

Session 2 - Semestre 2 - Année 2024-2025

Langue : Anglais

Niveau : 3

Date : 28 juin 2025

Durée : 1h30

End of an Eras era: what's next for Taylor Swift?

Adapted from Adrian Horton, *The Guardian*, 13 December 2024

1 Few artists in the history of pop music have had a year like Taylor Swift. The singer, who turns 35 today, started off 2024 as the most prominent spectator at the Super Bowl, where Travis Kelce and the Kansas City Chiefs gave her a romcom ending. Her (1) _____ Eras Tour, showcasing¹ 18-plus years of music, became the
5 best-selling music tour in history. Her 11th studio album, the *Tortured Poets Department*, may have had mixed reviews, but still broke streaming records and dominated the charts; she was Spotify's (2) _____ artist globally this year. The Eras Tour ended last weekend.

In short, Swift is operating in exceedingly rare company, at a scale² unimaginable to most
10 artists. The closest is possibly Beyoncé, whose only standard and point of comparison is herself. Which raises the question: after a remarkable run of both ubiquity and good press, after the really mind-boggling³ and commerce-shifting success of the Eras Tour, what next?

First and foremost, at least according to an "exclusive" source at *People*, is rest, and enjoying the holidays with her boyfriend Travis Kelce. And beyond that, a question of where
15 to go when you're already at the top, especially as Swift's golden era was also a banner year⁴ for a new, younger wave of female artists raised on her music, including Chappell Roan and Eras Tour openers Sabrina Carpenter and Gracie Abrams.

Before the all-consuming Eras Tour, Swift indicated a pivot toward film, having sold an original script to Searchlight Pictures in 2022, which she is also expected to direct. Details
20 of the film have been kept tightly secret, other than it being an "exciting and new creative journey."

Swift has previously directed or co-directed 13 music videos and *All Too Well: The Short Film*, a 15-minute extended music video treatment (3) _____ Sadie Sink and Dylan O'Brien. The short film won some awards season recognition, with Swift
25 expressing an interest in expanding her repertoire as a director. "I think that I'm at a place now where the next baby step is not a baby step. It would be committing to making a film," she said during a discussion at the 2022 Toronto Film Festival, in which she also said she

¹ *mettant en valeur*

² *une échelle*

³ *époustouffant*

⁴ *une année phare*

wanted to tell “human stories about human emotion” going to a “more comedic, irreverent place”.

- 30 Swift would follow a long line of pop stars who moved to film after success in the music business – particularly in their 30s. Lady Gaga was (4) _____ for an Oscar in 2019 for *A Star Is Born*.

It’s too soon to tell whether Swift, who has always emphasized storytelling as the center of her career, will also seek to appear in front of the camera. Swift has kept plans close to her chest, part of a longstanding effort to surprise fans. None of them would begrudge⁵ her time off. But she, by her own admission, loves to work. “I’m happier when I’m making things more often,” she told Martin McDonagh during a *Directors on Directors* chat two years ago. So while her next step is anyone’s guess, best to bet on something.

!!! RÉPONDEZ SUR VOTRE COPIE EN NUMÉROTANT BIEN LES RÉPONSES !!!

Part 1 – Comprehension (7 points)

- 1. Vocabulary: Match the blanks in the text with the following words. (2 points)**

(Recopiez et numérotez vos réponses sur votre copie).

- a. blockbuster
- b. most-streamed
- c. nominated
- d. starring

- 2. TRUE or FALSE? Give the right answer and justify your choice with a quote from the text. Give the lines and write down the quote. (2 points)**

- a. Taylor Swift’s latest album was not a great commercial success.
- b. Taylor Swift is addicted to her work.

- 3. Focus on ll. 19-30: How does Taylor Swift approach a future artistic career outside the music industry? Don’t quote: use your own words! (3 points)**

Part 2 – Grammar (6 points)

- 1. Conjugate the verbs in the present continuous (be + -ing) or in the present simple (présent simple). (4 points)**

(Recopiez et numérotez vos réponses sur votre copie).

- a. Swift (1) _____ (perform) her latest song on stage right now.
- b. She usually (2) _____ (write) lyrics about her personal experiences.
- c. But she (3) _____ (not/give) interviews very often.
- d. Tonight, fans (4) _____ (wait) outside the venue to see her.
- e. Swift (5) _____ (release) a new album almost every two years.
- f. Nowadays, no one (6) _____ (be) a bigger pop star than Swift.
- g. Currently, few other stars (7) _____ (have) such a loyal fanbase.
- h. At present, she (8) _____ (not/work).

⁵ tenir rigueur

2. Fill in the gaps with the right possessive adjective (déterminant possessif). (2 points)
(Recopiez et numérotez vos réponses sur votre copie).

- a. Swift loves shiny things. Even (1) _____ microphone is covered in glitter.
- b. The Eras Tour has just finished. (2) _____ end was spectacular.
- c. Swifties love to show (3) _____ friendship bracelets.
- d. There are rumours that Taylor Swift and Travis Kelce are engaged, that she is (4) _____ fiancée.

Part 3 – Writing (7 points)

Choose ONE of the following subjects (200 words +/- 10%).

- 1. Imagine you are Taylor Swift's manager and she has asked you to counsel her on her future career moves.**

Write an email to her where you give your advice.

- 2. Do you believe Taylor Swift is an inspiration for young people?**

Write a well-organised essay to discuss this question. Give different arguments and specific examples.