

Jay is a vocal coach and he believes anyone can learn to sing. Watch this video and find out how!

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–g next to the number 1–7.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1..... a melody | a. a teacher who gives private singing lessons |
| 2..... to stretch | b. a musical tune |
| 3..... vocal range | c. to compare yourself with somebody |
| 4..... to strain | d. I'm not going to make an effort or try hard |
| 5..... to put yourself up against somebody | e. to make something longer or wider |
| 6..... I'm not going to bother | f. from the lowest note you can sing to the highest |
| 7..... a vocal coach | g. to injure a muscle by using too much force |

1. Check your understanding: true or false

Circle *True* or *False* for these sentences.

- | | | |
|--|-------------|--------------|
| 1. Jay believes that anyone can learn to sing. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 2. You should try to sing in a melody as a starting point. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 3. It's good to compare yourself to a great singer. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 4. Jay hasn't worked with any famous singers. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 5. Vocal scales help to stretch your vocal range. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 6. You need to have some tension in your voice. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 7. You need to strain your voice. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 8. You should relax your neck and shoulders. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |

2. Check your language: gap fill – giving advice

Complete the gaps with a word from the box.

imperative	should	You've got to
It's a good idea	shouldn't	make sure

- You _____ put yourself up against great singers when you are just beginning.
- It's important to _____ that you get the tension in your voice but not the strain.
- In all the exercises that you do, it's _____ that you relax your outer muscles.
- _____ make sure before you tackle any exercise that you're nice and relaxed.
- If you want to sing higher notes, you _____ practise scales to stretch your vocal range.
- _____ to practise every day if you want to learn fast.

3. Check your grammar: matching – first conditional

Match the two sentence halves and write a–f next to the number 1–6.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1..... Jay believes anyone can sing | a. you will stretch your vocal range. |
| 2..... If you want to start singing, | b. the next great singer could be you! |
| 3..... Some people think, 'if I can't sing like an Usher or an Amy Winehouse, | c. a good starting point would be to sing just a little bit higher than your speaking voice. |
| 4..... If you practise vocal scales every day, | d. if they've got melody in their voice. |
| 5..... If you are straining your neck and shoulder muscles, | e. you've got to make sure that you're nice and relaxed. |
| 6..... If you follow Jay's advice, | f. then I'm not even going to bother.' |

4. Check your grammar: multiple choice – infinitive or gerund

Circle the best word to complete these sentences.

1. Can anyone learn **sing / to sing / singing** ?
2. **Sing / To sing / Singing** is basically producing a melody above your normal speaking voice.
3. There is a way of **stretch / to stretch / stretching** your vocal cords.
4. Practise vocal scales every day **stretch / to stretch / stretching** your vocal range.
5. It's important **make / to make / making** sure that you get the tension in your voice but not the strain.
6. It's imperative that you **relax / to relax / relaxing** all your outer muscles.

Discussion

Do you like singing?

Do you think anyone can learn to sing?

Who are your favourite singers?

What talents or skills do you admire?

Vocabulary Box

Write any new words you have learnt in this lesson.