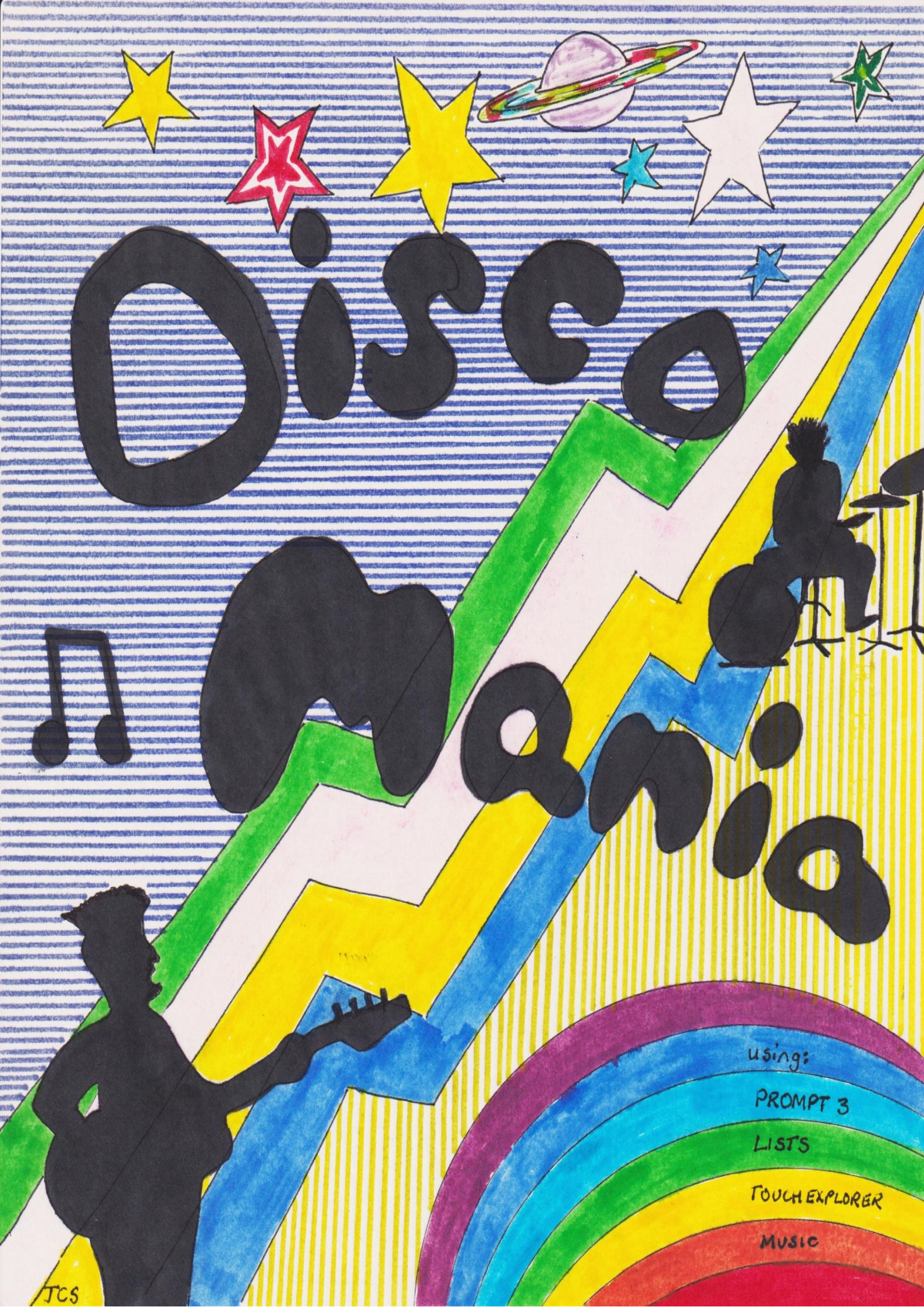




Disco Mania

using:
PROMPT 3
LISTS
TOUCH EXPLORER
MUSIC

DiscoMania

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DISCO MANIA

INTRODUCTION

DISCO MANIA is a suite of programs with prepared overlays which are designed to provide curriculum support to motivate reluctant readers, by presenting them with materials related to pop songs, with which they are probably already acquainted aurally/orally. Different overlays encourage the development of different skills: sequencing; rhyming; matching; editing; sentence building; vocabulary extension; creative writing, but the underlying objective is to encourage and develop reading / comprehension / writing skills in a format that is interesting to older students with learning difficulties.

PROGRAMS

Four framework programs are used for DISCOMANIA: PROMPT3 - a simple wordprocessor that can be used with a concept keyboard; TOUCH EXPLORER - a discovery program; LISTS - a simple database MUSIC - a simple music-making program. All these programs were originally content-free, but in DISCOMANIA files and overlays have been prepared on a pop-music-world theme to show how they might provide material that is stimulating and motivating for reluctant learners or those with specific learning difficulties. The files can be easily adapted and expanded to suit the particular needs of specific pupils, either by the teacher or with help, by the pupil.

There are two kinds of files that can be used with PROMPT3:

- the OVERLAYS are files to dedicate specific areas of the concept keyboard to words/phrases/letters that can be input from the concept keyboard alone or in combination with the qwerty keyboard;

- the PAGES are prepared screens of writing which may be edited/ expanded or written on by the pupil, either in conjunction with the concept keyboard, the qwerty keyboard or a combination of the two.

Some overlays and pages are prepared in Discomania (see below), but by using the PROMPT3 Utility disc, the teacher is quickly and easily able to edit or make new files. Further details can be obtained from the PROMPT3 documentation.

The files with TOUCH EXPLORER show three ways this program may be used:

- as a computerised board game, which provides an incentive to read and react to instructions;
- as simple thesaurus/spelling aid;
- as a discovery tool - the Extra words overlay can be loaded, the concept board covered with a blank sheet of paper and the pupil draws/writes or puts on a cut-out object in the place he has touched, to correspond with the information that appears on the screen.

This facility can also given a spoken output if a Votrax/Namal Type and Talk unit is used, which gives even more assistance to the very poor reader.

