

# **The Beatles' English Course: Songs to Learn English According to Your Level [B2]**

Uno dei modi più divertenti ed efficaci per imparare una lingua è aggiungere ritmo e melodia. Ti proponiamo un breve corso di inglese composto da alcune delle canzoni più conosciute dei Beatles: non riuscirai a smettere di canticchiarle!



According to a 2014 [survey](#), The Beatles are the very best band to help you learn English. This isn't surprising, given their [catchy tunes](#) and their easy-to-follow lyrics. There are examples of all uses of grammar and a [wide range](#) of vocabulary included in the more than two hundred songs that the band recorded in less than a decade. Below, we have listed twelve of their best-known and most accessible songs, although even their more complex songs have some language in them that is easy to understand.

## A2 - PRE-INTERMEDIATE:

**Yellow Submarine** A children's favourite, the theme from the 1967 [cartoon](#) of the same name is [largely](#) in the past simple, using common regular and irregular verbs. The opening line has an important phrase for this level: "I was born".

## A2 - PRE-INTERMEDIATE:

**Here Comes the Sun** George Harrison's 1969 song of hope has just thirty-six distinct words and is [largely](#) in the present simple, with some examples of the present perfect. It also features other important aspects of English grammar, such as adjectives and word order.

## B1 - LOWER INTERMEDIATE:

**A Hard Day's Night** Inspired by a [throwaway](#) comment by [drummer](#) Ringo Starr, this 1964 song was written for the first Beatles film. It is an ideal introduction to the present perfect (both simple and continuous forms) and present continuous with the modal 'should' and the idioms "working like a dog" and "sleeping like a [log](#)".

## B1 - LOWER INTERMEDIATE:

**Yesterday** Essentially a Paul McCartney solo song (the other Beatles are not on the track), this 1965 song opens with a comparison between the past and the present. It uses the adverb '[suddenly](#)' and the phrases 'to look as though', meaning to seem, and 'to long for (something)', meaning to wish for something.

## B2 - UPPER INTERMEDIATE:

**Hey Jude** Paul McCartney's song of [encouragement](#) to John Lennon's son is ideal for practising imperatives, both positive and negative. It uses the narrative style, the comparative, the passive, and the confusable phrase. "You were made to" here means 'you were created' (do something) rather than 'to be forced'.

## B2 - UPPER INTERMEDIATE

**Penny Lane** A reminiscence of the Liverpool of The Beatles' youth, this 1967 single (a double A-side with Strawberry Fields Forever) famously did not hit the top spot in the UK, [stalling](#) at number 2. It has examples of 'there is', a lexical set of jobs and occupations.

## C1 - ADVANCED

**Eleanor Rigby** This 1966 song is the story of two fictional characters, both suffering from [loneliness](#). It is almost completely in the present simple, and analysing the imagery and metaphors used is a good exercise for advanced learners.

## C1 - ADVANCED

**With a Little Help from my Friends** Famously [covered](#) by Joe Cocker, this song begins with a perfect example of the second conditional and also features the zero conditional (“What do I do when my love is away?” can be rewritten as “When my love is away, what do I do?”) The [chorus](#) uses the phrasal verb ‘[get by](#)’, the idiom ‘[get high](#)’ and the future ‘going to’ (here in the colloquial form ‘gonna’) for an intention.

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# Glossary

- **survey** = sondaggio
- **catchy tunes** = brani coinvolgenti
- **log** = tronco
- **suddenly** = improvvisamente
- **stalling** = fermarsi
- **wide range** = una vasta scelta
- **largely** = per lo più
- **drummer** = batterista
- **chorus** = ritornello
- **throwaway** = disinteressato
- **encouragement** = sostegno
- **get high** = sballarsi
- **cartoon** = cartoni animati
- **loneliness** = solitudine
- **covered** = fare una cover
- **get by** = tiare avanti