

POPULAR MUSICALS

A. Which of the following do you think are the most important features of a musical? Put a ✓ in the appropriate boxes.

costumes	<input type="checkbox"/>
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music	<input type="checkbox"/>
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suspense	<input type="checkbox"/>
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plot	<input type="checkbox"/>
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special effects	<input type="checkbox"/>
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dancing	<input type="checkbox"/>
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acting	<input type="checkbox"/>
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THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA



The Phantom of the Opera is a successful musical which was written by Andrew Lloyd Webber. Its first performance was in London in 1986.

The Phantom is a young composer who lives in the Paris Opera House. He has got an ugly face so he wears a mask to hide it. He loves a beautiful opera singer, Christine but she loves a man called Raoul. The Phantom threatens to kill Raoul if Christine doesn't choose him, so she has to follow him. Finally, the Phantom understands he is wrong and helps Raoul and Christine be together.

Millions of people all around the world love the story, the beautiful costumes and scenery as well as its exciting music. There are also many films based on *The Phantom of the Opera*.

CATS



Cats is Andrew Lloyd Webber's most famous musical. The first performance was on Broadway in 1982 in the Winter Garden Theater

in New York City and it was the longest running musical there until 2006. In 1983 it won seven awards, including the Best Musical Award.

The story is about the lives of different cats who talk and act like humans. The cats live in a junkyard and have funny names like Grizabella and Bustopher Jones. The actors and actresses wear colourful costumes, dance and sing some very popular songs, including the song *Memory*.

The fascinating costumes and scenery in addition to the exciting music make *Cats* one of the most popular musicals of all time. Both children and adults love it. It is successfully performed in theatres around the world, including Australia and China. *Cats* was also made into a film and you can watch it on DVD.

B. Read the texts and put a ✓ in the correct column.

	CATS	THE PHANTOM	BOTH
1. It is written by Andrew Lloyd Webber.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. It won seven awards.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. The first performance was in the U.K.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. The costumes are beautiful.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. The main character lives in an Opera House.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. The characters have strange names.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. The music is fascinating.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. The main character helps two people who are in love.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. It is also a film.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>