The beginnings of a database on personalities in the pop world has been entered on the LISTS program. This is capable of holding 60 entries, so the existing file can be personalised by the pupils with their own favourites, using the existing fields. This data can then be searched in a chosen field to provide stimulus material for discussion / graphs / maths. work etc. Having gained experience on the prepared file, further files can be compiled, using new fields or different topics. To make the database work effectively, it is necessary for the pupils to read / write / select criteria with great accuracy and LISTS provides a simple and user-friendly means of accomplishing this. Pop magazines are a ready source of data and the Smash Hits Sticker Books have short potted biographies of the current pop stars/groups. The pupils could use one of these books to make a class collection, or use the LISTS printouts to compile their own.

The MUSIC program is one of the MICROSPECIAL suite and provides an easy way for slow learners to record their compositions. The pupil plays it on the simulated keyboard and then replays it and edits it by extending/shortening the lengths of the notes until it sounds right. This can be useful to help encourage rhythms, sequences and coding skills for pupils with specific learning difficulties.

NOTES FOR PREPARED OVERLAYS

A) ROCK ADVENTURE

The object of the game is to become a popstar or an entrepreneur, by moving around the board, obtaining or losing tokens until you are successful.

What you need: ROCK overlay; counters for each player; number of tokens; number spinner.

How to play: Each player chooses a yellow disc to start, presses it and then places his counter on it. Using the number spinner to decide how many discs to move, each player moves around the board until he gets the command to press the STAR. If he has sufficient tokens, he has finished the game; if not, then he continues exploring the board until he has.

The messages under each disc give a suggestion of possible routes of success in the pop world and highlight some likely pitfalls. Having played the game a few times, the players could use their experiences as the basis for discussing the glamour/reality of the pop world; the careers of some real pop stars; their own/ friends' experiences.

B) MUSIC KEYBOARD

The music keyboard can be used with the Microspecial Pack MUSIC to compose tunes for the pupils own songs, or to try and input current pop tunes.

C) KEYBOARD

This overlay can be used with PROMPT3 for word processing instead of the qwerty keyboard if the pupil has difficulty in using upper case letters, or physically handling the computer keyboard. It also allows coloured text to be input onto the VDU for highlighting words, or for use with a colour-coded reading scheme, but does not produce a coloured printout.

D) EXTRA WORDS

1. DISCO (VOCAB1/STORY1)
2. CLOTHES - GIRLS (VOCAB11/EW2)
3. CLOTHES - BOYS (VOCAB12/EW3)
4. ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT (VOCAB13/EW4)
5. ELECTRICAL INSTRUMENTS (VOCAB14/EW5)

These overlays may be used with TOUCH EXPLORER or PROMPT3 to help pupils with spelling/writing/identification of objects and activities related to their pop experiences. The TOUCH EXPLORER (EWn) files can be used with the provided overlays, as the basis for discussion, for reading experience or for the pupil to independently identify the words for objects. With a blank overlay, the pupil can explore the board, trying to identify the missing objects from the clues he obtains, by pressing different areas on the board. The PROMPT3 files may be used by the pupil to extend his written work by:

1. accessing words/phrases in context from the concept keyboard, for his own qwerty-keyboard written text;
2. using part of the screen as a temporary scribbling pad, on which to dump words and phrases from the concept keyboard, to provide spellings for copy-typing or original writing. Later the unwanted words can be deleted before printing.

E) DISCO 1

Using STORY2 page and VOCAB2 overlay, the pupil can attempt a simple cloze type exercise. A small amount of individual interpretation is possible. The page can be used on its own, with the pupil using the qwerty keyboard or KEYBOARD2 to input his own words.

F) DISCO 2

Having loaded the STORY3 page and VOCAB3 overlay, the pupil can use the overlay to start sentences for his own disco story. The later part of each sentence is input from the qwerty keyboard. When the story is complete, the teacher can print off an unedited version for the record if wanted, before helping the pupil to edit and print a final copy.

G) IT GOES WITH . . .

The pupils do not need to write rhyming verses for their songs, but for those that wish to, using this overlay with Touch Explorer will enable them to look at some of the more common rhyming words that are used in popular songs; other desired can easily be added to the overlay and edited into the program file. Having scanned the lists on Touch Explorer, the same overlay can be used with Prompt3. The new song can be written in from the qwerty keyboard and when needed, by moving the cursor to the bottom of the screen, the relevant rhyming words can be input to help with spelling/inspiration(?) and then deleted before the final printout.

H) TOP TEN

STORY4 can be loaded to use as a basis for printing a Top Ten list. Make sure the screen is set in OVERWRITE. VOCAB4 has the details for a particular week, which can be used initially as an exemplar. The title and singer/group are entered separately, so the overlay can be used as a matching/sequencing exercise first. A fun list can be compiled by mixing up singers and songs, which could then be disentangled by another pupil. When the pupil notices that these particular songs are no longer current hits, he can bring in the latest data and compile his own list.

I) PICK THE RHYME

When VOCAB5 overlay has been loaded, the pupil can gain experience in reading and matching rhymes, using the words of a song that are familiar to him. The first part of the line can be input as a whole and then completed with the correct final word from the righthand list. Colour coding on the screen gives an extra clue for the correct match.

J) CHICKEN SONG

The data under the pictures on the VOCAB6 overlay corresponds to the phrases on the righthand half. Either of these can be used in conjunction with the STORY6 page to write out the words of the song. They can also be used as a matching exercise, where the picture is pressed first, followed by RETURN and then the correct phrase can be selected and printed underneath. If the wrong phrase is chosen, the pupil can take the cursor back to the beginning of the phrase and overwrite it with the correct one. An alternative way of using this overlay is to input a phrase from the concept

board, press RETURN and then copy type it from the qwerty keyboard. It is not essential to print the song out in the correct order, so the pupil can make a 'fun' version.

K) MANIC MONDAY

STORY7 provides a text with missing words that can be used as a simple cloze-type exercise, using the words on the VOCAB7 overlay. This can be used as presented, with only relevant words, or other words can be added later to make selection more difficult.

L) MAKE A SONG 1

M) MAKE A SONG 2

These two overlays are given so that the pupils can gain reading/matching experience with a rhyming cue, before going on to make simple songs of their own. A printout can also be used in conjunction with the music program to compose their own songs.

