

Unit 10 Fame

Lesson A The rise to fame

1 Kelly Clarkson's rise to fame

Grammar Read the information about pop star Kelly Clarkson. Then complete the sentences below using the past perfect and past modals.

Kelly Clarkson was chosen from among hundreds of competitors to win *American Idol*, a TV talent show that lets viewers vote on the winner. Since winning in 2002, she has recorded a number of top-selling "hits" and has become a household name. Yet, her rise to fame came somewhat unexpectedly, as she had always dreamed of being a marine biologist.



1. If Kelly had followed (follow) her career dream, she might have become (might become) a marine biologist.
2. If a music teacher _____ (not hear) Kelly singing in the hall of her middle school, she _____ (not join) the school chorus.
3. If Kelly _____ (not learn) to sing classically in her school chorus, she _____ (might not be able) to use her voice in so many different ways.
4. If Kelly's friend _____ (not tell) her about *American Idol*, Kelly _____ (not try out) for the show.
5. If Kelly _____ (receive) 47% and not 57% of the final vote on *American Idol*, she _____ (not win) the competition.

2 More pop idols

Grammar Complete the interviews with the runners-up of a TV talent competition with the past perfect or past modal form of the verbs given. Sometimes more than one answer is possible.

A POP MAGAZINE EXCLUSIVE The Pop Artists You Voted For!

The Runners-Up

PM Why do you think you came in second, Beth?

Beth I definitely chose the wrong song. The judges didn't like it at all.

PM So, if you _____ (not sing) that song, _____ you _____ (win), do you think?

Beth Who knows? I _____ (have) a better chance. But it doesn't really matter because I had a great time.

PM How are you feeling, Ian?

Ian Well, I didn't realize how hard it would be. If I _____ (know), maybe I _____ (work) harder on my singing.

PM _____ you _____ (take) more singing lessons?

Ian Yeah, I _____ (look) for a voice teacher and maybe a dance teacher, too!

Beth Simon



Ian Wong



3 She might have become a famous ballerina.

Grammar Complete each story with your own ideas. Use past modals.

1. Emma was a top student in high school and in her dance classes. But then she dropped out of dance class to focus on her schoolwork. She then went on to study at Harvard University. If Emma hadn't stopped taking dance classes, she might have / could have become a famous ballerina
or she wouldn't have gone to Harvard.



2. Maemi always wanted to be a doctor, but on her 13th birthday, her parents gave her a camera. That was the start of her interest in photography, and she later became a professional photographer. If Maemi hadn't gotten a camera for her birthday, _____.

3. Stephanie loved to build things when she was younger. She even helped her father design an addition to their house. But when she was in high school, she was spotted by a modeling agency and became a model. She always says that _____ if she hadn't become a model.



4. Martin loved farming, but he had no interest in cooking. His grandmother nevertheless made him help her cook dinner every Sunday. Martin just opened his second organic restaurant. If his grandmother hadn't taught him how to cook, _____.

5. Hao-xing, a trombone player, was taking part in a competition. As he stepped on stage, he noticed a beautiful woman in the front row of the audience. While he was playing his piece, he became distracted by the woman. He forgot the music and didn't win the competition. If he hadn't seen the woman, _____.



4 About you

Grammar Complete the sentences with past modals and your own ideas.

- If I had left school at the age of 16, I might not have met the teacher who inspired me the most.
- If I hadn't taken English, _____.
- _____ if I hadn't worked so hard.
- If I had been born into a famous family, _____.
- _____ if I had practiced more.
- If my parents hadn't _____, _____.

1 Making headlines

Vocabulary

Complete the magazine article with the expressions in the box.

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| bad press | in the headlines |
| drop out of sight | in the right place |
| go downhill | made headlines |
| got discovered | take off |
| have connections | ✓up-and-coming |



Lucky Star

Up-and-coming movie star Gianna LaRose was seen having lunch with her boyfriend of two years, Rich Marsh, in Los Angeles earlier this week. The couple seemed relaxed and happy, even after the _____ their relationship has gotten recently. Ms. LaRose denied rumors of a split and happily signed autographs for her fans.

After losing last year's Best Breakthrough Performance Award, many people thought LaRose's

career could only _____, but just the opposite has happened. Ms. LaRose _____ recently when she was offered the lead role in director Rick Callahan's new blockbuster. This young actress has everything going for her. It's unlikely she will _____ anytime soon. Her career is just getting started and is sure to _____.

