Amy MacDonald – a Scottish singer

Amy MacDonald is a famous singer and songwriter who has released a number of chart hits. She was born on 25th of August 1987 in Bishopbriggs, a small town near Glasgow. She went to Bishopbriggs High School until she was eighteen years old. In 2000 she saw her favourite band at a concert and wanted to play the guitar and sing as well. She practised with her dad's guitar and at the age of 15 she started to play music in small pubs and coffee houses in Glasgow. She sang songs from bands which she liked, but also began to write songs herself.

Five years later, in 2007, Amy released her first studio album called "This is the Life". The album skyrocketed in the album charts and reached No. 1 in four different countries! Her music style that included rock, indie and folk became popular very quickly. Her life changed a lot, because she left Scotland for concert tours and travelled a lot to perform on stage. She released two more records: "A Curious Thing" (2010) and "Life in a Beautiful Light" (2012). She gained great success and international fame. Not only did her songs reach the top ten in the charts, but she also won several awards, e.g. the Daily Record Award (2008) and the Echo Music Award (2009, 2011). Amy says the greatest thing about music is that she can make people happy.

1. Read the biography carefully. Underline[1] new words in different colours:

green – words I understand because of[2] another language (German, French, Italian etc.)
blue – words I understand because of another English word from the same word family (to present – presenter – presentation, to underline – underlined etc.)
yellow – words I understand because of the context[3]
red – words I don't understand

2. Use a dictionary to look up the words underlined in red.

3. Are these sentences right or wrong? Correct the wrong sentences.

	Right	Wrong
1. Amy MacDonald went to school in Glasgow. correct: in Bishopbriggs		✓
2. Amy released five records. correct: three records		✓
3. Amy's first album is called "This is the Life."	✓	
4. Amy's life changed a lot, because she left Scotland for concert tours.	✓	
5. Amy's dad taught her how to play the guitar. correct: Amy taught herself.		✓
6. Amy wants to make people happy with her music.	✓	
7. Amy didn't write songs herself. correct: Amy wrote songs herself.		✓

4. Look at Amy's biography again. You will find a lot of dates. Underline the dates in a different colour and write the six most important dates down on the timeline[4].

[1] to underline – *unterstreichen*; [2] because of – *wegen*; [3] context – *Zusammenhang*; [4] timeline – *Zeitleiste*

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