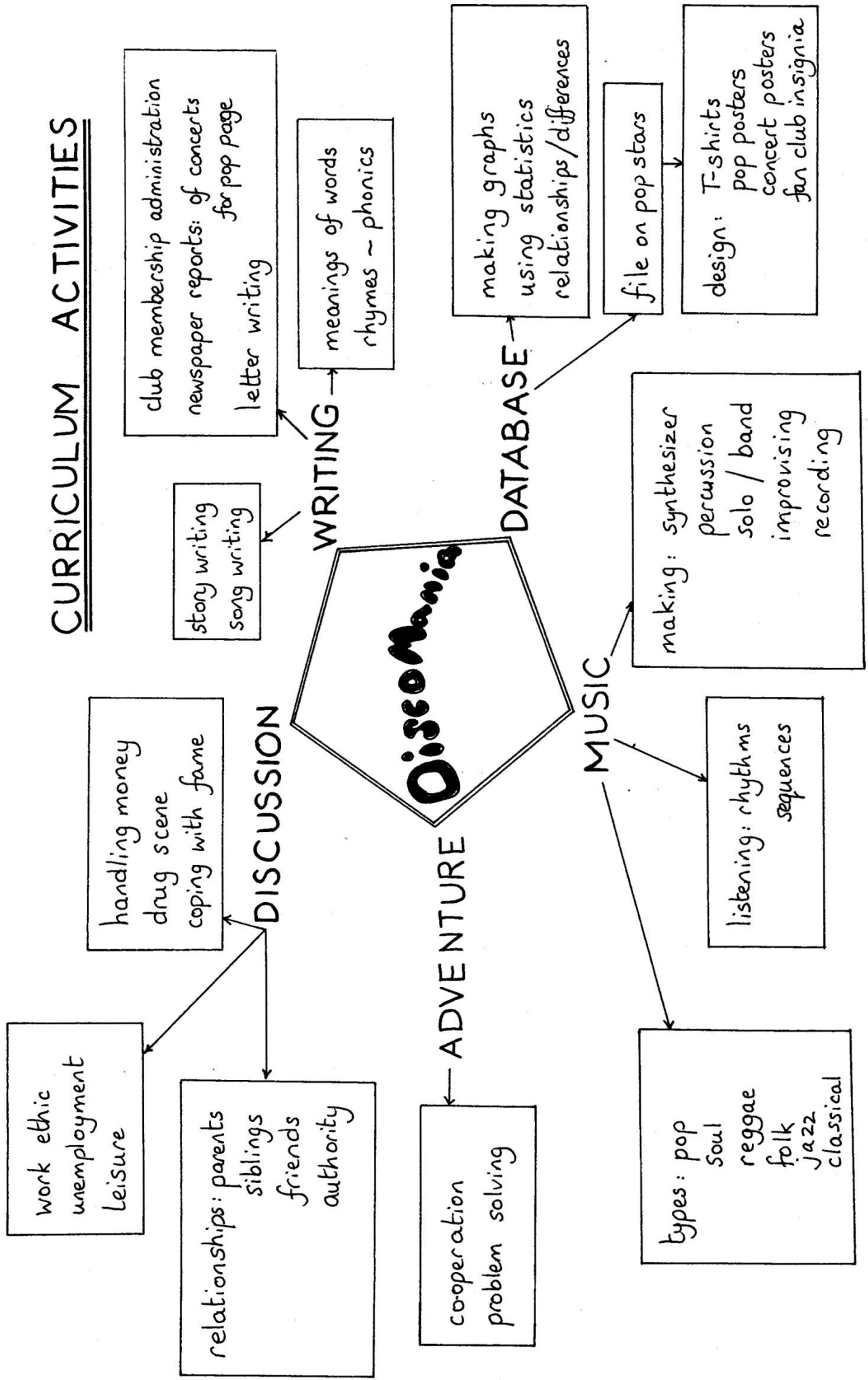
PAGE FILES

fan1 Membership card for x Fan Club - use with KEYBOARD
fan2 Rules for x Fan Club membership
story1 The Pop Concert - fill in missing words from VOCAB1
story2 The Disco - fill in missing words from VOCAB2
story3 The Disco - write own story using qwerty keyboard and VOCAB3
story4 Top Ten - compile the top ten record titles/singers from VOCAB4
story6 The Chicken Song - sequence lines of the song from VOCAB6
story7 Manic Monday - fill in missing words from VOCAB7
story8 Write a Song - build a song from phrases/words on VOCAB8/9

REFERENCES

The Smash Hits Collection	Figurine Panini	Minicards Ltd.:
116-120 Goswell Rd., London EC1V 7QD		
Chicken Song cartoons	Kipper Williams	Smash Hits vol.8/11
LISTS	Alan Nixon	CET(Public domain)
PROMPT3	Rik Leedale/Dave King	CET(Public domain)
TOUCH EXPLORER	Chris Snowden/Frank Johnson	Manchester SEMERC
MUSIC	SMDP Microspecial pack	W.Collins/Hall McGibbon

CURRICULUM ACTIVITIES



SAMPLE PRINTOUT FROM LISTS

Popstar NUMBER 1

Name: Michael Jackson
Born: August 29th. 1958
Place: Gary, Indiana, USA
Group: Jackson Five
Part: Singer
Other:

Popstar NUMBER 2

Name: Paul McCartney
Born: June 18th. 1942
Place: Liverpool, UK
Group: Beatles; Wings
Part: Singer; guitar; composer
Other:

Popstar NUMBER 3

Name: Toyah Wilcox
Born: May 18th. 1958
Place: Birmingham, UK
Group: Toyah
Part: Singer
Other: Wears exotic clothes

Popstar NUMBER 4

Name: Christopher Limahl
Born: December 19th. 1958
Place: Wigan, UK
Group: Limahl; Kajagoogoo
Part: Singer
Other:

Popstar NUMBER 5

Name: George Michael Panos
Born: June 25th. 1963
Place: London, UK
Group: Wham
Part: Singer
Other:

Popstar NUMBER 6

Name: George Alan O'Dowd
Born: June 14th. 1961
Place: London, UK
Group: Boy George / Culture Club
Part: Singer
Other: Plaited hair / ribbons etc.

