

Céline Dion Triumphs in Paris! (September 22, 2026)

TEACHING GUIDE

What? Céline Dion's big return to the stage; she performed before a packed crowd in Paris after a six-year hiatus. 🎤

Who? Céline Dion, the Quebecois singer known worldwide for her powerful voice and hit songs.

Where? At the Plénitude Arena (formerly Paris La Défense Arena), a massive venue in the Paris region of France. 🗼

When? The first show took place on September 12, 2026, and the series of performances continues until May 2027.

Why is it important? Because the singer had been forced to put everything on hold due to illness, and this comeback shows her fans that she kept her promise to return to the stage.

🎯 **For this activity, your goal is to learn a little more about Céline Dion and her return to the stage.** 🎵



OBJECTIVES

- Understand the scale of a cultural event based on a video report
- Locate specific information in an audiovisual document in French and English
- Distinguish between similar-sounding words and select the correct one based on the sentence's meaning
- Use a translation tool critically rather than automatically
- Solve mathematical problems using real-world data



SUBJECTS

- **English**
 - Audiovisual comprehension
 - Vocabulary and homophones
- **French as a Second Language**
 - Understanding similar-sounding words
 - Translation and sentence meaning
- **Mathematics**
 - Division and multiplication of large numbers
 - Arithmetic mean
 - Decimals and rounding



COMPETENCIES

- Listen to and understand a news report
- Search for and interpret information
- Compare two languages and determine the meaning of a sentence
- Solve a mathematical problem situation



DURATION

- Approximately 60 minutes



GETTING STARTED

- Ask students if they know Céline Dion and to name one of her songs.
- Ask them what they would do if they had to give up their favorite activity for six years.
- Locate Paris and Quebec on a world map.
- Explain the size of a 30,000-seat venue by comparing it to their school.

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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

STEP 1 — A Long-Awaited Return. Watching of an Euronews report on Céline Dion's return, followed by four comprehension questions.

Q1 — For six years (her last concerts were in 2020)

Q2 — Sixteen concerts, and yes, all sold out

Q3 — First the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, then the announcement of her illness

Q4 — She is the best-selling Canadian artist in history

STEP 2 — In French and English. Identification of the correct word from four choices in song excerpts, using a translation tool.

Q5 — J'ai compris tous les mots, j'ai bien compris, merci.

Q6 — J'irai chercher ton cœur si tu l'emportes ailleurs.

Q7 — Je te jetterai des sorts pour que tu m'aimes encore.

Q8 — Même si dans tes danses d'autres dansent tes heures.

STEP 3 — A Star Who Draws a Crowd! Solving of four math problems based on real data from the concert series.

