How to use songs to help your language learning

You can use songs to help your **listening** comprehension and **grammar**. Here are some ideas of activities you can do. You can think of others …

- Firstly, listen to some of the music to see if you like it. You will be able to learn better if you choose a song that you enjoy.

- You can listen to the **whole song at once** just for interest or pleasure. This will help you understand the type of song and types of vocabulary and language in it. This understanding can help you later when you listen more closely and do other activities.

- You can **listen and read the words together** the first time OR **listen only** to the song the first time and read the words the next time.

- You can alternate between listening **with and without** the words if you want. This will help you to understand and let you test what you know. It may help to repeat the lines you want to remember.

- You can:
  - listen to one verse at a time, then read that verse only
  - stop and try to guess the content and language of the next verse
  - play the next verse and check if you were right

- **Read the words first** so you know what the song is about and the language it uses, then listen without the words to see how much you can hear and understand. Listen again with the words to check your listening skill.

- **Group the words** you hear in the song, e.g. the colour words, the nouns, the words which express emotion, etc.

- Write down all the words you hear of one **grammatical form**, e.g. present continuous, simple past, adjective, etc. Read and listen to the song to check if you have them all.

- Note the words which are **shortened** or pronounced differently so that they fit in with the music.

- Try a song pack in the **LLC**. These pack include worksheets and lyrics, so choose one suitable for your English level.