

# Unit One Nostalgia

## Part 1 Cultural Background and Related Information

Soft Rock (抒情摇滚), as a branch of rock and roll, is a style of music which often combines elements from folk rock and singer-songwriter pop to compose a softer, more toned-down sound for listening. Soft rock songs generally focus on themes like love, everyday life and relationships. The genre tends to make heavy use of acoustic guitars, pianos, synthesizers and sometimes saxophones. The electric guitars in soft rock are normally faint and high-pitched. Soft rock began to be hugely popular in the mid- and late-70s and became a mainstream pop genre.

Rock music is a genre of popular music that entered the mainstream in the 1950s. It drew on rhythm and blues, country music, folk music, jazz and classical music, etc. The mainstream rock music was further divided into soft and hard rock from the late 1960s and gradually developed into many subgenres, such as soft rock, glam rock (华丽摇滚), heavy metal, hard rock, progressive rock, and punk rock, etc. Soft rock was often derived from folk rock, using acoustic instruments and putting more emphasis on melody and harmonies. It is easily accepted by people of different age groups and warmly embraced especially by young people.

A group of musicians specializing in rock music is called a rock band or rock group. Many rock groups consist of an electric guitarist, lead singer, bass guitarist, and a drummer, forming a quartet. Some groups omit one or more of these roles or involve a lead singer who plays an instrument while singing, sometimes forming a duo or trio; others include additional musicians such as one or two rhythm guitarists or a keyboardist. Famous rock bands in music history include the Beatles, Rolling Stones, etc.

## Part 2 Warm-up

**Directions:** Listen carefully to the following music clips and decide which songs belong to soft rock. Put “√” for soft rock songs and “×” for the others.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. *Right Here Waiting*—Richard Marx
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. *Paranoid*—Kanye West
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. *How Deep is Your Love*—the Bee Gees
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. *Sailing*—Rod Steward
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. *Changing Partners*—Patti Page

## Part 3 In-class Listening

### Song A

#### Yesterday—the Beatles

Yesterday, all my troubles seemed so far away  
Now it looks as though they're here to stay<sup>1</sup>  
Oh, I believe in yesterday  
Suddenly, I'm not half the man I used to be<sup>2</sup>  
There's a shadow hanging over me  
Oh, yesterday came suddenly<sup>3</sup>  
Why she had to go I don't know she wouldn't say  
I said something wrong, now I long for<sup>4</sup> yesterday  
Yesterday, love was such an easy game to play<sup>5</sup>  
Now I need a place to hide away  
Oh, I believe in yesterday  
Why she had to go I don't know she wouldn't say  
I said something wrong, now I long for yesterday  
Yesterday, love was such an easy game to play  
Now I need a place to hide away  
Oh, I believe in yesterday

#### 〈Words〉

the Beatles /biːtlz/ *n.* 甲壳虫乐队(披头士)

hang /hæŋ/ *v.* 悬挂, 吊着

shadow /ˈʃædəʊ/ *n.* 影子, 阴影

long /lɒŋ/ *v.* 渴望

#### 〈Notes〉

1. In this line, “they” refers to “troubles”, meaning “the trouble which seemed far away yesterday now comes back to me and will stay with me probably for a long time”. (be to do 表示按计划、安排必将发生某事。)

2. In the line “I’m not half the man I used to be”, the word “half” is not used in the sense of quantity as usual since a man can not be cut into halves, but in the sense of quality, indicating how worse my life has changed.

3. Obviously, it is impossible for a person to come back to yesterday, so “yesterday came suddenly” means what happened yesterday came to my mind suddenly. (意为“往昔在脑海浮现”。)

4. “Long for” is a verb phrase meaning “want something very much”(渴望得到某物)。

5. In this line, love is compared to a game, suggesting that “I” held a playful atti-

tude toward love, which partly contributes to my troubles and depression today.

