Hippies

Start thinking
1 Which places are associated with hippies?
2 What sort of clothes did hippies use to wear?
3 What did they believe in?

Comprehension check

1 Watch the video clip and choose the correct answers.

1 When did the war which the USA fought in Vietnam begin?
   a 1959
   b 1960
   c 1967
   d 1969

2 What was the main message of the hippie movement?
   a you have to defend yourself
   b obey authority
   c peace, freedom and love
   d long hair is shocking

3 Who was a symbol of the hippie movement in the late 1960s?
   a the mayor of San Francisco
   b Martin Luther King
   c Twiggy
   d John Lennon

2 Watch again and match the words (1–8) to the descriptions (a–h).

1 __ Alcatraz
   a an instrument
   b a country in southern Asia
   c a music festival
   d a civil rights leader
   e a famous hippie
   f a prison
   g a town in England
   h an area of San Francisco

2 __ Martin Luther King

3 __ Vietnam

4 __ Haight-Ashbury

5 __ a sitar

6 __ John Lennon

7 __ Woodstock

8 __ Glastonbury

3 Watch again and number the events (1–8) in the order they happened.

   — There was a three-day music festival in Woodstock.
   — Martin Luther King led the civil rights movement.
   — Some aspects of hippie fashion and music entered mainstream culture.
   — Young people developed the hippie movement.
   — Hippie communities remain in some areas of the world.
   — The Vietnam War started.
   — John Lennon and Yoko Ono became symbols of the hippie movement.
   — 100,000 hippies gathered in San Francisco.

4 Watch again and choose the correct alternative.

1 A lot of Americans opposed/didn’t oppose the Vietnam War.
2 They rebelled/didn’t rebel against authority.
3 They believed/didn’t believe that money was important.
4 They often wore clothes that matched/didn’t match.
5 They used/didn’t use make-up or hair dye.
6 They cut/didn’t cut their hair.
7 They travelled/didn’t travel in vans which were brightly coloured.
8 They went/didn’t go to music festivals.

5 Complete the summary with the words from the box.

vans flowers culture San Francisco festivals Vietnam expensive ideology

The city of 1__________ is famous as the home of the hippie movement. This movement developed in the USA as a reaction against the war which was going on in 2__________. Their 3__________ was linked with peace, freedom and love. Both men and women wore 4__________ in their hair, and they didn’t wear anything 5__________. They often travelled around to music 6__________ together in brightly-coloured 7__________. Some aspects of the hippie movement have become part of mainstream 8__________ and its influence can still be seen today.
Language check

6 Correct the mistake in each sentence.

1 Susan is my best friend. We often see ourselves at the weekend.

2 Have you ever been back to the place which you were born?

3 Come in, everybody, and help yourself to cake.

4 People often look at each other in the mirror.

5 The windows are dirty. We’ll have to get washed.

6 The woman who van we borrowed wasn’t very pleased when we crashed it.

7 There’s something wrong with my MP3 player. It just turns it off in the middle of a song.

8 I’m going to cut my hair at the hairdresser’s.

7 Complete the sentences with one or two words.

1 I can’t eat for a while. I’ve just my tongue pierced.

2 San Francisco, the hippie movement started, is a really cool city.

3 My uncle had a van with flowers on it, which he painted.

4 Richard, hair was very long in the 1960s, hasn’t got any hair now.

5 People were shocked the protests became violent.

6 Jackie and Mark used to go to demonstrations together years ago, but they’ve lost touch with now.

7 I really enjoyed the festival!

8 I was born near Glastonbury, is a town with some famous hippie communities.

Talk about it

8 In pairs. What different subcultures do you know about in your country? Ask and answer the questions.

- What is their ideology?
- What do most people think of them and their ideology?
- What kind of fashion or lifestyle do they choose?

Extension

9 In pairs. Look at photos A and B and answer the questions.

Photo A

1 Describe the photo.

2 Have there ever been any demonstrations where you live? What were they for?

3 What do people often protest about?

4 Have you ever been to a demonstration? Why?

Photo B

1 Describe the photo.

2 Are there any music festivals where you live? What are they like?

3 What type of music can you listen to at music festivals in your country?

4 Have you ever been to a music festival? Why?