

# ROBBIE WILLIAMS SUPERSTAR



CODE 101

Fertigkeit	Lesen
Relevante(r) Deskriptor(en)	<b>Deskriptor 4:</b> Kann unkomplizierte Sachtexte über Themen, die mit den eigenen Interessen und Fachgebieten aus den Themenbereichen des Lehrplans in Zusammenhang stehen, mit befriedigendem Verständnis lesen. (B1)
Themenbereich(e)	Kultur, Medien und Literatur
Zeitbedarf	15 Minuten
Länge des Lesetextes	369 Wörter
Material- und Medienbedarf	Schreibmaterial
Besondere Bemerkungen, Hinweise zur Durchführung	---
Quelle	<i>British Council</i> . "All about Robbie". <a href="http://www.learnenglish.org.uk/magazine/people.asp?person=21">http://www.learnenglish.org.uk/magazine/people.asp?person=21</a> (31.5.05) [adaptiert]

# UNTERLAGE FÜR SCHÜLERINNEN



Read the text about Robbie Williams.

 **Then tick (✓) the sentences in the two task sheets.**

First read the text quickly for task sheet 1. Then read the text carefully a second time for task sheet 2.

The underlined words are explained at the bottom of the page.

## Let Me Entertain You!

Robbie Williams was born as Robert Peter Williams on February 13th 1974, in a town called Stoke-on-Trent in England. His childhood was blighted<sup>1</sup> by the desertion<sup>2</sup> of his father and by his unconditional<sup>3</sup> love for his mother. Robbie's been in the spotlight ever since he was a teenager in his home town Stoke. He is described as loveable, vulnerable<sup>4</sup>, funny, poetic, charismatic – and he became a member of a famous boy band called 'Take That'. Together they later reached the longed-for breakthrough<sup>5</sup>.



Foto: British Council

It was headline news when Robbie left the band in 1995, deciding to go it alone as a singer and songwriter in London. At first, his solo career had its ups and downs. For a while he was more famous in the gossip columns of newspapers and magazines for his partying life offstage than for his music. They chronicled<sup>6</sup> his descent<sup>7</sup> into drink and drugs and the 'Angels' that saved his life.

Since then things have changed. He's released several chart successes, won many awards and become established as an international star. 'The biggest pop phenomenon in Britain since The Beatles' was even the headline in 'The Sun'. Robbie was claimed 'Sexiest Man Alive' since he's tall, dark and handsome – and his eyes are blue! He broke concert records in 2003 at Knebworth, where 125.000 people made their way to his three concerts given on three days in succession<sup>8</sup>. But despite his celebrity profile as being the ultimate showman in public and onstage, the real Robert Peter Williams has always been an enigma<sup>9</sup>, showing a strong personality behind the superstar image. Some two years ago Robbie wanted to buy himself a silver Ferrari but changed his mind at the last minute because it was just too flash<sup>10</sup>!

His best known albums include Millennium, Strong, No Regrets and Escapology, and his most famous singles are probably Angels, Come Undone and Feel. Last September he featured his sixth album 'The Greatest Hits', that turned out to be the fastest selling album ever. He's just released his latest single 'Radio'.

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### Vocabulary:

- |   |                                     |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1 - blighted – <i>verdorben</i>         | 6 - chronicled – <i>beschrieben</i> |
| 2 - desertion – <i>Verlassen</i>        | 7 - descent – <i>Abstieg</i>        |
| 3 - unconditional – <i>vorbehaltlos</i> | 8 - in succession – <i>in Folge</i> |
| 4 - vulnerable - <i>verletzlich</i>     | 9 - enigma – <i>Rätsel</i>          |
| 5 - breakthrough – <i>Durchbruch</i>    | 10 - flash – <i>protzig</i>         |



## TASK SHEET 1

**Quickly read through the text about Robbie Williams and tick (✓) the correct answers below:**

(1) What's Robbie Williams' real name?

- (a) Robert Peter Williams     (b) Bobbie Williams     (c) William Roberts

(2) Where was he born?

- (a) in Stratford-upon-Avon     (b) in Stoke-on-Trent     (c) in London

(3) The only person Robbie truly loves is

- (a) his father     (b) his wife     (c) his mother

(5) Robbie Williams started with a boy band called

- (a) Westlife     (b) Take That     (c) Petshop Boys

(6) His fastest selling album ever was

- (a) Greatest Hits     (b) Escapology     (c) Strong



## TASK SHEET 2

 Read the text a second time and tick (✓) the correct box:

- (1) Robbie Williams had a happy childhood.  
 true       false       not in the text
- (2) Robbie Williams is the most famous American pop singer.  
 true       false       not in the text
- (3) In 1995, he left his band and started a solo career.  
 true       false       not in the text
- (4) In order to keep his looks he does a workout every day.  
 true       false       not in the text
- (5) Strange but true, he rejected a red Ferrari for being too flash.  
 true       false       not in the text
- (6) His latest single is 'Radio'.  
 true       false       not in the text
- (7) Some years ago Robbie Williams had serious drug problems.  
 true       false       not in the text
- (8) Last summer he toured through Australia.  
 true       false       not in the text



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