

Giving an informal opinion – A post on a comment thread

Comments

MartyFry

08 July 10:17 a.m.

Interesting article, but it's not very balanced – it doesn't attempt to acknowledge why music is played in public places. **(1) For a start, / First and foremost,** it's simplistic to think that store owners choose to play music just to entertain customers or wilfully exasperate them – they do it because it influences the way people shop. Apparently, when romantic music was played in a flower shop for an experiment, sales were much higher! **(2) Furthermore, / What's more,** they showed that sales of French and German wine went up or down in a wine shop depending on whether French or German music was played! **(3) In addition, there is / Then there's** the effect of how fast the music is – music that rattles along moves people through fast food restaurants more quickly at peak times, whereas slow music gets them to stay longer and buy more when business is slow. Retailers will always use it if it can increase their turnover, so it's pointless whingeing about it.



Greg100

08 July 10:21 a.m.

It's true that the worst kind of music can be obnoxious, and I agree with the point about music being simply noise if it's not wanted. But it's ridiculous to talk about banning it. Quite honestly, **(4) apart from / with the exception of** rare occasions when I'm in a shop for more than a few minutes, I can't say I notice the music. If I do, it's often because I recognize a track I haven't heard for ages and that I look for as soon as I get home! **(5) And let's not forget that / It should also not be overlooked that** if anyone, it's the shop assistants who ought to be complaining – after all, they have to listen to it all day. Still, I suspect it actually helps to pass the time for them – imagine the silence of a deserted store during long quiet periods.



SheilaFeels

08 July 10:43 a.m.

Music in any public place can be very annoying, but they could avoid people complaining about it by giving more consideration to the choice of music. **(6) And it's not just that / Not only is it the case that** it should be decent quality (i.e. not cover versions of cheesy songs!) – they should also mix tracks of various styles and artists, so that you never have to listen to too much of someone you really don't like. **(7) Moreover, / On top of that,** they should ask the people who have to listen to it all day what kind of music they want to hear. Having someone else's taste in music imposed on you is a pain, as the article rightly emphasizes, and it shouldn't be too difficult to ask shop workers and even customers what kind of stuff they'd like to hear.