### 〈Appreciation〉

*Yesterday* is one of the most classical English songs originally sung by the Beatles. The song is hailed as “the most played and covered song of all time”. The lyrics recall all the beautiful memories of yesterday, namely, the past, for instance, no trouble and full of love. By drawing a sharp contrast between yesterday and today, the singer expresses his depression in today and nostalgia for the past, which is manifested in such lines as “Yesterday, all my troubles seemed so far away”, “Yesterday, love was such an easy game to play”, and more straight-forwardly in “now I long for yesterday”. The audience can also get a feeling of losing direction, faith, and hope in life. The song has been ringing in our ears for almost half a century and remains one of the most accessible, simple and popular songs ever written.

The Beatles is a household name of an English rock band, formed in Liverpool in 1960 and one of the most successful rock bands in the history of pop music. From 1962 the group consisted of John Lennon, Paul McCartney, George Harrison and Ringo Starr. Rooted in skiffle (即兴演奏的流行音乐) and 1950s rock and roll, the group later worked in many genres ranging from folk rock to psy-



chedelic pop (迷幻音乐), often incorporating classical and other elements in innovative ways. To some extent, they revolutionized the rock music and formed their own rock and roll style. Therefore, the group was perceived as a daring pioneer in musical styles and an embodiment of progressive ideals. People were so

amazed by their attractive voices and musical creation that the Beatles seemed to become a brand for everything, such as clothing, hair style, musical instruments and so on.

The early Beatles performed shows in Hamburg, Germany and Liverpool, England, playing covers of early American rock and roll plus original songs by Lennon and McCartney. Their 1962 release of *Love Me Do* and 1963 song *She Loves You* became the biggest hits in UK history. Their personal charm and charisma helped boost “Beatlemania” in the British public. In early 1964, after a couple of appearances on American television, Beatlemania also erupted in the United States and provoked a so-called ‘British Invasion’, putting an end to the domination of Elvis Presley over the American pop stage. The Beatles’ direct, energetic songs kept them at the top of the pop charts. Their long hair and tastes in dress were influential throughout the world, so were their involvement with the politics of peace. From 1965 to 1967 the Beatles’ music rapidly evolved, becoming increasingly subtle, sophisticated, and varied. Their public performances ended in 1966. The group dissolved in 1970. In 1988 the Beatles were inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, and Lennon (1994), McCartney (1999), and Harri-

son (2004) were also inducted as solo performers.

### 〈Exercises〉

#### I. Translation

**Directions:** *Translate the following sentences into Chinese, considering the whole text of the lyrics and trying to keep the rhythm of the song.*

1. Yesterday, all my troubles seemed so far away. Now it looks as though they're here to stay.
2. Suddenly, I'm not half the man I used to be.
3. There's a shadow hanging over me
4. I said something wrong, now I long for yesterday
5. Love was such an easy game to play.

#### II. Imitation

**Directions:** *Read the following sentences before you learn to sing this song. While you read, please pay attention to the part where loss of plosion (失去爆破) is involved.*

1. All my troubles seeme(d) so far away.
2. I'm not half the man I use(d) to be.
3. Why she ha(d) to go I don'(t) know she wouldn'(t) say.
4. I sai(d) something wrong.

#### III. Oral Activity

**Directions:** *In this part there are three oral tasks. Work in pairs or groups to discuss the topic in each task and then show your opinion to the class.*

**Task 1.** What other English songs do you know that carry the word 'yesterday' in the title and sing of what happened in the past?

**Task 2.** Sing this song out loud to your class and share with them your feeling about this song.

**Task 3.** What other songs from the Beatles do you know?

## Song B

### Seasons in the Sun—the Westlife

Goodbye to you, my trusted friend<sup>1</sup>  
We've known each other since we were nine or ten  
Together we've climbed hills and trees  
Learned of love and ABC's<sup>2</sup>  
Skinned our hearts and skinned our knees<sup>3</sup>  
Goodbye my friend, it's hard to die<sup>4</sup>  
When all the birds are singing in the sky  
Now that the spring is in the air  
Pretty girls are everywhere

Think of me and I'll be there  
We had joy, we had fun  
We had seasons in the sun  
But the hills that we climb  
Were just seasons out of time<sup>5</sup>

