



### Local Heroes: Singers and Songwriters

Name of Artist / Band:	Mark Knopfler	
Style of Music:	Rock / Blues / Roots / Country	
When they started releasing songs:	1977	
Top Five Hits	<i>Name of Song</i>	<i>YouTube Link</i>
1.	Local Hero	<a href="https://youtu.be/DfXUyQsmXRk">https://youtu.be/DfXUyQsmXRk</a>
2.	Sailing to Philadelphia	<a href="https://youtu.be/GtxuWycNgfo">https://youtu.be/GtxuWycNgfo</a>
3.	What It Is	<a href="https://youtu.be/jGmtonlys5A">https://youtu.be/jGmtonlys5A</a>
4.	Sultans of Swing (Dire Straits)	<a href="https://youtu.be/AaAE33rMTSk">https://youtu.be/AaAE33rMTSk</a>
5.	Walk of Life (Dire Straits)	<a href="https://youtu.be/kd9TIGDZGkl">https://youtu.be/kd9TIGDZGkl</a>

### Suggested Tasks

Create a fact file about this singer or band.

Pick one of the top five songs and answer listening questions

Complete the comprehension task

Learn to play a song or piece by this band or artist

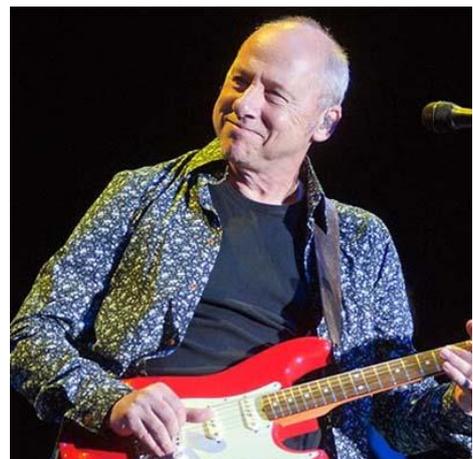
### Useful Websites:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mark\\_Knopfler](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mark_Knopfler)

<https://www.markknopfler.com>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/music/artists/e49f69da-17d5-4c5c-bac0-dadcb0e588f5>

### Photograph of Performer:



## Listening Task

Pick one of the “top five” songs and answer the following questions:

Name of song:

1. Name the instruments and voices you can hear:

2. Is this piece in a major (sounds happy) or minor (sounds sad) key?

3. How would you describe the mood of the music? You can talk about how the music makes you feel, or the lyrics if the piece is a song.

4. How is the piece structured? Does it have a clear beginning, middle and end? How would you describe the sections of the music? The piece might be divided into verses / choruses if it is a song, for example.

5. Describe the dynamics (the volume) and the tempo (the speed) of the music. Is it loud or quiet? Fast or slow? Do the dynamics and tempo change at all?

## Local Heroes: Mark Knopfler

Mark Knopfler is a British singer/songwriter. He was born in Glasgow but was raised in Newcastle upon Tyne, attending Gosforth Academy! He was the lead guitarist, singer and songwriter for the rock band Dire Straits, which was formed in 1977 and have sold over 100 million albums. In 1995, Dire Straits disbanded and Mark began his solo career. He has composed film scores for nine films, the most famous being Local Hero. The main theme from this film (titled Going Home) is often hailed as the Geordie Anthem and is regularly played at the Great North Run and at St James' Park.

### Research Questions (between 5 and 10 questions)

1. What was Mark Knopfler's first guitar?
2. Where did Mark Knopfler go to university and what did he study?
3. Who are the other musicians in Dire Straits and what do they play?
4. What was Dire Straits' first single?
5. What is Mark Knopfler's most recent album called?
6. What other famous musicians has Mark Knopfler worked with?
7. Where did Mark Knopfler go to university and what did he study?
8. What year were Dire Straits inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame?

### Did you know?

In 2007, a guitar signed by Mark Knopfler, Eric Clapton, Brian May and Jimmy Page was auctioned for £20,000 to raise money for a children's hospice but was lost in the post by Parcelforce!