

Listen to an interview with carnival-goer **Winston Perry** who talks about the famous **Notting Hill Carnival** in London.

Before you listen, try to match some of the words below with the correct explanation on the right. This will help you to understand the conversation. The answers are below the audio script.

Word	Explanation
1. Jerk chicken	a) A popular television programme
2. Steelpan	b) style of dance music which started in Trinidad about a hundred years ago
3. Sound system	c) chicken marinated in herbs and spices and then barbecued
4. Calypso	d) the year of serious riots in the Notting Hill area after repeated racist attacks on West Indian residents by white youths. The first carnivals were a response to this, to try and unite the community around a celebration of West Indian culture.
5. Soca	e) percussion instrument made out of an empty oil drum that produces between three and thirty different notes. They were invented in Trinidad and are usually played together in a band.
6. Eastenders	f) mixture of calypso with Indian music started in the 1960s
7. 1958	g) set of large loud-speakers and turntables at which various DJs compete to play the latest and best music. Originated in Jamaica, and found in the street during carnival.

**Interviewer** As you can probably hear behind me the carnival is in full swing, the sun is shining again and the jerk chicken is as tasty as ever. I'm just going to get off the main route here, (I think the procession should be coming by soon) as I've arranged a meeting with long-time resident and one time steelpan player **Winston Perry** in the Black and White café here on Elgin Crescent...Winston, how are you?

**Winston** I'm feeling very happy at the moment. Good to see so many people out and about enjoying themselves.

**Interviewer** There's been quite a bit of criticism of this event in the last few years. Tell me, what's your reaction to those people, local people who have had enough of the carnival, who say it's grown too big.

**Winston** Well, I can't deny there are a few more people here than when I started playing back in the sixties, but I think the media like to get hold of any little thing and blow it up out of all proportion. It's only for three days in the year. If you don't like it, you can always go away for the weekend.

**Interviewer** I know some residents don't like the crowds and having people knock on their door to ask for water and so on.

**Winston** They were always asking to use our toilet – so I stopped answering the door! These days they've got those chemical ones in the streets. Anyway, I'm never at home now for carnival. I got my usual place reserved down here in the café.

**Interviewer** There are still sometimes complaints about the sound systems...

**Winston** We had a bit of a battle when they first appeared but it's a question of mutual respect. When the mobile sounds come past, the soca, the calypso, most of them turn it down a bit. There aren't so many as there used to be. And they all get packed up and finished by seven o'clock so you can still watch your Eastenders...

**Interviewer** Hasn't it all got a bit too...international?

**Winston** True. You get a lot of people from out of the area these days, other countries, Germany, Brazil...even politicians!

**Interviewer** So what do you say to those people who want to put an end to the festivities or move it all somewhere else?

**Winston** They been talking about Hyde Park. I don't think it would be the same, though. It wouldn't be 'Notting Hill' carnival, it would lose the local character...and the reason it all started in the first place... 'cause of 1958 and all that.

**Interviewer** So will carnival still be here in another thirty or forty years?

**Winston** Oh I think so, even if I won't! Now who's going to buy me another rum..?

**Answers:**

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3. Sound system	set of large loud-speakers and turntables at which various DJs compete to play the latest and best music. Originated in Jamaica, and found in the street during carnival.
4. Calypso	style of dance music which started in Trinidad about a hundred years ago
5. Soca	mixture of calypso with Indian music which started in the 1960s
6. Eastenders	A popular television programme.
7. 1958	the year of serious riots in the Notting Hill area after repeated racist attacks on West Indian residents by white youths. The first carnivals were a response to this, to try and unite the community around a celebration of West Indian culture.