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Fun fact

Beware of Bach!

For some time people in the UK have been worrying about how young people behave in public spaces: precincts, shopping centres and so on.

Big stores in shopping centres like Sainsbury's, Waitrose and Tesco were afraid that groups of teenagers outside their shops were keeping customers away. The youngsters wear hoodies, casual sports jackets with hoods, and they frighten older people.



The stores had tried almost everything when they found out that playing classical music over their music systems made the kids move away. The young people particularly disliked Mozart and Bach. The customers, on the other hand, were pleased to have a change from the piped jingles and seasonal medleys you usually hear when you do your shopping.

The idea worked so well that some Tube stations in London and bus stations in other big British cities copied it.

- 1 Are hoodies popular with youngsters in your class or neighbourhood?
- 2 Why do you think some English shoppers are afraid of the teenagers who wear hoodies?
- 3 Would Mozart, Bach or another kind of classical music stop you from hanging out somewhere?