

## 2

## Culture and the Art

- A) Museums, exhibitions, theatres, cinemas, concerts
- B) Famous people (singers, actors/actresses, directors)
- C) Theatre/cinema performance, favourite genres

Culture – several different meanings:

- a group of people who share the same beliefs and attitudes
- also music, art, literature that are a part of our lives

For many people cultural life is represented by fine arts and exhibitions and museum exhibits, as well as going to the cinema, the theatre and concerts of classical or pop music.

How rich is our cultural life is depends on both your interests and hobbies, as well where you live.

Large town: a good choice, plentiful cultural facilities

- several **cinemas** offering films, special matinees for children, you don't have to book tickets, you can buy them right at the cinema before the film starts; an important part of youth culture – they see it as an excellent place to meet friends, after the film they enjoy chatting about the plot, cast, scenes they liked most.
- Theatres – you can choose the performance: drama, comedy, opera, musical, ballet, pantomime and puppet show. Going to the theatre is a social event for most people, often necessary to buy tickets in advance. People usually dress up in their best clothes; they leave their coats in the cloakroom. After performance the audience applauds or standing ovation if the performance was especially brilliant.
- Fine art: art galleries to see exhibitions of classical or modern art – photographs, paintings, sculptures and book illustrations
- Museums – air and space, art, history, science and industry, technology, wax, natural science
- Concerts and music festivals are the most popular among young people. Concerts of classical (serious) music – usually held in the spring and the autumn in concert halls or churches, live pop concerts and folk festivals – in the summers at sports stadiums, open air theatres or even in some farmer's field

Village or small town – aren't many opportunities to have a rich cultural life, the only facility is usually the local 'house of culture' or community centre, or a village club for discos or balls. The only choice is television, videos and DVDs

### C) Theatre/cinema performance, favourite genres

*Positive evaluation:* fabulous, excellent, extraordinary, fantastic, first-rate, great, gorgeous, impressive, magnificent, unforgettable, splendid, memorable, exceptional, outstanding, remarkable, marvellous, sensational, special, superb, wonderful.

*Negative evaluation:* awful, boring, second-rate, frightful, horrible, terrible, rotten

*Not much good:* nothing special, forgettable, not bad, nothing to write home about, satisfactory, reasonable

## **Picture**

Tasks:

- Discuss and compare these art forms. Do you have any experience with them?
- Choose the art that appeals to you the most and describe it. Give reasons, why you have decided for this art.

## **Topic**

Tasks:

- Museums, theatres, cinemas, concerts – talk about possibilities to spend your free time in this way and say how often you go to some of these cultural facilities.
- Talk about the arts from the age point of view. Choose which arts are favourite ones for each generation and explain why. Include small children, teenagers, young married couples, people of your parents' age and elderly people.
- Say which cultural facilities and possibilities are there in Košice (cinema, theatre, concerts, and museums).
- Choose one of the performances you liked the most (music, theatre, dance, etc.). Tell us about it. Include the following: what event you went to, who you went with, what the atmosphere was like, what you liked and didn't like about it.

## **Role-play**

1. You would like to visit the East Slovakian Museum with a group of tourists but you have never been there before. Try to get the following information:

- exhibits that can be seen there,
- ticket price and discounts,
- opening times.

2. You have been to a concert. Your friend, who is a reporter for a school magazine, wants to write an article about the concert so he asked you for an interview. He wants to know the following information:

- when and where the concert was,
- what type of music it was, who took part in the concert,
- the atmosphere,
- your feelings,
- the ticket prices,
- if you would recommend to go for the concert to your friends