Ms. LaRose _____ five years ago while working at a movie

theater. Talent agent Erica Menken saw LaRose and thought she had "star qualities." The rest is history, as they say. Ms. LaRose says she was lucky to meet Ms. Menken. She was studying to be an actress, but she didn't _____ in the movie industry. "Meeting Erica was an example of being _____ at the right time," Ms. LaRose said.

Expect to see Ms. LaRose's name _____ for a long time.

2 A movie date

Grammar

Complete the sentences below with the tag questions in the box.



- It's great to go out and see a movie, _____ isn't it _____ ?
- We're not going to be late for the movie, _____ ?
- You haven't seen this movie yet, _____ ?
- You liked the movie, _____ ?
- It was interesting, _____ ?
- That actor has been in a lot of films, _____ ?

- | |
|------------|
| are we |
| didn't you |
| hasn't he |
| have you |
| ✓isn't it |
| wasn't it |

3 Stars among us

Grammar

Complete the conversations with the tag questions.

1. *A* Ben Affleck gives a lot of money to charity, doesn't he ?
B I didn't know that. You don't see it in the press very much, _____ ?
A No, but then, people often do charitable things quietly, _____ ?
B Maybe. But it's great to see someone who's so wealthy give money to good causes, _____ ?
A Sure, but I wish someone would give some to me!

2. *A* Oh, my goodness. That isn't Sheryl Crow, _____ ?
B I don't think so. She doesn't go shopping in this mall, _____ ?
A I don't know. I think it's her. She just signed that girl's shirt, _____ ?
B Hmm. It does kind of look like her, _____ ?
A See, I was right, _____ ? Come on. Let's go over and get her autograph, too!



4 Tell us about yourself.

Grammar

Imagine you are going to interview actor Reese Witherspoon. Write tag questions you can ask her to check the following facts.



Facts	Questions
1. raised in Nashville, Tennessee	You were raised in Tennessee, weren't you?
2. started acting at the age of seven	
3. first major role was in <i>The Man in the Moon</i>	
4. appeared in over 25 movies by the age of 30	
5. has produced several films	
6. married to actor Ryan Phillippe	
7. has two children	

1 Comic advice

Conversation strategies

Complete the conversation with tag questions.

Tina Hey, Max. How was the comedy workshop you went to last week?

Max Great. I'd like to be a comedian someday, but I'm not sure I'm ready.

Tina Well, you could take another comedy workshop, couldn't you ?

Max Yeah. . . . There's another one next month.

Tina Sounds good. You just need to call and sign up, _____ ?

Max Yeah. I wonder how all the famous comedians on TV got started.

Tina It would help to read some books about them, _____ ?

Max I guess. I'll go to the bookstore tonight. You know, the hardest thing is writing new and original jokes.

Tina Well, you could look for some books on joke writing, too, _____ ?

Max Yeah. I mean, I learned a bit about it in the workshop, but you never can tell what people will find funny.

Tina It would be a good idea to call some of the local comedy clubs, _____ ? And ask them if you could try out some of your jokes. They always need people to perform, _____ ? I'm sure the club owners could give you some advice, too. I mean, you need all the help you can get, _____ ?

Max Hey, that's not funny!



2 What's your advice?

Conversation strategies

Your friend is having a lot of bad luck lately. Read each situation and give your best advice and encouragement using tag questions.

1. I didn't do well on the last English test. I'm worried about my final grade.

I'm sure you could ask to take the test again, couldn't you?

2. I want to practice my English, but I don't know any English-speaking people.

3. I got in a horrible fight with my best friend. I don't know what to do.

4. I've gained some weight over the holidays. I don't fit into my jeans!

5. I forgot my boyfriend's birthday and never got him a present.

6. I lost my mother's necklace. What am I going to do?

3 That's a good question.

Conversation strategies

Match each question with the best response.



- | | |
|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What's the hardest thing about being famous? <u>b</u> 2. What do you plan to do next in your career? _____ 3. Who inspires you in your work? _____ 4. Do you consider yourself a role model? _____ 5. What would you do if you weren't an actor? _____ | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. That's a good question. I think I'd like to do some roles in theater. b. That's a tough one. I'd say it's probably always being in the public eye. You have no privacy. c. Good question. Actually, I can't imagine doing anything else, really. d. It's hard to say. There are so many good actors. I admire a lot of them. e. Oh, definitely. I try to set a good example for young people. |
|---|--|

4 To be famous or not to be famous . . .

Conversation strategies

Number the lines of the conversation in the correct order.