Q9 — $480,000 \div 16 = 30,000$ people

Q10 — $9,000,000 \div 480,000 = 18.75$, or approximately a 1 in 19 chance

Q11 — $1,341.50 \div 7 = \text{€}191.64$

Q12 — $26 \times 30,000 = 780,000$ people



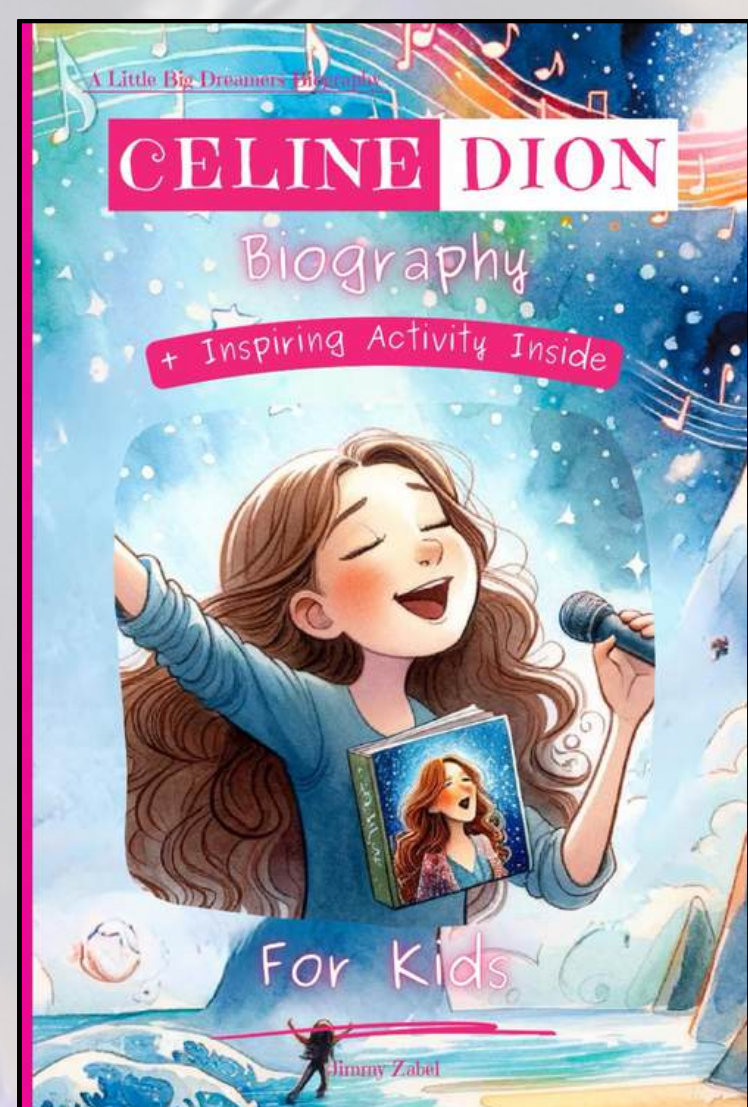
WRAPPING UP

- Conduct a group review of what the students have learned.
- Discuss what surprised them the most: the length of the hiatus, the crowds, or the chances of getting a ticket.
- Ask why a poorly chosen word can completely change the meaning of a sentence.
- Ask the question: In your opinion, what drives an artist to return to the stage after such a long break?



FURTHER EXPLORATION

 Jimmy Zabel. *Celine Dion Biography For Kids: A Little Big Dreamers Biography*



Q1 — $300 - 200 = 100$ million records

Q2 — Five out of seven female singers are from the United States (Madonna, Mariah Carey, Whitney Houston, Taylor Swift, and Beyoncé). $5 \div 7 = 0.714...$, or approximately 71.4%

Q3 — $(300 + 250 + 220 + 220 + 200 + 200 + 200) \div 7 = 1,590 \div 7 \approx 227.1$ million records

Q4 — Céline Dion: $2026 - 1981 = 45$ -year career. Taylor Swift: $2026 - 2006 = 20$ -year career

Q5 — Céline Dion: $200 \div 45 \approx 4.4$ million per year. Taylor Swift: $200 \div 20 = 10$ million per year

Q6 — Open-ended answer. Points to consider: Taylor Swift sold the same number of records in half the time; today, a song spreads worldwide simultaneously thanks to the Internet, whereas when Céline started out, one had to buy a record in a store, country by country. This does not mean Taylor Swift is better: it is difficult to compare two different eras.





