

In K-pop, it's a long way to get to the top. See some new bands hoping to follow in the footsteps of BTS and Blackpink.

Do the preparation task first. Then watch the video and do the exercises. Remember you can read the transcript at any time.

### Preparation

Match the vocabulary with the correct definition and write a–h next to the numbers 1–8.

- |                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| 1..... to burst with joy | a. a type of popular music from South Korea                                     |
| 2..... a trainee         | b. to become successful or famous   |
| 3..... K-pop             | c. to be so happy that you can't hide your emotion                              |
| 4..... a record label    | d. to practise a song, dance or performance                                     |
| 5..... to doubt yourself | e. an employee of a company whose main job is to learn and develop their skills |
| 6..... to make it        | f. a company that publishes music   |
| 7..... to rehearse       | g. to be on the list of the most popular or highest-selling songs in a week     |
| 8..... to chart          | h. to lose self-confidence; to believe that you cannot do something             |

### 1. Check your understanding: multiple selection

Which topics are mentioned in the video? Tick (✓) four answers.

- |       |  |
|-------|--|
| ..... | The tough side of being a K-pop artist                           |
| ..... | The first K-pop artist to gain international fame                |
| ..... | The success of Blackpink and BTS                                 |
| ..... | Kids who are training to be K-pop stars                          |
| ..... | How much money K-pop artists earn                                |
| ..... | A student of the training school who has made it as a K-pop star |

## 2. Check your understanding: multiple choice

Circle the best option to complete the sentences.

1. Newkidd are \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. the number-one band in Korea
  - b. a K-pop band hoping to reach the top
  - c. a K-pop record label
2. The presenter is in \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. London
  - b. Busan
  - c. Seoul
3. Before becoming a solo artist or band member, you have to be selected as a trainee by \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. the government
  - b. a performing arts school
  - c. a big record label
4. A *maknae* is \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. the youngest member of a group
  - b. the oldest member of a group
  - c. the leader of a group
5. BTS are the reason why \_\_\_\_\_ visit South Korea.
  - a. 13 per cent of tourists
  - b. 13,000 tourists every year
  - c. 1 in every 13 tourists
6. Only about \_\_\_\_\_ of the training school's students will make it in K-pop.
  - a. 4 or 5
  - b. 14 or 15
  - c. 40 or 50
7. One former student of the school who made it as a K-pop star is \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. Dunghyuk Kim
  - b. Kang Seung-chan
  - c. Feel
8. One iKon band member says that the toughest part of training was \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. the physical side
  - b. the mental side
  - c. both the physical and mental sides

### Discussion

Who are your favourite K-pop artists?