

Eurovision 2025

May 2025

The Eurovision Song Contest is a big music competition where countries from across Europe perform original songs and compete for votes. Céline Dion, the famous Canadian singer, made a short video message for this year's event. She rose to fame after winning Eurovision for Switzerland in 1988. People hoped she would perform this year, but she said in her video that she couldn't be there in person. She expressed how special Switzerland is to her because that's where her music career really began. Céline has stayed out of the spotlight recently because of a rare health problem called stiff-person syndrome, which makes it hard for her to move.



The first semi-final of Eurovision took place in Switzerland. Out of 15 countries that performed, 10 moved on to the final round, including Sweden, Iceland, and Ukraine. Sweden's group, KAJ, is very popular with their silly song about taking a sauna. They might even win the whole contest! If they do, it would be Sweden's eighth win, which would make them the country with the most Eurovision wins ever. Right now, they are tied with Ireland -- both have seven wins.

More performers will be chosen during a second semi-final, and the final show will happen on Saturday, May 17. Some countries, like France, Germany, and last year's winner Switzerland, get to skip straight to the finals because they help pay for the event.

The show included fun performances, wild costumes, and even some dancers hanging from ropes. One emotional moment came from the Ukrainian band Ziferblat, whose song is a message of hope for families affected by the war in Ukraine.

Comprehension Questions:

1. What is the main idea of the article?
 - a) Céline Dion is sick and cannot perform anymore.
 - b) The Eurovision Song Contest is happening.
 - c) Switzerland is the best country for music.
 - d) Eurovision artists make really bad music.
2. Céline Dion couldn't be at the event in person. What does "in person" mean?
 - a) On television.
 - b) As a cartoon.
 - c) Watching from home.
 - d) Being there physically.

3. Céline Dion has stayed out of the spotlight recently. What does that mean?
- a) She goes on vacation a lot. b) She only sings at night.
c) She is trying to become more famous. d) She hasn't been seen much by the public or media.
4. Céline Dion rose to fame after winning Eurovision for Switzerland in 1988. What does "rose to fame" mean?
- a) She moved to a city called Fame. b) She stopped singing forever.
c) She became very well known. d) She changed her name.
5. Which countries have won the Eurovision the most?
- a) France and Germany b) Sweden and Switzerland
c) Ireland and Switzerland d) Ireland and Sweden
6. If Sweden wins this year, what would that mean?
- a) They will tie with Ireland again.
b) They will have the most wins in Eurovision history.
c) They will never compete again.
d) They will change the rules of Eurovision.
7. France and Germany help pay for the event. What bonus do they get for this?
- a) They can choose the winner of the contest.
b) They automatically qualify for the finals.
c) They get to perform twice.
d) They don't have to sing in English.
8. Which of these statements is false?
- a) Céline Dion once represented Switzerland in Eurovision.
b) Céline Dion has been very private in recent years.
c) Céline Dion appeared live on the Eurovision stage this year.
d) Eurovision has many fans around the world.
9. Why do you think Céline Dion made a video instead of coming to the event?
- a) She didn't want to perform. b) She forgot about the event.
c) She might have health problems. d) She doesn't like Eurovision anymore.
10. How is the winner of Eurovision chosen?
- a) The artist with the most votes wins. b) Céline Dion chooses the winner.
c) Sweden always wins. d) You must win by knockout or submission.

Speaking and Writing Activities:

- Discuss these questions with a partner or a small group.
 - Choose one topic and write a response to it. Show your writing to a classmate or teacher.
1. Who is a famous musician from your country? Explain as much about them as you can.
 2. If you could go to any international event (like Eurovision, the Olympics, or a film festival), which one would you choose and why?
 3. What's the most surprising or unusual performance you've seen in a music concert?