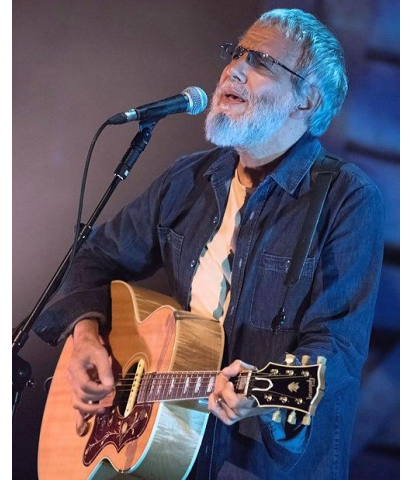


**Complete the text with ONE word that fits best into each blank!**

## **Cat Stevens**

Cat Stevens was born **(1)** \_\_\_\_\_ July 21, 1948, in London. He was very good **(2)** \_\_\_\_\_ music and in his adolescence, he became more and more attracted to rock and roll music. He began to work in London nightclubs **(3)** \_\_\_\_\_ a singer. One day he caught the attention of a professional manager **(4)** \_\_\_\_\_ worked for a very well-known record company called *Decca*. After a short time, Stevens signed **(5)** \_\_\_\_\_ recording contract with the company. *Decca* saw Stevens as a pop artist and **(6)** \_\_\_\_\_ him that he would be more popular **(7)** \_\_\_\_\_ he recorded songs for teenagers.



**Cat Stevens /Yusuf 2015**

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His first album , *Matthew and Son*, **(8)** \_\_\_\_\_ released in 1967. **(9)** \_\_\_\_\_ became very popular and sold very well. This album was followed by more successful ones.

Stevens began to feel unhappy . He wanted to record songs for grown-ups , **(10)** \_\_\_\_\_ his company wanted him to continue **(11)** \_\_\_\_\_ songs for teenagers. In 1968, Stevens had to stay in hospital **(12)** \_\_\_\_\_ of tuberculosis. He stayed there until he was healthy **(13)** \_\_\_\_\_ to leave. When he got out of hospital he decided to stop performing as a musician , but two years **(14)** \_\_\_\_\_ he reappeared. This time he had a different style.

*Tea for Tillerman* became his first golden album. It included classics, **(15)** \_\_\_\_\_ as *Wild World* and *Father and Son*. Critics wrote that he was **(16)** \_\_\_\_\_ excellent singer. A live radio concert in Los Angeles increased Stevens's popularity in the United States. In the mid-1970s his personal life started to change. **(17)** \_\_\_\_\_ he was swimming he nearly drowned. **(18)** \_\_\_\_\_ this tragic experience Stevens decided to serve God. His older brother **(19)** \_\_\_\_\_ him a copy of the Koran to read. In 1977 , Cat Stevens chose Islam as his religion and he **(20)** \_\_\_\_\_ a Muslim.

Today Cat Stevens is **(21)** \_\_\_\_\_ Yusuf Islam. He is married and has four children. He lives in London, **(22)** \_\_\_\_\_ he owns a Muslim school. There he composes religious **(23)** \_\_\_\_\_ and writes poems for his pupils.

## KEY

Cat Stevens was born **(1) on** July 21, 1948, in London. He was very good **(2) at** music and in his adolescence, he became more and more attracted to rock and roll music. He began to work in London nightclubs **(3) as** a singer. One day he caught the attention of a professional manager **(4) who** worked for a very well-known record company called *Decca*. After a short time, Stevens signed **(5) a** recording contract with the company. *Decca* saw Stevens as a pop artist and **(6) told** him that he would be more popular **(7) if** he recorded songs for teenagers.

His first album, *Matthew and Son*, **(8) was** released in 1967. **(9) It** became very popular and sold very well. This album was followed by more successful ones.

Stevens began to feel unhappy. He wanted to record songs for grown-ups, **(10) but/ however** his company wanted him to continue **(11) singing/ writing/ composing** songs for teenagers. In 1968, Stevens had to stay in hospital **(12) because** of tuberculosis. He stayed there until he was healthy **(13) enough** to leave. When he got out of hospital he decided to stop performing as a musician, but two years **(14) later** he reappeared. This time he had a different style.

*Tea for Tillerman* became his first golden album. It included classics, **(15) such** as *Wild World* and *Father and Son*. Critics wrote that he was **(16) an** excellent singer. A live radio concert in Los Angeles increased Stevens's popularity in the United States. In the mid-1970s his personal life started to change. **(17) While / When** he was swimming he nearly drowned. **(18) After** this tragic experience Stevens decided to serve God. His older brother **(19) sent** him a copy of the Koran to read. In 1977, Cat Stevens chose Islam as his religion and he **(20) became** a Muslim.

Today Cat Stevens is **(21) called** Yusuf Islam. He is married and has four children. He lives in London, **(22) where** he owns a Muslim school. There he composes religious **(23) songs** and writes poems for his pupils.