

## 1. Listening cloze for specific purposes

**Try**, performed by Pink. Focus: Reductions

Directions: Listen and complete the lyrics with the following reductions: **gonna**, **gotta**, and **wanna**

Ever wonder about what he's doing  
How it all turned to lies  
Sometimes I think that it's better  
to never ask why

Where there is desire  
There is \_\_\_\_\_ be a flame  
Where there is a flame  
Someone's bound to get burned  
But just because it burns  
Doesn't mean you're \_\_\_\_\_ die  
You've \_\_\_\_\_ get up and try try try  
\_\_\_\_\_ get up and try try try  
You \_\_\_\_\_ get up and try try try

Eh, eh, eh

Funny how the heart can be deceiving  
More than just a couple times  
Why do we fall in love so easy

Even when it's not right

Where there is desire  
There is \_\_\_\_\_ be a flame  
Where there is a flame  
Someone's bound to get burned  
But just because it burns  
Doesn't mean you're \_\_\_\_\_ die  
**You've \_\_\_\_\_ get up and try try try**  
**\_\_\_\_\_ get up and try try try**  
**You \_\_\_\_\_ get up and try try try**

Ever worried that it might be ruined  
And does it make you \_\_\_\_\_ cry?  
When you're out there doing what you're doing  
Are you just getting by?  
Tell me are you just getting by by

reprise

## 2. Lyrics mark-up for specific purposes

**Burn**, performed by Ellie Goulding. Focus: Linking

Directions: Listen to the song and mark the words that are linked.

E.g. **VV**: see\_us, **CV**: stars\_of, and **CC**: turned\_down

We, we don't have to worry about nothing  
Cause we got the fire  
And we're burning one hell of a something  
They, they gonna see us from outer space,  
outer space  
Light it up  
Like we're the stars of the human race, human  
race  
When the lights turned down

They don't know what they heard  
Strike a match, play it loud  
Giving love to the world  
We'll be raising our hands  
Shining up to the sky  
**Cause we got the fire, fire, fire**  
**Yeah we got the fire fire fire**  
**And we gonna let it burn burn burn burn**

### 3. Lyrics mark-up for stress and rhythm +

**Human**, performed by Christina Perri

Directions:

1. Listen to the beginning of the song and decide if you hear CAN or CAN'T.
2. Listen again and write down the lyrics; pay attention to the stressed words.

3. Listen to the song and mark stressed and unstressed syllables. o-unstressed, O-stressed, **O**- focal stress.

O o O o **O** o o **O** o

E.g. I can hold my breath; I can do it

### 4. Identifying and categorizing morphemic/phonemic endings

**Mean**, performed by Taylor Swift

Directions:

1. Listen (without lyrics) and write down the words with -s/-es and -ed endings in the correct column.

/s/	/z/	/iz/	/t/	/d/	/id/

2. Listen again (with lyrics) and mark all of the -s/-es and -ed endings. Mark linking.

E.g. knives/z/ , knocked/t/ , knives\_and\_swords

You, with your words like knives and swords and weapons that you use against me

You have knocked me off my feet again got me feeling like I'm nothing

You, with your voice like nails on a chalkboard, calling me out when I'm wounded

You, pickin' on the weaker man

## **5. Listening comprehension and transcribing lyrics**

**I'm Gonna Sit Right Down and Write Myself a Letter**, performed by Todd Carpenter

Focus: Observing setting & activating prior knowledge, predicting; listening for reductions

Directions:

1. Watch the video and answer the discussion questions.

Where is this man? Where is he sitting? What is he doing? Is he alone?  
How does he feel? What's happened (or not happened) by the time of  
this scene?

Is he singing to the cat? Do we know the cat's name? Do we know the  
girl friend's name? What are the individual words? How does he actually  
say them – what's the reduction?

2. Listen and write down phrases with contractions and reductions  
(1. Spoken, 2. Sung).

Choose a song with a familiar theme and vocabulary. This song has easy vocabulary (94% K1 words, 6% K2 words).

Questions can focus alternately on characters, setting, circumstance, language, and culture.

3. Listen and write down the lyrics.

4. Sing the song, focusing on stress, rhythm, and reductions.

## 6. Discussion of songs with a social message

**If I Were a Boy**, performed by Beyoncé

Focus: rhythm, focal stress; gender stereotypes; hypothetical conditional

Directions:

A. Pre-listening questions:

What are the typical jobs for women in your culture? For men? How have gender roles changed in the past 50 years? Do men and women have equal rights in society?

Choose a song with a controversial or thought-provoking theme and its relation to the theme in a reading, writing, and/or listening class.

B. Watch the video and answer the discussion questions.

What is the wife's job? What does the husband do?

What grammatical structure is used repeatedly in the song? Why?

What is the woman's dream? What is the message of the song?

C. Listen again and raise your hand when you hear the focus word in each phrase.

D. Mark the lyrics for linking, for final –s/-es, -ed endings.

## 7. Team-building

**Row, Row, Row Your Boat**, nursery rhyme and popular children's song

Focus: /r/, /l/, /o<sup>w</sup>/, rhythm, synchrony, focused listening

Directions: Listen and sing the song chorally and in a round.

When you sing this song, pay special attention to the /r/, /l/ and /o<sup>w</sup>/ sounds.

Row, row, row your boat  
Gently down the stream,  
Merrily, merrily, merrily, merrily,  
Life is but a dream.