Goodbye, papa<sup>6</sup>, please pray for me  
I was the black sheep<sup>7</sup> of the family  
You tried to teach me right from wrong  
Too much wine and too much song  
Wonder how I got along  
Goodbye, papa, it's hard to die  
When all the birds are singing in the sky  
Now that the spring is in the air  
Little children everywhere  
When you'll see them, I'll be there  
We had joy, we had fun  
We had seasons in the sun  
But the wine and the song  
Like the season has all gone

Goodbye, Michelle, my little one  
You gave me love and helped me find the sun  
And every time that I was down  
You would always come around  
And get my feet back on the ground<sup>8</sup>  
Goodbye, Michelle, it's hard to die  
When all the birds are singing in the sky  
Now that the spring is in the air  
With the flowers everywhere  
I wish that we could both be there  
We had joy, we had fun  
We had seasons in the sun  
But the hills that we climb  
Were just seasons out of time  
We had joy, we had fun  
We had seasons in the sun  
But the wine and the song  
Like the season has all gone



### 〈Words〉

skin /skin/ v. 剥皮, 去皮

knee /ni:/ n. 膝盖

pray /prei/ v. 祈祷, 乞求

wonder /wʌndə/ v. 想知道

down /daʊn/ a. 情绪低落的, 沮丧的

### 〈Notes〉

1. This stanza is a farewell to his trusted friend.

2. The expression “ABC’s” here refers to the basics of knowledge, because for an English native speaker, the first thing he learns when he starts to speak and know about the world includes the letters A, B, C.

3. “Skin” is used here as a verb. “Skin our knees” means scraping (擦伤) or rubbing a small piece of skin from our knees (hands, legs, etc.) usually in falling or sliding against something hard or with a non-smooth surface. (e. g. She skinned her knee in roller-skating.) “Skin our hearts” means stripping the surface (i. e. skin) between the two hearts which indicates having heart-to-heart communication.

4. “It’s hard to die” doesn’t mean that the process of dying is difficult. Actually the protagonist wants to say that it’s difficult for a person to face death. He must be very sad and reluctant to leave the world. The vivid description of the beautiful scenery in spring in the next few lines reflects his deep attachment to the world.

5. “Seasons out of time” here refers to the golden time that had passed by.

6. “Papa” is an old usage of father in Britain and the South of America. This stanza is a farewell to the father.

7. The phrase “black sheep” comes from an English proverb “there is a black sheep in every flock” (到处都有害群之马), meaning someone who is thought by other members of the group to be a failure or to have brought shame on the group.

8. “Get my feet back on the ground” means encouraging me to recover from depression and start all over.

### 〈Appreciation〉

The song was originally sung by Jacques Brel, a Belgian singer-songwriter who later went to France. The original French name of the song was *Le Moribond*, meaning the dying man in English. The first cover version of this song by Terry Jacks in 1974 made this song an instant success in USA. His raucous and melancholy voice gave the audience the sad feeling and made them in tears. Westlife’s version became Christmas No. 1 in 1999 and is happier and more relaxed, just giving audience a nostalgic feeling about childhood memory.

The French song *Le Moribond* was Jacques Brel’s farewell to his relatives and friends after he found he would soon die of cancer. The English lyrics were slightly

adapted by Terry Jacks, who made a fusion of Jacques Brel's *Le Moribond* and a will from a dying prisoner, and produced a more touching song named *Seasons in the Sun*. The story behind Terry Jacks' English version went like this:

*The protagonist and his best childhood friend fell in love with the same girl. He was handsome, talkative and quite straightforward, which won the girl's heart easily. He got married with the girl after graduation. As a truck driver, he was often away from home while his wife was also quite busy with the housework and the grocery store at home. Therefore, his best friend always came to help. Because of his deep love in his wife, trust in his best friend as well as his own optimistic view on life, the protagonist had never imagined a relationship between his wife and his best friend. One night, held up by the heavy snow, he came back home only to find his best friend lying in his bed. He could not accept the fact that he was betrayed by the two most important persons in his life, so on impulse he killed them and then confessed his crime to the police. He was given the death penalty by the court and the sentence was to be carried out the next spring. Three days before his death, he wrote the lines down in prison to his friend in heaven, his own father and his beloved daughter.*

The lyrics depict the beautiful scenery in spring with birds singing in the sky and little children playing around, but there is, in fact, indescribable sorrow and regret buried in the bottom of the dying man's heart. The song is full of happiness on the surface as delivered lively by Westlife, which reflects the dying man's strong affection and attachment to the world.

