

## HAWAIIANS RECLAIM THEIR CULTURE

For the past three centuries Hawaiian culture has been attacked by the cultures of immigrant groups from places such as China, Japan, the Philippines, and, of course, the U.S. As early as the 1820s, cultural conflict led to the prohibition of the *hula*, which is a way of dancing and chanting in praise of the Hawaiian gods, among them Kane, the creator; Lono, god of harvests; and Ku, the god of war, regarded by Christian missionaries as pagan.

By the time Hawaii became a state in 1959, its culture had been seriously eroded<sup>1</sup>. Many Hawaiians were angered as they had to prove that they had at least 50 percent Hawaiian blood to receive land grants. This led to an insurgent movement in favor of land for all Kanaka Maoli, Original People, no matter how little native blood they had. Hawaiians resented the fact that in the new state the language continued to be forbidden in schools, and were enraged at the high crime rates and poor health standards.

Although the Hawaiians never lost their voice, only in the past two decades have people started paying close attention to them. Today the old term «part Hawaiian» is considered derogatory<sup>2</sup>, and of the 1.2 million people living in the islands, almost 250,000 identify themselves as «native Hawaiian», wholly or in combination with another ethnic group.

The 1970s saw four main expressions of the Hawaiian cultural renaissance: the recovery of the island of Kaho'olawe, the return of voyaging, the «Battle of the Bones», and the revival of traditional hula.

The U.S. military had been using the small island of Kaho'olawe as a bombing target since 1941, despite the fact that it contains some 2,000 archaeological sites. In the late 1970s the bombing provoked anger, demonstrations and occupation of this uninhabited island, which since 1990 has been set aside for the preservation of Hawaiian culture.

The 1970s also saw the revival of voyaging in the ancestral way, sailing the Pacific in traditional canoes. Hawaiian voyaging had ended in the 14th century but the art of navigating and the ancient methods of reading the stars still existed on remote Pacific islands. Pius Piailug, «Mau», has brought back the art of crossing the Pacific following the stars, and a proud culture of voyaging that teaches discipline and self-esteem has grown up around Hawaiian canoes.

The so-called Battle of the Bones erupted in the mid-1980s when a Ritz-Carlton hotel was proposed at Honokahua on a burial ground<sup>3</sup>. Protests were so strong that in 1989 the planned hotel was moved back to preserve the sanctity of the site, and new laws were passed to prevent buildings from desecrating ancient Hawaiian sites.

Hula is a symbol of the Hawaiian people. It is a performance of storytelling, chanting and stamping<sup>4</sup>, by one person or in groups. It is entertainment as well as a formal way of greeting visitors and of praising events and places. It teaches Hawaiian language, history, genealogy and spirituality. To most natives, hula was life, so it was not surprising that mothers used to teach hula to their daughters before they could walk.

*(From the press. Adapted)*

<sup>1</sup>*erode*: erosionar, desgastar

<sup>2</sup>*derogatory*: despectiu / despectivo

<sup>3</sup>*burial ground*: cementiri / cementerio

<sup>4</sup>*stamping*: picar de peus / patear, golpear el suelo con los pies

## PART ONE: READING COMPREHENSION

Answer the following questions according to the information in the text *Hawaiians reclaim their culture*.

[Questions 1, 2 and 3: 1 point each. Questions 4 and 5: 0.5 points each]

1. How did the Christian missionaries help destroy the Hawaiian culture?

2. Write three events that made Hawaiians angry.

3. Why do you think Pius Mau Piailug became a hero for young Hawaiians?

4. This text suggests that today a Hawaiian is...

- anyone with any Hawaiian blood, even if it is only one per cent.
- someone who is the tenth generation of missionaries or Japanese planters.
- all the American citizens, including the Kanaka Maoli, born after 1959.

5. Which of the following sounds the best definition of «hula»?

- A song contest in which performers dance to praise their families and enemies.
- A religious Polynesian party in which women teach their children to walk.
- A Polynesian dance performed for enjoyment, welcoming, narrating and teaching.

## PART TWO: WRITING

Choose **one** topic. Write about either 1 or 2. Minimum length: 100 words.

[0-4 points]

1. You are a reporter for «The Honolulu Times». Write an interview with Waipo Mapuana, the director of a school in which classes are conducted in Hawaiian. Talk about the difficulties and challenges of teaching and speaking this language and of trying to revive Hawaiian traditions.
2. You are Sabra Kauka, a girl from Molokai. Write a letter to a penfriend in Spain. Tell her / him about your country (land, people, climate, food, traditions, interesting places...). Invite your penfriend to visit the beautiful islands of Hawaii.

# PROVA AUDITIVA

**A WONDERFUL NIGHTINGALE. THE EVA CASSIDY STORY****Introduction**

In this TV programme you are going to hear the following words. Read and listen to them. Make sure you know what they mean.

*Nightingale*: rossinyol / ruiseñor

*Nursery*: viver de plantes / plantel

*Demo*: gravació de prova / grabación de prueba

*Release*: editar (un disc) / editar (un disco)

Ready?

Now read the questions on the next page. Read them carefully before listening to this interview.

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**A WONDERFUL NIGHTINGALE. THE EVA CASSIDY STORY**

An interview with Dan Cassidy

**PRESENTER**: I'm Sally Cornfield. Welcome to *Crying Guitar*, your favourite chat show on music. Most pop stars are living legends. Quite a few –Elvis Presley, Jim Morrison, Frank Sinatra...– have become myths after successful careers. It is a wonder that one has reached stardom only after her death, and against her own wishes. This is the story of Eva Cassidy. Tonight with us in the studio is Dan Cassidy, who is going to help us pick out some highlights about his sister. Hi, Dan!

**DAN**: Hi, Sally.

**PRESENTER**: Tell us how Eva became interested in music.

[Now listen to the rest of the interview]

## QUESTIONS

Choose the correct answer. Only one answer is correct. Look at number 0 as an example.  
[0,25 points each correct answer]

0. Most pop stars are living legends
- because they are dead.
  - while they are still alive.
  - during their lives, never after death.
1. It was through her father that Eva...
- became interested in drawing when she was a baby.
  - discovered folk music.
  - learned to play the guitar and violin and sang for a teenage group, Stonehenge.
2. Eva's other talents included...
- painting and pottery.
  - gardening.
  - all of the above.
3. Which of the following is the best picture of Eva Cassidy?
- She never wanted to be a famous pop star.
  - She agreed to sing all kind of songs (folk, gospel, blues) to please her managers.
  - She loved outdoor concerts and songs about the environment.
4. With what other singer did Eva record an album of duets?
- Ray Charles.
  - Chris Biondo.
  - Chuck Brown.
5. Which of the following is not an Eva Cassidy album?
- "Songbird".
  - "The Other Side".
  - "Fields Of Gold".
6. "Danny Boy"...
- was a quick success in 1910.
  - was a successful song only when the melody was changed.
  - was one of the 100 songs written by F.W.Weatherley.
7. When Eva Cassidy died...
- it was a warm winter day.
  - all her friends sang outside her bedroom window.
  - a lot of people got together in a park to pay tribute to her.
8. Today Dan Cassidy lives...
- on an island.
  - in Ireland.
  - in Iceland.