- _____ But if you were famous, you would be hanging out with other famous people, wouldn't you? That sounds like fun to me!
- _____ It's hard to say. Even if you're famous, you might not make a lot of money. Some politicians are famous, but they aren't rich – and they don't wear expensive clothes!
- 1 You want to be an actor, right? You *would* like to be famous someday, wouldn't you?
- _____ I'm not saying that wouldn't be fun. I just kind of like my privacy, that's all.
- _____ Oh, that's a tough question. Being famous would be nice, but I don't know if I'd like all the stuff that goes with it. I like acting. But that doesn't mean I want to be famous!
- _____ I know what you mean, but just think, you'd make a lot of money. Then you could buy all kinds of cool clothes, couldn't you?

1 Rap image**Reading****A** Read the article. Why do you think rap stars maintain their “bad boy” image?

Jay-Z



Missy Elliott

Many celebrities seem to be at ease with their fame, as if they had been born in the public eye. We see them in movies, on TV, and on magazine covers, shining back at us with perfect skin, hair, and clothes. It seems as though these celebrities have always been rich and famous, and it's hard to imagine their lives ever being any different. However, there is one notable group of stars that got their start on city streets where life was never easy, perfect, or glamorous.

Rap music started in the 1970s in a poor part of New York City, where life was often difficult and dangerous because of crime, unemployment, drugs, and violence. At that time, rappers like Grandmaster Flash and the Furious Five created rap as a form of poetry that reflected the way people like themselves lived in such a hard, inner-city neighborhood. Soon, hanging out with friends and rapping – and listening to others rap – became a way for many teenagers living on such tough city streets to express themselves creatively. Rap quickly spread to other cities in the United States and then became a worldwide phenomenon.

Even after its global success, many rap stars – such as 50 Cent, Jay-Z, Nelly, Missy Elliott, and Eminem – still come from poor or violent urban neighborhoods. Moreover, as rap artists become rich and famous, many choose to keep their tough “street image.” For example, their songs continue to reflect the language of the underprivileged neighborhoods where they grew up, and their clothes and accessories reflect – and influence – the style of urban youth around the world. However, some music fans are uncomfortable with the “bad boy” image of rap, especially with gangsta rappers, whom they criticize for including violent lyrics in their songs.

Rap is now part of a larger cultural phenomenon known as hip-hop, which has become a very successful and profitable industry. Hip-hop has inspired movies like *8 Mile* and influenced fashion design such as Rocawear and Sean John. Despite the billions of dollars the hip-hop industry has made through music, film, and fashion, it continues to maintain its tough street image – reflecting the environment that created it.

B Read the article again. Write *T* (true) or *F* (false). Then correct the false statements.

- Rap started in a ^{poor} ~~wealthy~~ neighborhood in New York City in the 1970s. F
- Rap was a way for kids in bad neighborhoods to get into trouble. _____
- After rap became popular, many of its stars came from rich backgrounds. _____
- Eminem came from a privileged background. _____
- Many rap stars don't like their controversial image. _____
- Rap music is often criticized for its violence. _____
- Rap and hip-hop have inspired movies and clothing. _____

2 A controversial rap star

Writing

A Read the paragraph about Eminem. Underline the topic sentence. Then cross out any information that does not support the topic.

Eminem is one of the most popular and controversial rap stars of the decade. He is known for his distinctive style of changing his pace several times within a song without losing the beat. He often uses a lot of bad language in his songs. He has been married and has one daughter. He is also

famous for telling stories in his songs, talking about his own life and childhood, making fun of celebrities, and criticizing politicians. He has short blond hair and often wears baggy jeans and sweatshirts. Unlike most rap stars who come from New York and Los Angeles, Eminem is from Detroit.

B Write a paragraph about a famous person. Write a strong topic sentence, and add more information and details in supporting sentences.

Unit 10 Progress chart

Mark the boxes below to rate your progress.

= I know how to . . . = I need to review how to . . .

To review, go back to these pages in the Student's Book.

Grammar	<input type="checkbox"/> talk hypothetically about the past using <i>if</i> clauses with the past perfect form of the verb and past modals	98 and 99
	<input type="checkbox"/> use negative and affirmative tag questions	100 and 101
Vocabulary	<input type="checkbox"/> use at least 8 idiomatic expressions to talk about fame	98, 99, 100, and 101
Conversation strategies	<input type="checkbox"/> soften advice and give encouragement using tag questions	102
	<input type="checkbox"/> use expressions like <i>That's a tough one</i> when questions are difficult to answer	103
Writing	<input type="checkbox"/> write a paragraph with a topic sentence and supporting sentences	105