Westlife is an Irish pop group formed in 1998 and quickly grows in popularity all over the world. The group's original lineup consisted of Mark Feehily, Shane Filan, Kian Egan, Nicky Byrne and Brian McFadden. McFadden left in 2004. Over years of their career, Westlife's music has evolved from teen pop to a mixture of genres. Their teen pop albums in their early days include *Westlife*, *Coast to Coast*, *World of Our Own* and *Turnaround*. Most of their songs during that period are soft, tender and quite emotional, well received among students and young adults, of which *Seasons in the Sun* is a typical example. As the years progressed, they also experimented with different genres like jazz, big band, R&B and country music as well.



### 〈Exercises〉

#### I. Lyrics Adaptation

**Directions:** Use your imagination and creativity. Adapt the song "*Seasons in the Sun*" into a Chinese song. It's not word-for-word translation, so you can make some or even big changes to the lyrics to fit into your own writing or musical style.

**For example :**

永别了,我忠实的朋友。  
让我们告别昨天,  
美好而永恒的回忆,  
爬树、打闹、嬉戏,  
学会去爱,学会生活;  
真希望我们的快乐能够停留在那一刻  
.....

## II. Imitation

**Directions:** Read the following two groups of sentences or sentence fragments before you learn to sing this song. While you read, please pay attention to the difference in the pronunciation of /t/, /d/ and /k/ in the bracketed letters between the two groups.

### Group 1 :

1. Goo(d)bye to you, my truste(d) friend
2. Now tha(t) the spring is in the air
3. We ha(d) joy, we ha(d) fun; we ha(d) seasons in the sun
4. Bu(t) the hills tha(t) we climb
5. Goo(d)bye, papa, it's har(d) to die
6. You gave me love an(d) helpe(d) me fin(d) the sun

### Group 2 :

1. Learned of love and ABC's
2. Skinned our hearts and skinned our knees
3. Think of me and I'll be there
4. Were just seasons out of time
5. Wonder how I got along
6. And every time that I was down, you would always come around and get my feet back on the ground.

## III. Oral Activity

**Directions:** In this part there are three oral tasks. Work in pairs or groups to discuss the topic in each task and then show your opinion to the class.

**Task 1.** After listening to both Terry Jacks' and Westlife's cover versions of *Seasons in the Sun*, which one do you prefer? Give the class your reasons.

**Task 2.** Suppose you have only three days to live, what do you want to say to your beloved ones and what do you want to do?



**Task 3.** Compare the following English translation of the original French verse by Jacques Brel with Westlife's cover version of *Seasons in the Sun*. Tell any difference that you find between the two, including background information, language or lyrical content.

Good-bye, my wife, I loved you well,  
Good-bye, my wife, I loved you well, you know,  
But I'm taking the train for the Good Lord,  
I'm taking the train before yours  
But you take whatever train you can;  
Goodbye, my wife, I'm going to die,  
It's hard to die in springtime, you know,  
But I'm leaving for the flowers with my eyes closed, my wife,  
Because I closed them so often,  
I know you will take care of my soul.