Popstar NUMBER 7

Name: Michael Barrett
Born: March 4th. 1948
Place: Cardiff, UK
Group: Shakin' Stevens
Part: Singer; guitar
Other: Sings old rock 'n roll songs

SAMPLE PRINTOUT FROM FIELD " BORN in 1958"

LOOKING FOR Born:1958

Popstar NUMBER 1

Name:Michael Jackson
Born:August 29th. 1958
Place:Gary, Indiana, USA
Group:Jackson Five
Part:Singer
Other:

Popstar NUMBER 3

Name:Toyah Wilcox
Born:May 18th. 1958
Place:Birmingham, UK
Group:Toyah
Part:Singer
Other:Wears exotic clothes

Popstar NUMBER 4

Name:Christopher Limahl
Born:December 19th. 1958
Place:Wigan, UK
Group:Limahl; Kajagoogoo
Part:Singer
Other:

Popstar NUMBER 10

Name:Simon le Bon
Born:October 27th. 1958
Place:London, UK
Group:Duran Duran
Part:Singer; lyrics writer
Other:Sails yacht round the world

Popstar NUMBER 12

Name:Gary Webb
Born:March 3rd. 1958
Place:London, UK
Group:Gary Numan
Part:Singer; keyboards
Other:

Popstar NUMBER 13

Name:Madonna Ciccone
Born:August 16th. 1958
Place:Detroit, USA
Group:Madonna
Part:Singer
Other:

SAMPLE PRINTOUT FROM FIELD " BORN IN JUNE "

LOOKING FOR Born:JUNE

Popstar NUMBER 2

Name:Paul McCartney
Born:June 18th. 1942
Place:Liverpool, UK
Group:Beatles; Wings
Part:Singer; guitar; composer
Other:

Popstar NUMBER 5

Name:George Michael Panos
Born:June 25th. 1963
Place:London, UK
Group:Wham
Part:Singer
Other:

Popstar NUMBER 6

Name:George Alan O'Dowd
Born:June 14th. 1961
Place:London, UK
Group:Boy George / Culture Club
Part:Singer
Other:Plaited hair / ribbons etc.

Popstar NUMBER 16

Name:Alison Moyet
Born:June 18th. 1961
Place:Billericay, UK
Group:Yazoo
Part:Singer
Other:

Popstar NUMBER 19

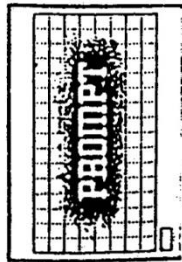
Name:Errol Kennedy
Born:June 9th. 1953
Place:Montego Bay, Jamaica
Group:Imagination
Part:Drummer
Other:Brother of Grace Kennedy

(light)



Filename: Keybrd2

a	b	c	d	e	f	g		A	B	C	D	E	F	G
h	i	j	k	l	m	n		H	I	J	K	L	M	N
o	p	q	r	s	t	u		O	P	Q	R	S	T	U
v	w	x	y	z						V	W	X	Y	Z
					1	2	3	4	5		red	green	yellow	dark blue
.	,	:	;		6	7	8	9	0		pink	light blue	white	
?	!	"	'		+	-	x	÷	=		CAPITAL	RETURN	←	→
(	)	-	*		£	<	>	%	/		SPACE	DELETE	↑	↓



M.E.P. Special Needs Software Centre

David King (03/02/86)



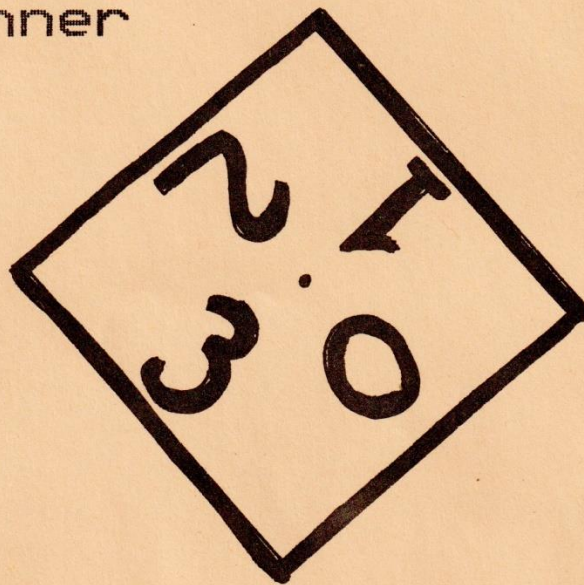
Boy George

Popstar NUMBER 6
Name: George Alan O'Dowd
Born: June 14th. 1961
Place: London, UK
Group: Boy George / Culture Club
Part: Singer
Other: Plaited hair / ribbons etc.

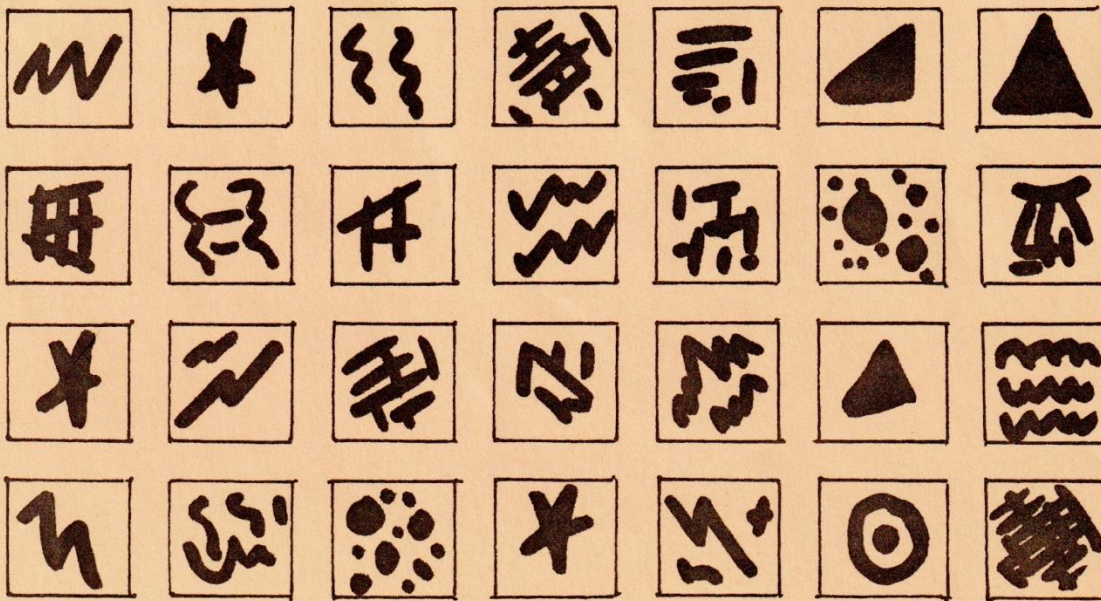
ROCK ADVENTURE

Photocopy this page and stick onto card. Pierce the spinner with a match stick.

