

“Syrtaki”

Introduction

- **Level:** B2
- **Skills:** Reading
- **Topics:** Grammar | Past Perfect

The enigma

- **Description of the enigma**

Place a sheet in the room with the text below about the Greek dance Syrtaki. Have students read the text and answer the questions. You could also put a video showing the dance somewhere for them to visualize it (such as:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kG12C1oX5Eo>).

You can put the questions in google forms with the option of grading.

TEXT TO PLACE IN THE ROOM:

The “Syrtaki” is a popular Greek dance that had been choreographed by George Provias in 1964 for the film Zorba the Greek and it uses both slow and fast movements. The music for the “Syrtaki” had been composed by Mikis Theodorakis. The main characteristic of this dance and its music is the acceleration in rhythm. The name “Syrtaki” had been taken from the word sirtos, a common name for a group of traditional Greek dances in which dancers "drag" their feet as opposed to jump dances. Today, the “Syrtaki” is one of the most popular dances in Greece and in Greek taverns around the world. It has already been danced by many people around the world.



“Syrtaki”

QUESTIONS:

What year was the popular Greek dance “Syrtaki” choreographed?

Who wrote the music for the famous dance?

Which is the root of the name of the dance?

In the world, how many people have danced “Syrtaki”?

Once the players have answered correctly, they will be given the steps of the dance and have to learn them. In a space in the room create a simulation of the dance and players must step on the steps while listening to the music and they will have access to the next clue. You can check the steps here: <http://www.argyrou.eclipse.co.uk/dances/Syrtaki.htm>

Hints

If students don't know the answer to one of the questions, you could emphasize the sentence in the text where they can find it.

More information

Possible restrictions

If your students don't want to dance, you could also print the steps, place them around the room and turn this drawing into a clue to find something in the room.

Make sure the font and size of the text is adapted for learners with SLDs.

References

- ✓ <http://www.argyrou.eclipse.co.uk/dances/Syrtaki.htm>
- ✓ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kG12C1oX5Eo>
- ✓ <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sirtaki>