## **Part 4 After-class Listening**

### **Song A**

**Directions;** *Listen to the following song carefully and then fill in the blanks with the words you hear.*

#### **Puff—Peter, Paul & Mary**

Puff, the magic dragon, lived by the sea  
And frolicked in the autumn mist in a land called Honahlee  
Little Jackie Paper loved that rascal Puff  
And \_\_\_\_\_ him strings and sealing wax, and other fancy stuff  
Puff, the magic dragon, lived by the sea  
And frolicked in the autumn mist in a land called Honahlee  
Little Jackie Paper loved that rascal Puff  
And \_\_\_\_\_ him strings and sealing wax, and other fancy stuff  
Together they would travel on a boat with billowed sail  
Jackie kept a \_\_\_\_\_ perched on Puff's gigantic tail  
Noble kings and princes would bow whenever they came  
Pirate ships would \_\_\_\_\_ their flags when Puff roared out his name.  
Puff, the magic dragon, lived by the sea  
And frolicked in the autumn mist in a land called Honahlee  
Puff, the magic dragon, lived by the sea  
And frolicked in the autumn mist in a land called Honahlee  
A dragon lives forever but not so little boys

\_\_\_\_\_ wings and giant rings make way for other toys  
 One grey night it \_\_\_\_\_, Jackie Paper came no more  
 And Puff that mighty dragon, he ceased his fearless roar  
 His head was bent in sorrow; green scales fell like rain  
 Puff no longer went to play along the cherry lane  
 \_\_\_\_\_ his life-long friend, Puff could not be brave  
 So Puff that mighty dragon sadly \_\_\_\_\_ into his cave  
 Puff, the magic dragon, lived by the sea  
 And frolicked in the autumn mist in a land called Honahlee  
 Puff, the magic dragon, lived by the sea  
 And frolicked in the autumn mist in a land called Honahlee

### 〈Words〉

frolick /'frɒlɪk/ v. 嬉戏,蹦蹦跳跳地玩  
 mist /mɪst/ n. 薄雾  
 rascal /'ræskəl/ n. 小淘气  
 string /strɪŋ/ v. 绳子  
 seal /si:l/ v. 封住,密封  
 wax /wæks/ n. 蜡  
 fancy /'fænsi/ a. 装饰性的,花哨的  
 stuff /stʌf/ n. 东西,材料  
 billow /'bɪləʊ/ v. 在波涛中翻滚  
 sail /seɪl/ v. 航海,航行

perch /pɜ:tʃ/ v. 栖息  
 gigantic /dʒaɪɡəntɪk/ a. 巨大的  
 bow /bəʊ/ v. 低头,鞠躬  
 pirate /'paɪərɪt/ n. 海盗  
 roar /rɔ:/ v. /n. 咆哮,怒吼  
 mighty /'maɪti/ a. 强大的,力量大的  
 scale /skeɪl/ n. 鳞片  
 cherry /'tʃeri/ n. 樱桃  
 lane /leɪn/ n. 小径,小路  
 cave /keɪv/ n. 洞穴

### 〈Exercises〉

#### I. Questions for Comprehension

**Directions:** In this part there are 5 incomplete sentences or questions. For the first 4 sentences or questions, there are 4 choices marked A, B, C and D. Choose the best one based on your understanding of this song. And for the question numbered 5, write down your answers in the space provided.

- Puff and Jackie Paper were \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A. classmates  
 B. lovers  
 C. playmates  
 D. relatives
- Which of the following statement is TRUE about the dragon Puff?  
 A. Puff was an evil dragon that would hurt children.  
 B. Puff was a rascal that had played many tricks on Jackie Paper.  
 C. Puff had attacked many pirate ships.  
 D. Puff used to play together with Little Jackie Paper.
- Why couldn't Puff see Jackie Paper any more according to the last stanza?

- A. Because Puff lived far away from Jackie Paper.
  - B. Because Jackie Paper didn't need the toys he used to play with as he grew up.
  - C. Because Puff didn't want to show his sorrow to his friend.
  - D. Because Puff lost his magic and could not be brave.
4. After you listen to this song, what do you think might be the theme of the song?
- A. Loss of Innocence
  - B. Man and Animals
  - C. Humanitarianism
  - D. Friendship
5. Do you like this song? Tell the class your reasons.

