her dream was she replied, "To be a professional singer." She added she was inspired by Elaine Paige. (2)___ happened next is legendary. Anyone who has seen her first performance must surely agree it gives you goose bumps when watching it. It certainly brings a tear or two to the eye and (3)___ be one of the most inspiring moments on TV. Within 3 days she became an overnight global sensation. Miss Boyle became a huge hit on *YouTube* with (4)___ than 25 million worldwide hits in the first week alone. She went on to the semi-final, (5)___ the final, but was beaten in it by the British dance troupe 'Diversity'. By now Miss Boyle was suffering massive pressure, so was not at her best. Afterwards she suffered a breakdown. The Susan Boyle Phenomenon (6)___ rapidly grew bigger and bigger. The rest they say is history. That *YouTube* figure has (7)___ grown to more (8)___ 300m hits!

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GRAMMAR 2: EASY

Put the words into the gaps in the text.

Susan Boyle's at No 1 – 'I Dreamed a Dream'

Britain's Got Talent superstar Susan Boyle, 48, has made history with (1)___ release of (2)___ new album 'I Dreamed a Dream'. The album was the fastest selling debut album in history in the UK (3)___ a female artist. It sold a staggering 411,820 copies in its first week. In the U.S. (4)___ also went straight to the top - selling 701,000 copies in (5)___ first week. The shy spinster from Blackburn in West Lothian, Scotland, captured the heart of millions of people worldwide in 2009 on the British talent show with her singing of 'I Dreamed a Dream'. Miss Boyle is set to be No 1 in the UK (6)___ many other countries over Christmas. The album is named after the *Les Miserables* tune that (7)___ sang at her audition. Miss Boyle, (8)___ has a minor learning difficulty, recorded the new album weeks after suffering a breakdown following her overnight success. When news broke of her albums success Miss Boyle released a brief statement through her management company - saying, "It's fantastic!"

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To recall: Susan Boyle first appeared on *Britain's Got Talent* TV show in April 2009. When asked what her dream was she replied, "To be a professional singer." She added she was inspired (1)___ Elaine Paige. What happened next is legendary. Anyone (2)___ has seen her first performance must surely agree is gives (3)___ goose bumps when watching it. It certainly brings a tear or two to the eye and must be one of the most inspiring moments on TV. Within 3 days she became an overnight global sensation. Miss Boyle became a huge hit on *YouTube* with more than 25 million worldwide hits in (4)___ first week alone. She went on to the semi-final, then the final, (5)___ was beaten in it by the British dance troupe 'Diversity'. By now Miss Boyle was suffering massive pressure, (6)___ was not at (7)___ best. Afterwards (8)___ suffered a breakdown. The Susan Boyle Phenomenon however rapidly grew bigger and bigger. The rest they say is history. That *YouTube* figure has since grown to more than 300m hits!

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SPELLING TEST

The teacher will ask the class individually to spell the following words that are in the article. Afterwards, check your answers with your teacher, using the following ratings: **Pass = 12, Good = 15, Very good = 18, Excellent = 20**

1	album	11	proud
2	lovelier	12	undiscovered
3	absolutely	13	legendary
4	steam-roller	14	breakdown
5	judgement	15	phenomenon
6	particularly	16	sensation
7	personality	17	management
8	talent	18	debut
9	Cinderella	19	audition
10	fantastic	20	spinster

HOMEWORK

Newspaper article: Write an article between 200 and 500 words on **Susan Boyle**. Read your article to your classmates and discuss them in the next lesson.

WRITING: In class:

Five-minute article: Write an article on **Susan Boyle**. You have five minutes. The teacher will select some students to read out their work.

ANSWERS – 2 – UNSRAMBLED

- 1) Susan Boyle first appeared on *Britain's Got Talent*
- 2) Miss Boyle was inspired by Elaine Paige
- 3) I suppose it's a bit of a Cinderella story isn't it?
- 4) Miss Boyle and her cat Pebbles really are now global sensations
- 5) It's the story about one woman from Scotland

ANSWERS - 1

TRUE / FALSE:

- a. F b. F c. F d. T e. T f. T g. T h. F

SYNONYM MATCH:

- | | |
|----------------|--------------|
| a. Sheer | Total |
| b. Shy | Coy |
| c. Spinster | Single woman |
| d. Talent | Gift |
| e. Top | High point |
| f. Breakdown | Crack up |
| g. Fairy tales | Fable |
| h. Global | Worldwide |
| i. Debut | First step |
| j. Love | Adore |

PHRASE MATCH:

- | | |
|--|---|
| a. The album was the fastest selling debut | album in history in the UK |
| b. It sold a staggering 411,820 copies | in its first week. |
| c. In the U.S. it also went | straight to the top |
| d. Miss Boyle is set to be No 1 in the UK | and many other countries over Christmas |
| e. The album is named after | the <i>Les Miserables</i> tune |
| f. When news broke of her albums success | Miss Boyle released a brief statement |
| g. Susan Boyle first appeared on | <i>Britain's Got Talent</i> TV show in April 2009 |
| h. By now Miss Boyle | was suffering massive pressure |
| i. Afterwards she suffered | a breakdown. |
| j. The rest they say | is history. |

GAP FILL: Susan Boyle's at No 1 – 'I Dreamed a Dream': *Britain's Got Talent* superstar Susan Boyle, 48, has made **history** with the release of her new album '*I Dreamed a Dream*'. The album was the fastest selling **debut** album in history in the UK for a female artist. It sold a **staggering** 411,820 copies in its first week. In the U.S. it also went straight to the top - selling 701,000 copies in its first week. The shy spinster from Blackburn in West Lothian, Scotland, captured the heart of millions of people worldwide in 2009 on the British talent show with her singing of '*I Dreamed a Dream*'. Miss Boyle is set to be No 1 in the UK and many other countries over Christmas. The **album** is named after the *Les Miserables* tune that she sang at her **audition**. Miss Boyle, who has a **minor** learning difficulty, recorded the new album weeks after suffering a breakdown following her overnight success. When news broke of her albums success Miss Boyle released a brief **statement** through her management company - saying, "It's **fantastic!**"

To recall: Susan Boyle first appeared on *Britain's Got Talent* TV show in April 2009. When asked what her dream was she replied, "To be a professional **singer**." She added she was inspired by Elaine Paige. What happened next is **legendary**. Anyone who has seen her first **performance** must surely agree it gives you goose bumps when watching it. It certainly brings a **tear** or two to the eye and must be one of the most inspiring moments on TV. Within 3 days she became an overnight global **sensation**. Miss Boyle became a huge hit on *YouTube* with more than 25 million worldwide hits in the first week alone. She went on to the semi-final, then the final, but was beaten in it by the British dance troupe 'Diversity'. By now Miss Boyle was suffering massive **pressure**, so was not at her best. Afterwards she suffered a breakdown. The Susan Boyle **Phenomenon** however rapidly grew bigger and bigger. The rest they say is history. That *YouTube* figure has since grown to more than 300m **hits!**

LANGUAGE WORK:

- 1 - b 2 - b 3 - c 4 - a 5 - b 6 - a 7 - a 8 - c 9 - d 10 - b 11 - d 12 - c

Susan Boyle – 'I Dreamed a Dream' – 14th December 2009