



## KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER: WORLD MUSIC 6



### K-Pop

\*K-Pop is music style that has developed since the 1990s. It's well-produced pop music is now a global phenomenon

\*Korean pop musicians incorporated Europop and American pop music styles such as hip hop, rock, jazz and electronic dance music in the 1990s. Idol bands of boys and girls were formed by big entertainment companies. K-Pop has grown into a subculture that has an enormous teenage fan base

\*K-Pop performers are ridiculously talented and excel in singing and dancing. Their images, hair and fashion, are carefully designed to suit a brand that reels in hundreds of fans

\*The development of online social media coverage has meant that Korean music can reach a wider audience

\***BTS**, also known as the Bangtan Boys, is a seven-member South Korean boy band. They have sold over 20 million albums and are the best-selling artist in South Korean history.

**BTS** became the first Asian and first non-English speaking act to headline and sell out Wembley Stadium. **BTS** attracts one in every 13 foreign tourists that visit South Korea.



\***Blackpink** is a successful girl group formed in 2016. Currently, **Blackpink** is the most-subscribed music group on YouTube. They have collaborated with **Lady Gaga** and currently have more followers on Spotify than *Fifth Harmony* and *Little Mix*

### Gangnam Style

**PSY** and this song are from South Korea! Whether you like it or not, this song has had 3.7 billion views on youtube and the video went viral in 2012 when it was released. It topped the music charts in 30 countries. It even had our Prime Minister at the time, *David Cameron*, and the US President at the time, *Barack Obama*, dancing. Gangnam literally means 'south of the river.'

### Traditional Korean Music

\*This is a traditional string instrument called the **Gayageum**. It looks rather like the *guzheng* (see World Music 4) but with less strings



\*On Jeju Island there are over 1600 folk songs—still sung today

\*Listen to a performance of '**Saetaryeong**' on youtube. This roughly translates to 'Bird Song.' It is fascinating. Women sing a beautiful song and sound like birds, they wear colourful dresses and play the Gayageum. Also watch a dance called '**Ganggangsullae**' - beautiful!

### Korea—the big divide



North Korea and South Korea were divided after the second World War. Since then, the two countries have not got on with each other. North Korea is a very strict place to live. You have to ask permission to travel and TVs and radios are tuned to North Korean channels. You can not use the internet so most North Koreans have little or no idea about the world. It is also an extremely poor place to live and punishment is harsh.

### South Korea

\*South Koreans live as we do and K-Pop comes from South Korea.

\*South Korea is roughly the same size as England

\*The capital city is **Seoul**. The Lotte World Tower in Seoul is the 5th largest in the world



\*The highest mountain is an active volcano found on *Jeju Island*—although it has not erupted in hundreds of years

\*There are fabulous beaches and even ski resorts.

\*The endangered *Siberian Tiger* lives in South Korea