## II. Story Telling

**Directions:** Tell the class a story between Puff and Jackie Paper based on your understanding of the lyrics of the song Puff. You can add more details according to your own imagination and meanwhile pay attention to the horological (时间的) development of the story. You may start with:

Once upon a time, there lived ...

## Song B

### Yesterday Once More—the Carpenters

When I was young I'd listened to the radio  
 Waiting for my favorite songs  
 When they played I'd sing along  
 It made me smile

Those were such happy times and not so long ago  
 How I wondered where they'd gone  
 But they're back again just like a long lost friend  
 All the songs I loved so well

Every sha-la-la-la

Every wo-wo-wo

Still shines

Every shing-a-ling-a-ling

That they're starting to sing

So fine

When they get to the part

Where he's breaking her heart

It can really make me cry

Just like before

It's yesterday once more

Looking back on how it was in years gone by  
And the good times that I had  
Makes today seem rather sad  
So much has changed

It was songs of love that I would sing to them  
And I'd memorize each word  
Those old melodies  
Still sound so good to me  
As they melt the years away

Every sha-la-la-la  
Every wo-wo-wo  
Still shines  
Every shing-a-ling-a-ling  
That they're starting to sing  
So fine

All my best memories come back clearly to me  
Some can even make me cry  
Just like before  
It's yesterday once more

Every sha-la-la-la  
Every wo-wo-wo  
Still shines  
Every shing-a-ling-a-ling  
That they're starting to sing  
So fine

...

### 〈Words〉

memorize /'meməraiz/ *v.* 记住;熟记

melt /melt/ *v.* 融合,使消失,软化

melody /'melədi/ *n.* 优美的旋律,美妙的音乐

## Song C

### Yesterday—Leona Lewis

I just can't believe you're gone  
Still waiting for morning to come  
When I see if the sun will rise  
In the way that you're by my side  
Well we got so much in store



Tell me what is it I'm reaching for  
When were through building memories  
I'll hold yesterday in my heart  
In my heart

They can take tomorrow when the plans we made  
They can take the music that we never play  
All the broken dreams  
Take everything  
Just take it away  
But they can never have yesterday  
They can take the future that we'll never know  
They can take the places that we said we will go  
All the broken dreams  
Take everything  
Just take it away  
But they can never have yesterday

You always choose to stay  
I should be thankful for everyday  
Heaven knows what the future holds  
Or least where the story goes  
I never believed until now  
I know I'll see you again I'm sure  
No it's not selfish to ask for more  
One more night one more day  
One more smile on your face  
But they can't take yesterday

They can take tomorrow when the plans we made  
They can take the music that we never play  
All the broken dreams  
Take everything  
Just take it away  
But they can never have yesterday  
They can take the future that we'll never know  
They can take the places that we said we will go  
All the broken dreams  
Take everything  
Just take it away  
But they can never have yesterday

I thought our days would last forever  
 But it wasn't our destiny  
 Cause in my mind we had so much time  
 But I was so wrong  
 No I can believe that  
 I can still find the strength  
 In the moments we made  
 I'm looking back on yesterday  
  
 They can take tomorrow when the plans we made  
 They can take the music that we never play  
 All the broken dreams  
 Take everything  
 Just take it away  
 But they can never have yesterday  
 They can take the future that we'll never know  
 They can take the places that we said we will go  
 All the broken dreams  
 Take everything  
 Just take it away  
 But they can never have yesterday

### 〈Words〉

destiny /'destəni/ n. 命运

strength /streŋθ/ n. 力量

### 〈Further Development〉

#### I . Reading-Cloze

**Directions:** The following passage is a brief introduction to the Carpenters, the famous sibling duo (兄妹组合). There are 20 blanks in the passage. For each blank there are four choices marked A, B, C and D below the passage. Read it carefully and then choose the one that best fits into the passage.

