

## IELTS DAILY. SINGING. TRANSCRIPT

**Jay:** Today's lesson is about singing.

**Chris:** Thank you for that, Jay. And I hope we're going to teach you some new vocabulary about songs and singing, because this was a recent question in the IELTS speaking test.

**Chris:** Now we've just learned that Jay, you love to burst into song. It's a great idiom there, to burst into song. Do you often burst into song?

**Jay:** Sometimes I actually have a really funny story if I can share that.

**Chris:** Tell me.

**Jay:** When I was younger, my dad, he's a bit of a comedian and he likes to joke around, and when he would, my sister and I were really little, he would walk through the mall or through the shops with us whilst holding our hands, and then all of the sudden, he would burst into song with people all around him, and no one knew who he was. And of course, as children, we would get very embarrassed and we would try to run away from him, but because he was holding our hands, we couldn't and I never forget that and I still... I think I have taken out of that characteristic 'cos I don't mind bursting into song every once in a while.

**Chris:** Wow, great, great memories from your childhood. So, let's think about what the students could answer in this question. Where do people sing and who do they sing with?

**Chris:** So I think I know that people, if you go to a church, maybe some people sing in a church. There are things called choirs. If you go to church or if you are religious, you might sing in your religion.

**Jay:** You could also be part of a band.

**Chris:** Exactly.

**Jay:** Where you might be a lead singer or a backup singer, Chris, what is the difference between those two?

**Chris:** A lead singer is a person who stands at the front and sings the main part of the song and a backing singer is a person who is in the back. You can kind of hear them.

**Jay:** Helping out.

**Chris:** Helping out. What about sports events? I know that in my country, football, soccer is a very popular event, and there are often songs related to that particular team. Does that happen in your country?

**Jay:** No, not in the States. While there are fight songs we call them, but people don't usually sing to them anymore. Maybe in the past, they did. However, here in Australia, it's still very common for the AFL football team, if they win a match after they win, they go into the locker room, and they sing their fight song before getting into the showers.

**Chris:** Yeah. Now I know that lots of people watching this video like karaoke. Karaoke. Karaoke is when you get together with a group of friends and you sing with the lyrics on the screen. Are you a fan of karaoke?

**Jay:** I love karaoke.

**Chris:** Excellent. One of the most common places for people to sing is where?

**Jay:** Singing in the shower.

**Chris:** Do you sing in the shower?

**Jay:** I sure do. Why do people sing in the shower?

**Chris:** I have no idea, and they also say that some of the best ideas come up in the shower, so singing and ideas maybe they are related.

**Jay:** So make sure you're taking showers everyone.

**Chris:** Exactly. What's the difference between hold a note? Can you hold a note?

**Jay:** No, it's another idiom.

**Chris:** And is another idiom that we've talked about in a previous class and to be tone-deaf.

**Jay:** Well, I think the difference is, if you can hold a note, then you can sing, essentially. You're a good singer, you can keep... We also would say that you have a good pitch and that means you can keep the sound steady, whereas if you're tone-deaf, you cannot do that and you might sound really bad when you try to sing.

**Chris:** Which one of those are you? Are you tone deaf or can you hold a note?

**Jay:** I think I can hold a note. Look, I am not a... I'm not going to be winning any musical awards or become a celebrity, but I think I can sing OK.

**Chris:** Excellent, I'm totally tone deaf, so don't ever ask me to sing.

**Jay:** Do you like going to karaoke?

**Chris:** I love karaoke, but I don't care if people think I'm not good. And finally, there are... if you don't sing, maybe in the test, you could say, but I don't sing, but actually, I hum or I whistle. Could you hum for us, and could you whistle for us?

**Chris:** So even though you're not talking about singing, you can say anything in a test. So, for example, you could say to be honest, I'm not a big singer, I'm actually tone-deaf, but I do like to hum when I'm driving. So there are lots of ideas for you. I hope that was helpful.

## VOCABULARY

**band (noun)** - a small group of musicians who play popular music together, often with a singer or singers

**burst (adjective)** - to break open or apart, especially because of pressure from inside; to make something break in this way

**characteristic (noun)** - a typical feature or quality that something/somebody has

**childhood (noun)** - the period of somebody's life when they are a child

**church (noun)** - a building where Christians go to attend services, pray, etc.

**comedian (noun)** - a person whose job is to make people laugh by giving a funny performance, for example by telling jokes or funny stories

**religion (noun)** - the belief in the existence of a god or gods, and the activities that are connected with the worship of them, or in the teachings of a spiritual leader