



## 07 - VOCABULARY: PRAISING AND CRITICIZING



- 1 - When I told my family I wanted to be a professional musician, I faced a **barrage of criticism** from my parents, who **strongly disapproved** of the idea.
- 2 - I'd had a feeling that they would only **give their blessing** (*give their approval/support*) to a more "traditional" career track.
- 3 - I **countered their criticism** by pointing out that I'd rather follow my passion and enjoy my job than get rich working a job I hated.
- 4 - Although they gave their **grudging approval** to my enrollment in music school, I could tell by my father's **frown of disapproval** that he wished I'd study law or medicine instead.
- 5 - The only person who encouraged me was my aunt, who **thinks the world of me** (*has great respect and admiration for me*) and has always offered **enthusiastic support** for my hopes and dreams.
- 6 - She **heartily approved** (*completely and sincerely approved*) of my plans and **dismissed** my parents' **criticisms** as ridiculous.
- 7 - My parents finally came around when I gave my first concert in Carnegie Hall, to a **standing ovation** (*when the audience stands up and claps for an extended period of time*).
- 8 - The critics had given my show **rave reviews** (*extremely positive evaluations*), describing it as **an outstanding performance** (*an excellent, superior performance*).
- 9 - After seeing me on stage, my parents **congratulated me warmly** (*congratulated me with love*) and apologized for the **scathing criticisms** (*very strong and hurtful criticisms*) they had made in the past.
- 10 - Later, I heard them **speaking highly of** (*saying good things about*) my music to some of their friends. I had finally **won their approval**.