#### Life Story of the Carpenters

Karen Anne Carpenter was born on Thursday, March 2, 1950 (1)\_\_\_\_\_ Harold and Agnes Carpenter, in New Haven, Connecticut. Karen's brother Richard had arrived four years earlier on October 15, 1946. (2)\_\_\_\_\_, it was Richard who took an interest in music. Karen (3)\_\_\_\_\_, "While Richard was listening to music in the basement, I was out playing baseball and football, and playing with my machine gun! I remember I wanted to be a commercial artist, or a nurse, or an airline stewardess." She laughed recalling these early (4)\_\_\_\_\_.

Karen, watching Richard's (5) \_\_\_\_\_ exploding, tried her hand at music as well back in New Haven, and began practicing the flute while (6) \_\_\_\_\_ Nathan Hale School, just around the corner from Hall Street. The lessons went (7) \_\_\_\_\_ and she continued watching her brother and his talents in (8) \_\_\_\_\_.

The Carpenter family moved from their New Haven home to suburban Downey, California in June 1963. Harold Carpenter hated the frozen winters in Connecticut and had been (9) \_\_\_\_\_ for sunny southern California since the mid-1950s, not to (10) \_\_\_\_\_ Richard's musical abilities could (11) \_\_\_\_\_ in the L. A. area. Hollywood and such surroundings would surely (12) \_\_\_\_\_ in establishing the career in music he dreamed of.

While Karen loved sports and other outdoor activities, she hated Gym class at Downey High. (13) \_\_\_\_\_ Richard's help, she was allowed to (14) \_\_\_\_\_ Band for Gym, and ultimately joined the school's choir to avoid Geometry. In the Downey High School Band, Karen marched in the drum line with her glockenspiel (钟琴). She soon became (15) \_\_\_\_\_ of the drums around her and finally asked her parents for a drum set. She began (16) \_\_\_\_\_ drums and gradually found her interest and talent in music, just like her brother.

With Karen still in high school, her seventeen year-old brother Richard entered California State University as a music (17) \_\_\_\_\_ in the fall of 1964. He soon made friends with Wes Jacobs, who joined him and his drum-playing sister to form the Richard Carpenter (18) \_\_\_\_\_, but they soon (19) \_\_\_\_\_ with no commercial release. Later, it was Herb Alpert, the head of A&M Records, (20) \_\_\_\_\_ liked the siblings' music and set them on the red carpet of "the carpenters".

- |                    |                 |               |                  |
|--------------------|-----------------|---------------|------------------|
| 1. A) to           | B) in           | C) from       | D) with          |
| 2. A) Finally      | B) Subsequently | C) Eventually | D) Initially     |
| 3. A) reviews      | B) reminds      | C) calls      | D) recalls       |
| 4. A) predictions  | B) ambitions    | C) analysis   | D) probabilities |
| 5. A) intelligence | B) capacity     | C) talents    | D) creativity    |
| 6. A) attending    | B) visiting     | C) exchanging | D) applying      |
| 7. A) everywhere   | B) somewhere    | C) nowhere    | D) anywhere      |
| 8. A) terror       | B) awe          | C) horror     | D) surprise      |
| 9. A) yearning     | B) yawning      | C) dreaming   | D) disgusted     |
| 10. A) describe    | B) utter        | C) consider   | D) mention       |
| 11. A) pay back    | B) pay for      | C) pay off    | D) pay out       |
| 12. A) benefit     | B) contribute   | C) help       | D) aid           |
| 13. A) In          | B) With         | C) On         | D) Under         |
| 14. A) constitute  | B) substitute   | C) institute  | D) destitute     |
| 15. A) fond        | B) fun          | C) fund       | D) found         |
| 16. A) proceeding  | B) practicing   | C) preparing  | D) purchasing    |

- |                  |              |             |             |
|------------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| 17. A) assistant | B) professor | C) major    | D) minor    |
| 18. A) Solo      | B) Duo       | C) Trio     | D) Chorus   |
| 19. A) dissolved | B) solved    | C) resolved | D) revolved |
| 20. A) whether   | B) what      | C) which    | D) that     |

## II. More Listening

**Directions:** Try to find more English songs with the theme of nostalgia and share them with your classmates.

## III. Speaking

**Directions:** Compare song B and Song C in the After-class Listening part and tell the class your feelings about these two songs as well as the differences between them, including music style, lyrical content and so on.

