### Task: Appreciating the Legacy of Glenn Gould

**Estimated time for the task:** 5 hours

**Outcomes**

*By the end of this topic, learners will be able to ...*

**Speaking**
- open, maintain and close a short routine formal conversation (6)
- give a set of instructions whose steps are not simply listed (6)
- make a verbal request for an item (6)
- participate in a small group discussion on non-personal topics (6)

**Listening**
- identify mood/attitude of participants (6)
- demonstrate comprehension of details and speaker’s purpose (6)
- identify main ideas, supporting details in narrative and descriptive presentations (6)

**Reading**
- identify the attitude of the writer (6)
- follow written instructions not given in point form (6)
- find two or three pieces of information in moderately complex formatted texts (6)

**Writing**
- take notes from an oral presentation and a page of written information (6)
- write one or two paragraphs of a description or narration (6)

### Suggested Resources

- *They Did It in Canada*, Chapter 6  
  Ron Reaburn. Vancouver: Vancouver Community College, 1990
- *Glenn Gould: A Life in Pictures*  
  Francois Girard, Director, DVD and VHS
- CBC website: [http://www.cbc.ca](http://www.cbc.ca) Look in Archives, Arts Canada, and other links
- *Bach, Johann Sebastian (1685-1750)*  
  Goldberg Variations 1981 CD
- *32 short stories about Glenn Gould.*
- *The Ottawa Citizen* newspaper, Friday, October 4, 2002

### Suggested Community Contacts

- a musician or a music teacher as a guest speaker
- in Toronto, visit the statue in front of the CBC building and visit the Glenn Gould Studio in the CBC building
- concert halls
Language Focus  Grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation

vocabulary: soloist, piano concerto, tempo, tempi, unorthodox, conductor, conception, performance, eccentric and abstract adjectives to describe music and emotions

Developing the skills
To achieve the outcomes learners could …

1. Warm-up – Learners (est. 15 mins.):
- listen to a few minutes of the 1981 recording of Gould playing Bach’s Goldberg Variations
- listen to a brief outline of Gould’s career

2. Reading Task – Learners (est. 45 mins.):
- read “Glenn Gould” in They Did It in Canada and answer the comprehension questions that follow
- read a glossary of unfamiliar vocabulary for the Task 3

3. Listening Task – Learners (est.1 hr.):
- listen to a recording of Leonard Bernstein’s introduction of Glenn Gould at a concert in 1962 to hear the tone of voice and understand the gist. It can be found as Clip # 3 in the CBC Archives, broadcast Apr. 25, 1962.
- listen again after reading the musical terms in the glossary
- fill in the blanks of a transcript of that recording with single words while listening a third and fourth time.

4. Reading Task – Learners (est. 1 hr.):
- divide into groups to research the different sections of the CBC website: the Archives, Arts Canada and other links for more information
- take notes on 10 items that show how gifted Gould was, and the extent of his contribution to Canadian cultural life

5. Speaking and Listening Task – Learners (est. 1 hr.):
- form new groups so that each member comes from a different group formed in task 4 and report their findings
- comment on the most interesting, amusing or impressive facts
- discuss as a class the importance of cultivating music in a culture

6. Final Task (Writing) – Learners (est. 45 mins.):
- write a paragraph to explain why Glenn Gould became famous

7. Follow-up Task (Reading) – Learners (est.15 mins.):
- find in newspaper listings of local classical music concerts
- find the local station for CBC Radio 2 and the program guide on the CBC website

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