

The next day, Lily couldn't stop thinking about the flamenco show. She tried to explain it to her parents but they were very busy and they didn't listen. 'Ask Grandma,' her mother said. 'She's the musician of the family.' So Lily waited all day until it was morning in Peru. Then she messaged Grandma and they had a video call.

'How many musical instruments were there?' Grandma asked. 'Well, there was only one guitar,' Lily explained. 'But there was a lot of percussion.' She told Grandma about the dancer stamping her feet on the floor and playing the castanets. 'That's interesting,' Grandma said. 'That means that the dancing is part of the music in a flamenco show.'



'That's right!' Lily answered. Then she described the clapping of the performers and she talked about the cajón. Grandma looked surprised. 'Are you sure it's a Spanish instrument?' she asked. 'I think so,' Lily answered. 'Mr Ramos said it was a traditional performance because there weren't any electronic instruments or microphones.'

'Hmmm, maybe,' Grandma said. 'But I want to show you something. I'll send it by email.'

## Activities

### 5 Complete the sentences.

- a) Lily messages Grandma because .....
- b) Lily has a video call because .....
- c) When it's morning in Spain it's ..... in Peru.
- d) Lily waits until the evening for the video call so that it's ..... in Peru.

### 6 What is always true for electronic instruments? Tick. Compare traditional and electronic instruments.

- |   |                          |                            |                          |
|---|--------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| a) always makes the same sound                  | <input type="checkbox"/> | d) fits in your pocket     | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) can sound like lots of different instruments | <input type="checkbox"/> | e) has a variety of sounds | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c) changes volume easily                        | <input type="checkbox"/> | f) needs electricity       | <input type="checkbox"/> |



Lily ended the call and waited. Soon there was an email in her inbox. It had an attachment. When she opened it she could see a photo. To her surprise, in the centre of the image there was a man sitting on a box and hitting it with his hands. The box looked a lot like a cajón.

There was a message from Grandma in the email. 'This is from my grandparent's photo album,' Lily read. 'It shows a group of musicians from Lima at the start of the 1900s.' 'That's interesting,' she thought. 'Maybe musicians in Peru and Spain had the same traditional instruments.'

Then Lily decided to do an Internet search. She typed 'cajón' and 'Peru' into her search engine and looked at the images. There were some modern photos and some old photos in black and white. They all showed people sitting on a box and hitting it with their hands.

Then she typed in 'cajón' and 'Spain'. All the photos were in colour. The earliest ones were from the last half of the 20th century.

'That's not very old for a traditional instrument,' she thought.



## Activities

**7** How do you know that it is an old photo? Give reasons to a classmate.

**8** Number the sentences.

- a) Lily does an Internet search about Spain.
- b) Lily does an Internet search about Peru.
- c) Lily examines Grandma's photo.
- d) Lily only finds colour photos of the cajón from Spain.
- e) Lily finds black and white photos of the cajón from Peru.

**9**  What is Lily's conclusion about the cajón in Spain?

# Story focus

## 1 Find evidence in the story and write the page number. You might find evidence on more than one page.

How do you know that...

- a) ... Lily wasn't born in Spain? .....
- b) ... Marcos knows what a cajón is? .....
- c) ... there is a time difference between Peru and Spain? .....
- d) ... the cajón appeared earlier in Peru than in Spain? .....
- e) ... Lily's Grandma uses the Internet? .....
- f) ... Marcos knows that flamenco performers use the cajón? .....
- g) ... Paco de Lucía played in Peru? .....

## 2 Classify the evidence.

Key  
 EW = eye witness    FP = family photo    FI = factual information  
 FA = family anecdote    II = Internet information

- a) Zoila has evidence that Paco de Lucía played music with a cajón player.
- b) Grandma has evidence that the cajón was used in Peru.
- c) Mr Ramos has evidence about Paco de Lucía's life.
- d) Marcos has evidence about cajón being used in flamenco.
- e) Lily has evidence about the history of the cajón.

## 3 Complete the sentences with the names of the character.

- a) ..... thinks the cajón is a traditional Peruvian instrument.
- b) ..... thinks the cajón is a traditional flamenco instrument.
- c) ..... thinks the cajón is a traditional Peruvian and a typical flamenco instrument.

## 4 What is popular music? Discuss the questions with a classmate.

Who likes it?

When is it played?

Is it the same everywhere?

Does everybody recognise it?

Where is it played?

Is it very old?

# FLAMENCO

Flamenco is a style of music, singing and dance from Andalucía. Andalucía is in south-western Spain and is the region closest to North Africa .

We don't know exactly when flamenco started. The first references to flamenco as a performance of dance and music are from the 1770s .



In a flamenco performance there are different types of performers: singers, musicians and dancers. The musicians play different types of instruments but the most common is the guitar and the cajón. The dancers stamp and clap as part of the percussion accompaniment. .



**Paco de Lucía**, from Algeciras, was the most famous flamenco guitarist in the world.

**Camarón** was a very popular and well-known singer. He made many records with Paco de Lucía.

**Carmen Amaya's** dance style revolutionised the art of flamenco dance. At the beginning of the Spanish Civil War she moved to Argentina. .

**La Niña de los Peines** was a famous flamenco singer. She came from Seville and belonged to a family of flamenco singers.

**1** Label the sections of the text.

biographical information

geographical information

historical information

musical information

**2** Number the boxes in the text to add more information.

- 1 Amaya had a very successful dancing career in Latin America and the USA before returning to Spain.
- 2 However, flamenco probably developed before the 18th century.
- 3 They also play a percussion instrument called castanets as they dance.
- 4 Today flamenco is popular all over the world.