Number spinner



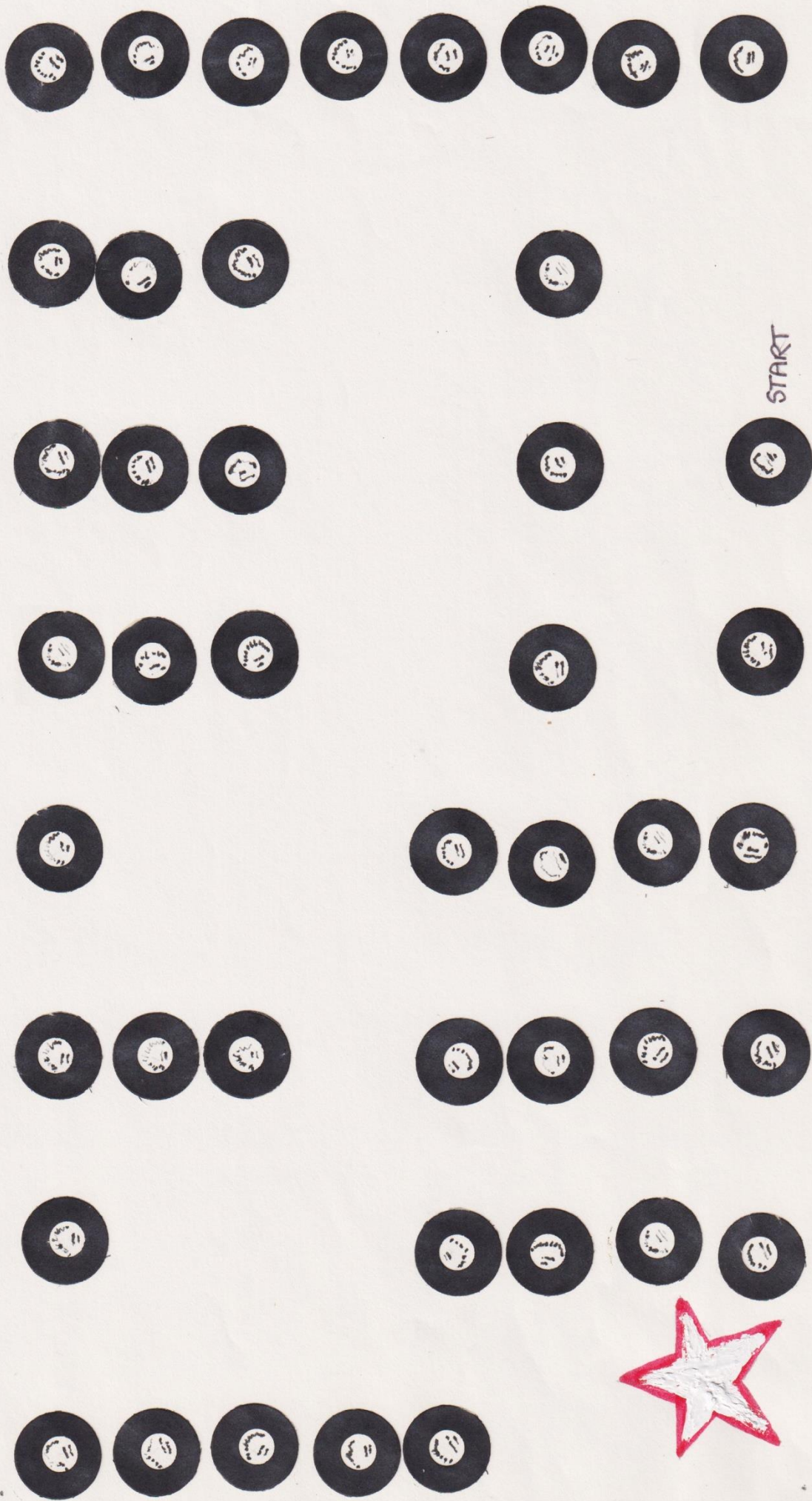
Tokens



↓	↑	←	→	RETURN	SPACE	SHIFT	DELETE

A

W
A
K
E
U
P
!



START



ROCK

end

load
save

play		edit		next note	long	short	change	insert	delete
------	--	------	--	--------------	------	-------	--------	--------	--------

new tune													
pause	C	D	E	F	G	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	mistake

English Words

DI

fantastic	brilliant	fabulous	outrageous	-ed	←
exciting	happy	moody	tingle	-ing	→
in the best possible taste	grotty	boring	mediocre	-ful	↑
magic	atrocious	amazing	incredible	-fully	↓
great	out of this world	beautiful	lovely		RETURN
gorgeous	marvellous	supercalifragilistic-expialidocious			SPACE
fifteen	sixteen				SHIFT
ten	eleven	twelve	thirteen	fourteen	DELETE

