Radiohead announce 2027 tour with shows in Australia and Japan

LEVEL A2/B1


Photo: Unsplash

I. WARM-UP

1. What was the last live concert you saw or watched online?
2. Do you prefer small shows or big arenas? Why?
3. How do you usually buy tickets for events?

II. KEY VOCABULARY

arena
A large indoor place used for sports or concerts.

register
To put your name on an official list to join or get something.

portal
A website that is the main entry point for a service.

ballot
A system that gives a fair chance by choosing people in a draw.

unauthorised
Not officially allowed or approved.

deadline
The last time or date when you can do something.

perform
To sing, play, or act in front of an audience.

demand
The desire from many people to buy something.

III. READING

Radiohead are playing 16 shows in Australia and five in Japan in May and June 2027. It is their first tour of Australia in 15 years. The tour is starting at Perth's RAC Arena on 3 May. Then the band are performing at Melbourne's Rod Laver Arena and Sydney's Afterpay Arena.

They are also returning to Japan for five concerts at the GMO Arena Saitama near Tokyo, their first Japan tour since 2008. The band have not released a studio album since 2016's A Moon Shaped Pool, but demand for tickets is high. For Australia, fans must register on an online portal run by Frontier Touring.

The portal uses a ballot system to give fair access and to reduce unauthorised purchases. Tickets are limited to four per city. There is a deadline: registration closes on Thursday at 5pm AEST. Successful fans get emails from Friday with a chance to buy next week.

Reading text adapted from reporting by **The Guardian***: "Radiohead announce 2027 tour with shows in...". Original article linked at theenglishwire.com.*

IV. COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

1. How many shows are planned in Australia?
2. When and where does the tour start?
3. Which arenas are named in Melbourne and Sydney?
4. How many Japan shows are planned, and where are they?
5. What do Australian fans need to do to try for tickets?

V. DISCUSSION

1. Would you try for tickets to a show like this? Why or why not?
2. Is a ballot system fair for popular tickets? Explain your view.
3. What makes a great live performance for you?
4. Should tickets be limited per person? What number is fair?

VI. GRAMMAR FOCUS

Present continuous

Use the present continuous (be + -ing) to talk about planned actions or arrangements in the near future, especially events and dates.

*"Radiohead **are playing** 16 shows in Australia and five in Japan in May and June 2027."*

*"The tour **is starting** at Perth's RAC Arena on 3 May."*

VII. GRAMMAR EXERCISE

Complete the sentences with the correct present continuous form.

1. The band (visit) ___ Australia and Japan next year. _____
2. They (perform) ___ at the GMO Arena Saitama in 2027. _____
3. Fans (register) ___ on the portal this week before the deadline. _____
4. Successful fans (get) ___ emails on Friday. _____
5. My friends and I (fly) ___ to Perth for the show on 3 May. _____

Teacher's Notes

TEACHERS ONLY

These notes are designed to help you get the most out of this lesson. Please do not share this page with students.


Photo: Unsplash

I. LESSON GUIDE

- Timing: 8–10 minutes warm-up, 8–10 minutes vocabulary, 10–12 minutes reading, 10 minutes comprehension, 8–10 minutes discussion. Fold grammar into reading/comprehension time if needed.
- Pre-teach venue names and how to say AEST. Highlight present continuous for future plans in the text (are playing, is starting).
- First read: gist task (Where and how many shows?). Second read: detail scan for dates, places, and ticket rules. Pair-check before class feedback.
- Differentiation: Stronger students summarise ticket steps in three sentences; others underline the key rules (ballot, limit, deadline) in the text.

II. DISCUSSION FACILITATION TIPS

1. Take a quick poll, then pair students with different views to share reasons.
2. If answers are short, ask for one benefit and one risk of a ballot system.
3. Elicit examples (sound, lights, setlist) and ask students to rank them.
4. Run a mini-debate: cap vs no cap; then agree a fair number as a class.

III. EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

Writing: Write a 60-word message to a friend about how to register for Australian tickets.

Survey: In pairs, survey classmates on ticket-buying habits and present a 1-minute summary.

IV. ANSWER KEY OVERVIEW

Comprehension questions: short factual answers from the text.

Grammar exercise: Present continuous

Discussion: open-ended. Accept any reasonable ideas supported by examples and reasoning.

Answer Key

TEACHERS ONLY

These answers are for teachers only. Please do not share this page with students.


Photo: Unsplash

IV. COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

1. How many shows are planned in Australia?
   Sixteen shows.
2. When and where does the tour start?
   On 3 May at Perth's RAC Arena.
3. Which arenas are named in Melbourne and Sydney?
   Rod Laver Arena and Afterpay Arena.
4. How many Japan shows are planned, and where are they?
   Five shows at the GMO Arena Saitama near Tokyo.
5. What do Australian fans need to do to try for tickets?
   Register on the Frontier Touring portal before the deadline.

V. DISCUSSION

Open answers. Accept any reasonable ideas supported by examples and reasoning.

VII. GRAMMAR EXERCISE

Complete the sentences with the correct present continuous form.

1. The band ___ Australia and Japan next year. **are visiting / is visiting**
2. They ___ at the GMO Arena Saitama in 2027. **are performing**
3. Fans ___ on the portal this week before the deadline. **are registering**
4. Successful fans ___ emails on Friday. **are getting**
5. My friends and I ___ to Perth for the show on 3 May. **are flying**

VI. GRAMMAR FOCUS

Key point: Use the present continuous (be + -ing) to talk about planned actions or arrangements in the near future, especially events and dates.

> *"Radiohead* **are playing** *16 shows in Australia and five in Japan in May and June 2027."*
>
> *"The tour* **is starting** *at Perth's RAC Arena on 3 May."*