

25th October 2022

Dropping at midnight on October 20th, Taylor Swift's new album was a hit for the streaming app Spotify. Her tenth release, aptly named *Midnights*, was already breaking **worldwide** records on the first day of its release. Spotify were **congratulating** Taylor Swift on social media for being the most-streamed artist in a single day on its platform. While also revealing that *Midnights* now holds the record for its most-streamed album in a single day too. Spotify users were reporting large service outages on its platform as a result of the highly-anticipated album. Fans **dived in** at midnight to consume the new music, but for many this was only causing the app to crash. Describing the thirteen tracks on *Midnights*, Swift said they are a story of thirteen nights without much sleep. She said, "Life can be dark, starry, cloudy, terrifying, electrifying, hot, cold, **romantic** or lonely. Just like *Midnights*". Swift was teaming up with rock singer Jack Antonoff to write the album, however it is influenced more by electronica, synth-pop, and hip-hop. Spotify promoted the lead up to the release by posting lyrics from the album on **billboards** scattered around the world. After the release broke world records, Taylor Swift, marking the occasion with a shocked reaction, said on Instagram, "Like what even just happened?!"

Q1. _____

Lyrics are the words in a song. Where else do you often see song lyrics written? (For example, printed on a T-shirt.)

Imagine the word *app* is actually an acronym, not an abbreviation. What does it stand for? (Be creative!)

Q2. _____

Which bolded words in the text mean: *saying well done* - *advertising posters* - *international* - *loving* - *entered*

Q3. _____

"causing the app to *crash*"

What does the italicised word above mean: *play* - *stop* - *download*?

Q4. _____

Comprehension true or false:

1. The album was released at twelve noon.
2. Spotify said two records were broken on the day of release.
3. The Spotify app was offline for a day.
4. Taylor Swift changed her musical direction for this album.
5. Spotify ran an advertising campaign on billboards.

Q5. _____

Link the five synonym pairs:

- | | |
|-----------|----------------|
| 1. track | A. appropriate |
| 2. apt | B. song |
| 3. drop | C. jump |
| 4. lyrics | D. words |
| 5. dive | E. release |

Q6. _____

Spell the words correctly:

n r p g o d p i at midnight on October 20th
users were **p r t o r i g n e** service outages
the **y i h l h g** -anticipated album
fans **v d i d e** in at midnight
this was only **c a s u n g i** the app to crash

Q7. _____

Discussion questions / Writing practice:

Are there any celebrities you've unfollowed on social media? If so, why?

Do you make your own playlists on music apps? Why or why not?

Do you like to learn English from song lyrics?

Q8. _____

10 B2 revision keywords: underlined in text.