Disco 2

F

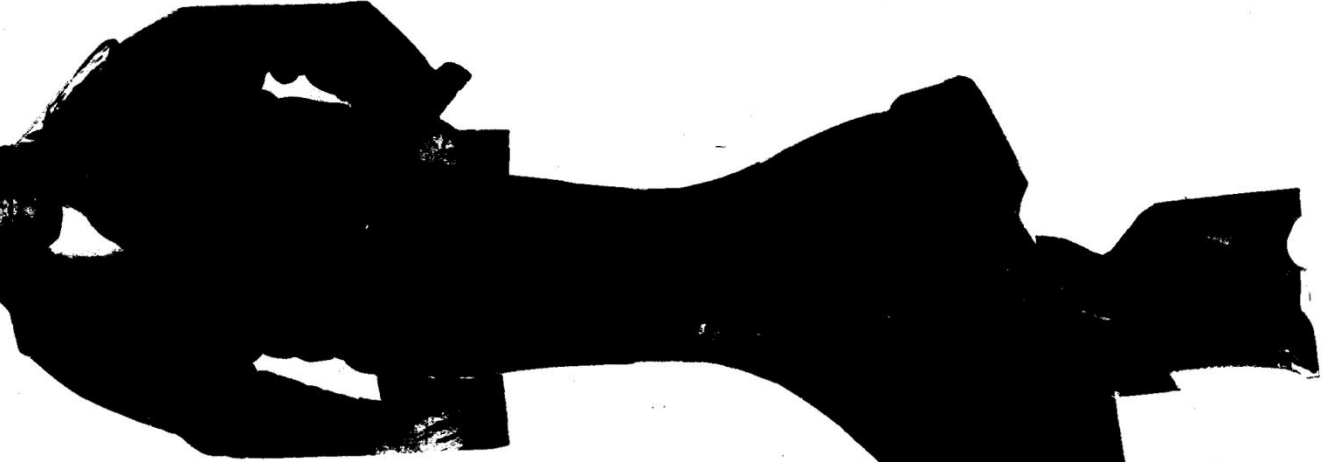
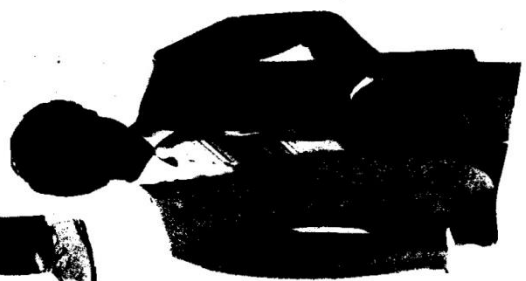
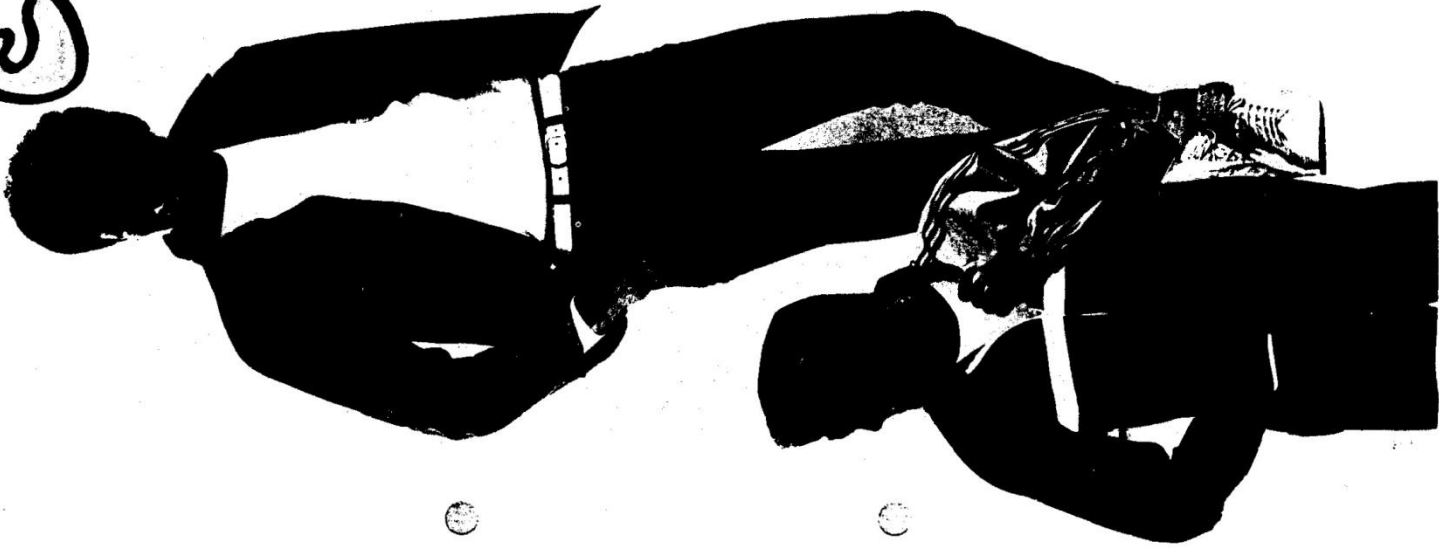
←	→	↑	↓	RETURN	SPACE	SHIFT	DELETE
* We go to the disco... * We appreciate the... * I like to go... * We enjoy ourselves.... * We like to.... * We meet lots of....							

[illegible]