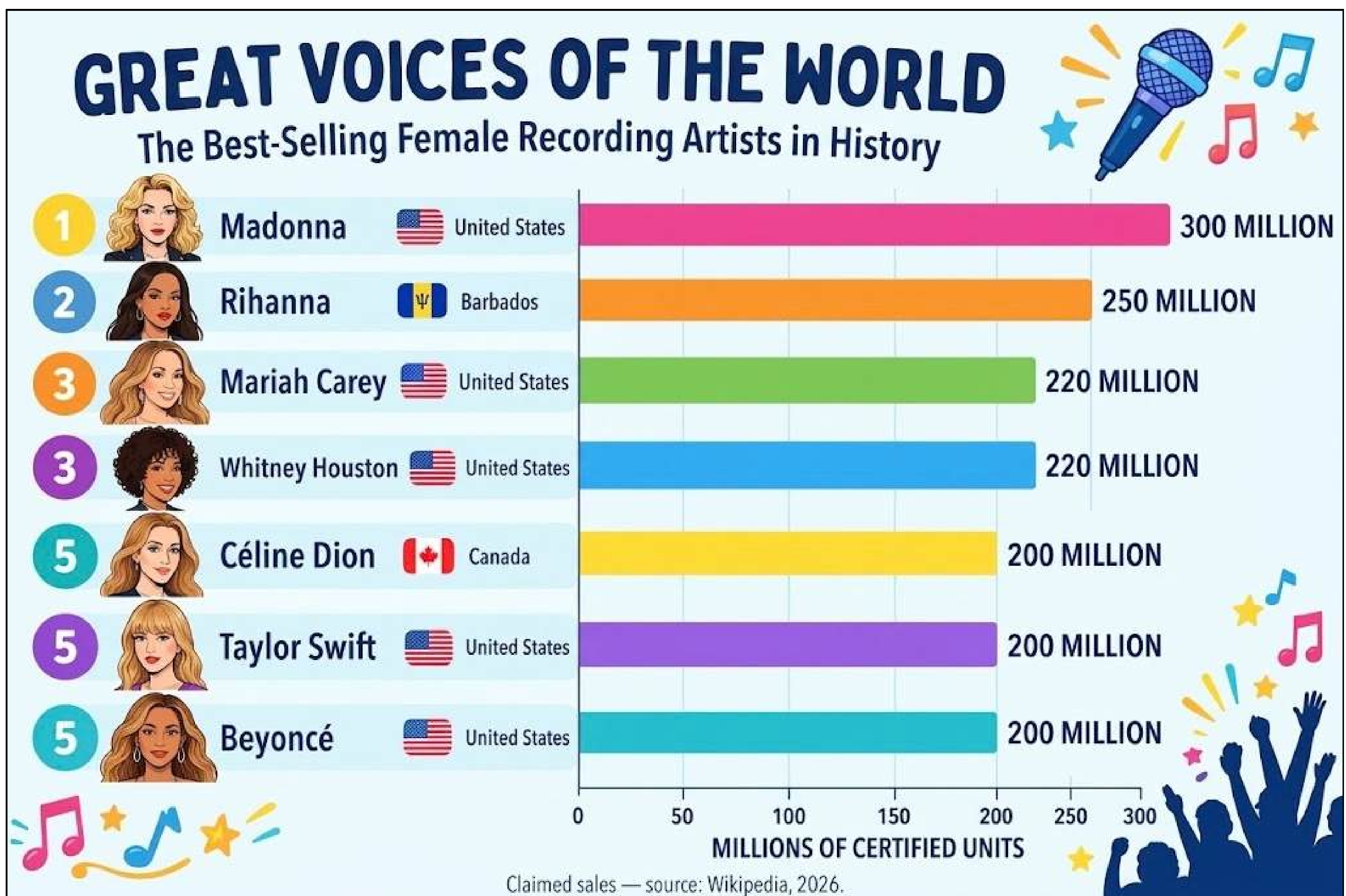
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A Singer of Global Stature

Selling a record is an achievement in itself. Selling millions is something else entirely.

Throughout the history of music, very few female singers have managed to reach such heights. Their songs have transcended oceans, languages, and entire generations.

Céline Dion belongs to this select group. But how do you compare artists who didn't all sing during the same era? It really isn't as simple as one might think...



- How many more records has Madonna sold than Céline Dion?
- How many of these seven female singers are from the United States? What percentage does this represent?
- What is the average number of albums sold across all these singers?
- Céline Dion released her first album in 1981, at the age of 13. Taylor Swift released hers in 2006, at the age of 16. How many years of a career will each have had by 2026?
- Both have sold 200 million records. Divide this number by each singer's years of career to find out how many records that amounts to per year. Round to the nearest tenth.
- Taylor Swift's figure is more than twice as high. Why do you think that is?