**THE SOUND OF MUSIC**

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***Introduction of the  Lesson- The Sound of Music***

### ****INTRODUCTION****

This is a lesson, giving inspiration to those who are physically handicapped. In this lesson, the author has shown how handicapped persons are to face trouble and difficulties in their life. Most of them make a compromise with their destiny. They accept their handicapped life and take to begging or some other lawless activities but some persons being handicapped do not give to it.  They struggle hard. They fight it hard and rise themselves to a high position in life. To them, handicapped life is not a curse but a boon. A small girl of eleven Evelyn Glennie gets her hearing capacity totally killed. But she does not give to it. She struggles hard activities and learns the music. She becomes the most sensational music star in the world. She becomes a figure of inspiration for disabled people.

The biographical feature “The Sound of Music” (Part I) reveals the achievements of the multi-percussionist, Evelyn Glennie who overcame her handicap of hearing impairment with great determination and confidence.

The feature describes how, under the able guidance of Ron Forbes, Evelyn Glennie found a way out of her problem by developing an ability to sense music through different parts of her body.

**THEME**

The first part of the feature is based on the theme that earnest efforts and able guidance pave one’s way to success. The aspirations, endeavours and achievements of the eminent Scottish percussion musician Evelyn Glennie were made possible by her unfaltering determination. She overcame the challenge of her impaired hearing through her firm belief in herself and great confidence in her will.

### ****TITLE****

The title “The Sound of Music” is quite appropriate as the feature briefly relates the inspiring success story of the talented musician Evelyn Glennie. The subtitle “Evelyn Glennie Listens to Sound Without Hearing It” suggests what the readers are going to discover. It leaves them curious about how Glennie must have developed sensitivity to the sounds of music despite her deafness. She could sense the sounds and vibrations of music through her skin, her hair, her cheekbones, her feet – in fact, through every part of her physical frame. The title also alludes to the famous movie with the same name. Thus both the main title and the subtitle are apt.

**MESSAGE**

Evelyn’s Glennie’s bio-sketch gives us the message that handicaps may be countered, problems may be overcome, and aspirations can be realized if one is firmly resolute and confident. Those who do learn to overcome hardships certainly achieve the highest goals. There is always a way out of the challenges of life; only one has to trace the way and adhere to it with unstaggering faith in one’s abilities.

**CHARACTERS**

Evelyn Glennie, the internationally renowned percussionist, emerges as an embodiment of unflinching determination, strong self-belief, dedication and courage. Although challenged by severe hearing impairment, this young girl is able to make her way to an enviable position in life. Evelyn was found to have lost her hearing faculty at a very young age of eight years but her strong determination enabled her to encounter the challenge very bravely. Instead of joining the school for the deaf, as suggested by the headmistress of her school, she decided firmly to lead the life as a normal girl. She wanted to play the xylophone but was discouraged by her teachers. However, her resolution was strengthened by the encouragement she got from the percussionist, Ron Forbes. Under his able guidance, Evelyn learnt how to develop sensitivity to musical sounds through different parts of her body. She managed to sense musical notes through her skin, her hair, her fingers, and even her bare feet. Endowed with great confidence, Evelyn was able to get admission to the Royal Academy of Music, London, the most prestigious institution for music. Her confidence and devotion enabled her to receive the highest awards in percussion music. Such is her contribution to the percussion music that it has earned a special place in the orchestra. Despite her deafness, Evelyn gives solo performances and has command over a large number of percussion instruments. A person with a humanitarian spirit, Evelyn even performs in prisons and hospitals. Thus, with her confidence and resolute decision, Evelyn has revealed to the world that disabilities disappear before dedication and determination. Her achievements are a source of inspiration for those who suffer from handicaps.