Extra

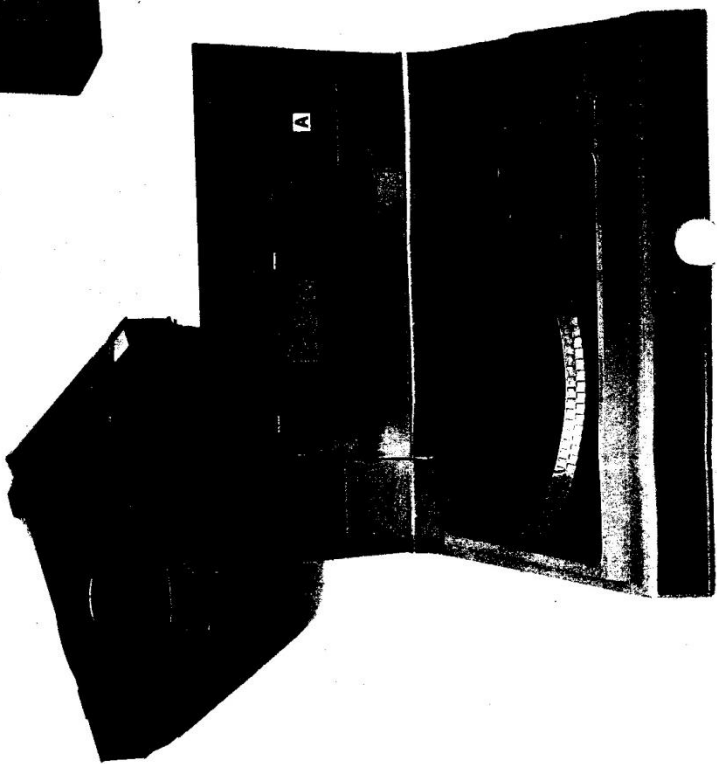
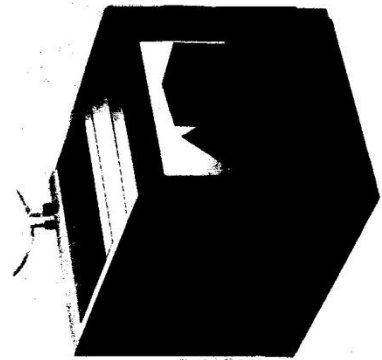
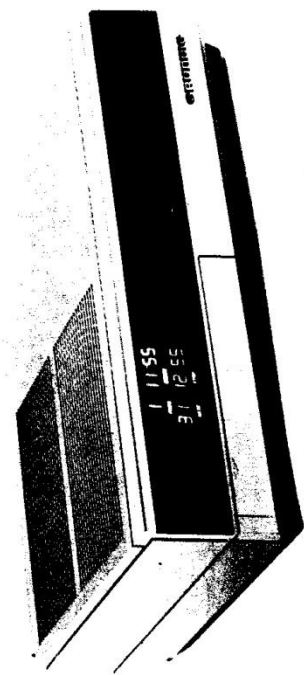
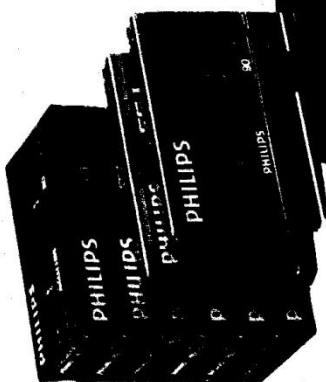
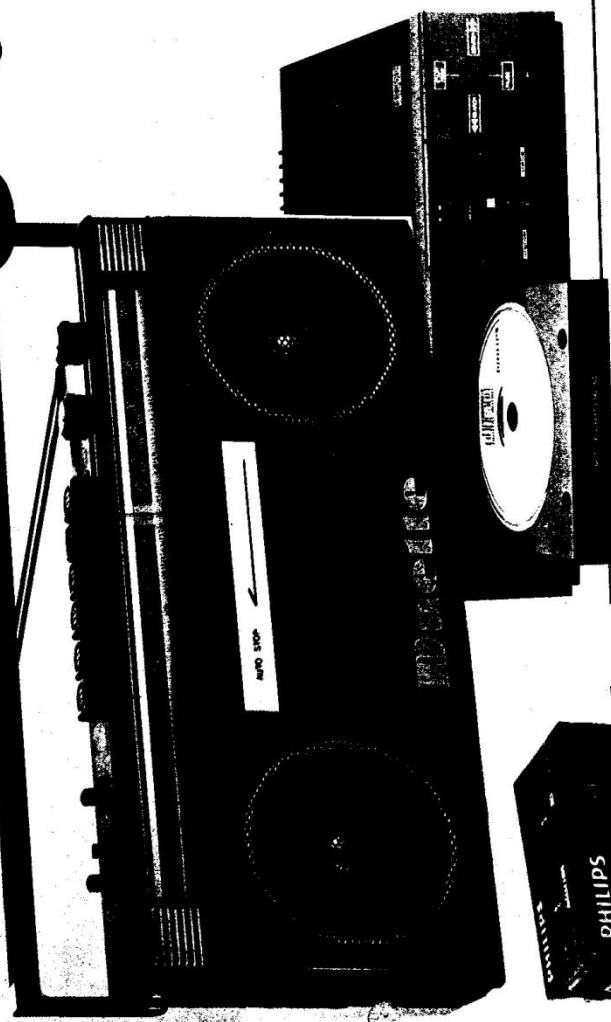
Words

3



↓	↑	↑	↓	RETURN	SPACE	SHIFT	DELETE
---	---	---	---	--------	-------	-------	--------

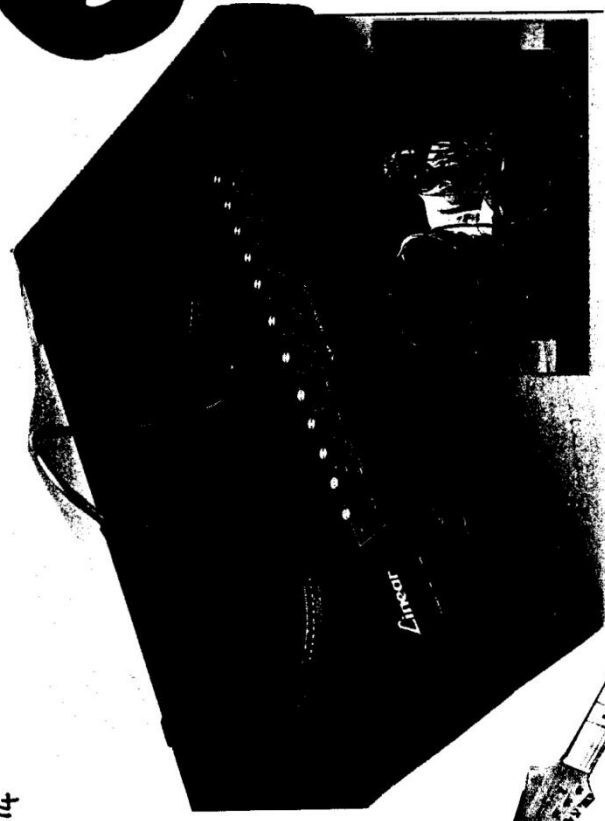
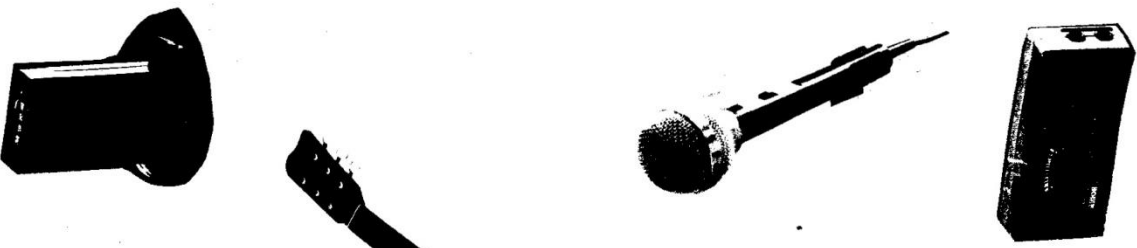
Extra Words 4



