

Fill in the Lyric Gaps

Level: Intermediate to Advanced

Purpose: This activity can help students improve listening skills in a fun way by paying close attention to the lyrics of a song. It gives them a chance to learn some of the subtleties of the English language not found in a textbook.

Preparation and Materials: Each student gets a sheet of paper with the lyrics to the song. Some of the lyrics are missing, with clear spaces for them to fill in.

Procedure:

- (1) Have students grab a lyric sheet before going to their desks (3 minutes)
- (2) Explain the gap-fill instructions and play the song through for the first time. (7-10 minutes)
- (3) Play the song one more time for students to perfect their lyrics sheet (5 minutes)
- (4) Along with the recording, sing the lyrics together as a class. Stop the recording at each gap-fill point and allow the students to sing. (10 minutes)
- (5) Clarify the correct lyric if the students sing any of the parts in a funky manner.

Modification:

If the song is too fast or too advanced in meaning for the students, have an alternative song ready that has simpler lyrics and is easier to understand.