

# Learn**English**

### Ali Farka Touré

#### 1 New words for this article

Nouveaux mots pour cet article

1 njarka a musical instrument from Mali –

with only 1 string

2 roots the beginnings of something – like

the beginning of a tree

3 generator a machine to make electricity

4 cancer a very bad sickness

#### **2** Comprehension Questions

Questions de compréhension en lecture

- 1 What was the name of the village where Ali Farka Touré was born?
- 2 Which magazine wrote about him?
- 3 What is his most famous CD?
- 4 Which languages did he sing in?
- 5 How did he help his village?
- **3 Speaking activities -** Activités orales Pratiquez vos compétences orales répétez ces phrases.
- 1 Ali Farka Touré was born on 31 October 1939 in a small village called Kanau near Timbuktu, in Mali.
- 2 His village was on the Niger River.
- When he was a young child, Ali Farka Touré moved to a village called Niafunké.
- 4 His family were from the Arma group of people in Mali.
- **Speaking activities -** Activités orales Exercez-vous à parler - répondez à ces questions en anglais:
- 1 Where did the Arma people come from?
- 2 Which village did Ali Farka Touré's move to?
- 3 What musical instrument did he play?
- 4 Which American musician did he work with?

## **5** Match the sentences (A-D) and (E-H) – Faire correspondre les phrases (A-D) et (E-H).

- A People liked his music in Mali but
- B People in America liked his music
- C People thought that his music
- D Some people believed the history of the music
- E because they also liked American Blues music
- F we call 'Blues' was in Mali
- G also in other countries
- H was similar to the Blues

#### 6 True or False? - Vrai ou Faux?

- When he was old, Ali Farka Touré went back to live in his village in Mali.
- 2 He became the mayor of the village
- 3 He bought a swimming pool for the village
- 4 He spent government money to make it a better place.

#### **Fill in the gap -** Remplir le vide

You can hear his music in ...1... too. His song 'Berebere' is in the ...2... film Black Panther. The name of the ...3... means 'to help each other' in the Bambara language.

Ali Farka Touré ...4... on 6 March 2006. He had cancer.

His son, Vieux Farka Touré, is playing music now. They made some new music ...5... just before Ali died



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### **Answers** –

#### 2 Comprehension questions

Questions de compréhension en lecture

- 1 His village was Kanau, near Timbuktu
- 2 Rolling Stone magazine
- His most famous CD was called 'Talking Timbuktu'.
- 4 He sang songs in languages like Bambara, Songhay, and Tamasheg
- 5 He bought a generator to bring electricity to the poor people
- 4 Speaking activities Activités orales
- 1 Morocco and Spain
- 2 Niafunke
- 3 Njarka
- 4 Ry Cooder

#### 5 Match the sentences (A-D) and (E-H) –

Faire correspondre les phrases (A-D) et (E-H).

A=G

B=E

C=H

D=F

- **True or False? -** Vrai ou Faux?
- 1 True
- 2 True
- 3 False
- 4 False
- 7 Fill in the gap Remplir le vide
- 1 films
- 2 popular
- 3 song
- 4 died
- 5 together