↓	↑	↑	↓	RETURN	SPACE	SHIFT	DELETE
---	---	---	---	--------	-------	-------	--------

Extra Words^{DS} 5

→	←	↑	↓	RETURN	SPACE	SHIFT	DELETE
---	---	---	---	--------	-------	-------	--------



DISCO 1

E

←	→	↑	↓	RETURN	SPACE	SHIFT	DELETE
disco	music	boys	girls	and			
friend	every week						
dance	often						
sing	sometimes						

06

గ్రంథాల దర్శనం...

G

-ear	-un	-ay	-ea	←
-ill	-ove	-ide	-oon	→
				←
				→
				RETURN
				SPACE
				SHIFT
				DELETE

ପିଠିକି ଖେଳ ଚାଲୁଛି

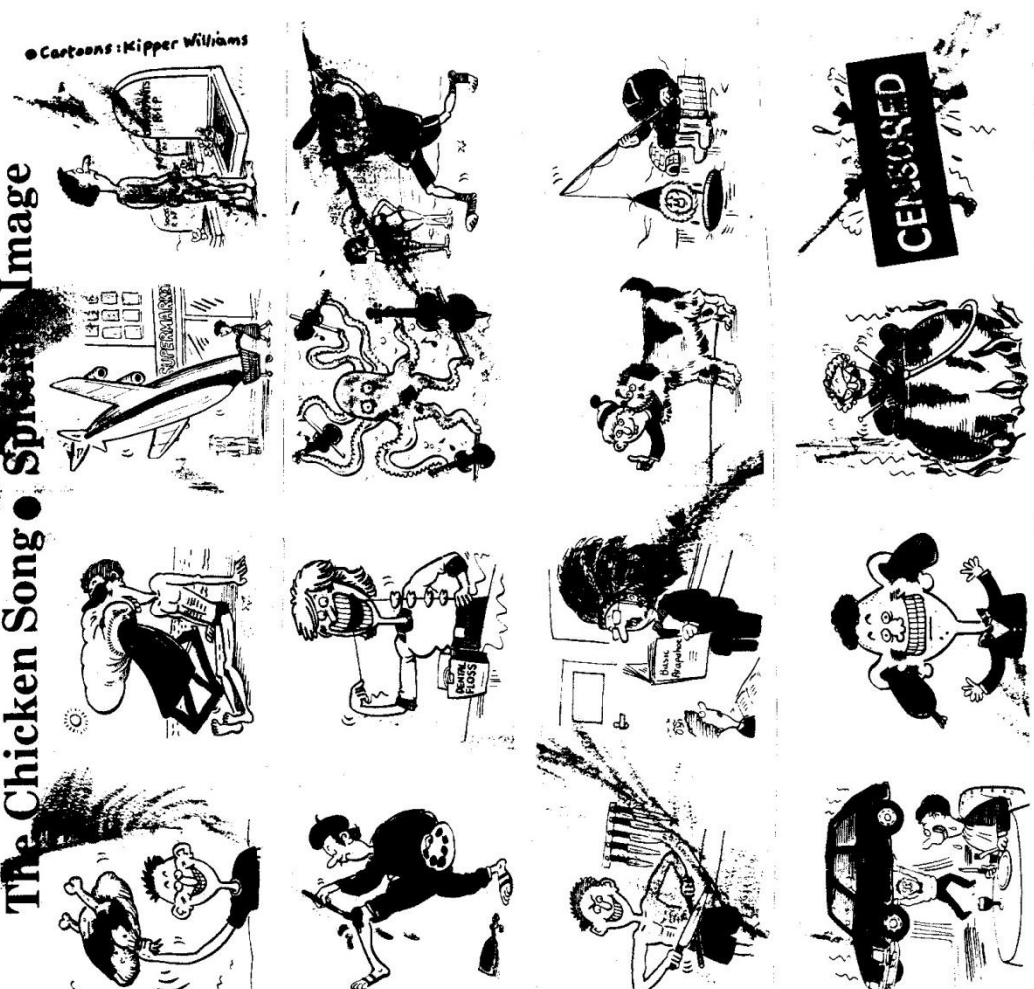
I

←	back
→	black
↑	snooker cue
↓	do
RETURN	loopy
SPACE	me
SHIFT	we
DELETE	

Snooker loopy nuts are.....
Me and him and them and....
We'll show you what we can....
With a load of balls and a....
Pot the reds and then screw...
For the yellow, green, brown, blue pink and
Snooker loopy nuts are
We're all snooker.....

සිංහල වචන

උ

←	→	↑	↓	RETURN	SPACE	SHIFT	DELETE
Hold a chicken in the air, Buy a jumbo jet Paint your left knee green Form a string quartet Skin yourself alive Climb inside a dog Eat a Renault car Casserole your gran	Stick a deckchair up your nose And then bury all your clothes Then extract your wisdom teeth And pretend your name is Keith Learn to speak Arapahoe! And behold an eskimo Wear salami in your ears Disembowel yourself with spears	© Cartoons: Kipper Williams 					

Manic Monday

K

manic Monday

fun day

run day

Sunday

dream

stream

paid

made

←

→

↑

↓

RETURN

SPACE

SHIFT

DELETE

Make a Song!

Wont you come with

near

For a day by the

you

I want you

Every day of the

sea

'Cos I love

I really love

me

year

←

→

↑

↓

RETURN

SPACE

SHIFT

DELETE

M

Make a Song

Please dont

....

Every

We could have such

If you would only

Close beside

Yes, close beside

away

me

stay

run

day

fun

←

→

↑

↓

RETURN

SPACE

SHIFT

DELETE