

MUSIC · GRADES 3–4

Music Genres

Eight genres, eight stories

Eight genres at a glance

Genre	Origin	Signature instruments	Example artist
Classical	Europe, 1700s–1800s	Orchestra (strings, winds)	Mozart
Jazz	USA, early 1900s	Sax, trumpet, piano, drums	Louis Armstrong
Blues	USA (Deep South), 1900s	Guitar, harmonica, vocals	B.B. King
Rock	USA / UK, 1950s	Electric guitar, drums, bass	The Beatles
Hip-hop	USA (NYC), 1970s	Turntables, sampler, voice	Lauryn Hill
Reggae	Jamaica, 1960s	Bass, off-beat guitar, drums	Bob Marley
K-pop	South Korea, 1990s	Synths, vocals, dance	BTS
Afrobeats	West Africa, 2000s	Drums, percussion, vocals	Burna Boy

Discuss

1. Which of these genres do you listen to most?
2. Pick a genre you've never heard. Find one song. What did you notice?



3. Which genres do you think most influence today's pop charts?
4. What new genre might exist 50 years from now?