## IV. Writing

**Step 1: Free writing**—think about what happened to you in the past and write down whatever occurs to you.

Free writing is also called stream-of-consciousness writing. It is a process where a person writes continuously for a set period of time without regard to spelling, grammar or any conventions of writing. Unlike brainstorming where ideas are simply listed, in free writing one writes sentences to form a paragraph about whatever comes to mind. Free writing is based on a presumption that, while everybody has something to say and the ability to say it, the mental wellspring may be blocked by anxiety, self-criticism or fear of failure. Free writing enables a writer to build up enough momentum to blast past blocks into uninhibited flow.

**Step 2: Rewriting**—Go through what you have written and pick out the sentences you like. Rewrite and organize them in a poetic and melodic way.

**Step 3: Polishing**—Write down the draft on a small notebook you carry every day. Keep refining and polishing your lyrical draft until you think it is a perfect finished product. Then share it with your classmates.

# Part 5 Achievement Test

## I. Listening Comprehension (30%)

**Directions:** Listen to the following part of *Seasons in the Sun* carefully and then fill in the blanks numbered from 1 to 10 with three words at most.

Goodbye to you, my (1)\_\_\_\_\_ friend  
 We've known each other since we were nine or ten  
 Together we've climbed hills and trees  
 Learned of love and ABC's  
 Skinned our hearts and skinned our (2)\_\_\_\_\_  
 Goodbye my friend, it's hard to die  
 When all the birds are singing in the sky  
 Now that the spring is in the air  
 (3)\_\_\_\_\_ girls are everywhere



Think of me and I'll be there  
 We had (4) \_\_\_\_\_, we had fun  
 We had seasons in the sun  
 But the hills that we climb  
 Were just seasons (5) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Goodbye, papa, please (6) \_\_\_\_\_ for me  
 I was the (7) \_\_\_\_\_ of the family  
 You tried to teach me (8) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Too much wine and too much song  
 (9) \_\_\_\_\_ how I got along  
 Goodbye, papa, it's hard to die  
 When all the birds are singing in the sky  
 Now that the spring is in the air  
 Little children everywhere  
 When you'll see them, I'll be there  
 We had joy, we had fun  
 We had seasons in the sun  
 But the (10) \_\_\_\_\_ and the song  
 Like the season has all gone

## II. Multiple Choice (20%)

**Directions:** There are 10 incomplete statements or questions in this part. For each statement or question there are 4 choices marked A, B, C and D. Choose the best one according to what you have learned from this unit.

- Which of the following is not a subgenre of rock music?
  - Soft Rock
  - Hard Rock
  - Jazz
  - Heavy Metal
- The following statements about Soft Rock are true EXCEPT \_\_\_\_\_.
  - It generally focuses on themes like love, everyday life and relationships.
  - It sounds quite soft and gentle.
  - It lays more emphasis on melody and harmonies.
  - It is divided into folk rock, funk rock and so on.
- Soft rock gained wide popularity and became a mainstream pop genre \_\_\_\_\_.
  - in the 1950s
  - in the 1970s
  - in the 1980s
  - in the 21st century
- The Beatles came from \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Great Britain
  - USA
  - France
  - Germany
- Who was the representative of "British Invasion"?
  - The Carpenters
  - The Beatles
  - Westlife
  - Peter, Paul and Mary
- Which of the following statement is TRUE about the theme of *Seasons in the Sun*?
  - It is actually a farewell to friends and relatives, which is full of sorrow.

- B. It is a delightful celebration of the coming of spring.  
C. It depicts the beautiful and enchanting scenery in spring.  
D. It honors the great friendship that everyone needs to cherish.
7. Westlife is a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ pop group in the 21st century.  
A. British  
B. American  
C. Irish  
D. Australian
8. *Yesterday Once More* is sung by \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. the Beatles  
B. the Carpenters  
C. Leona Lewis  
D. Celine Dion
9. The following songs are sung by Leona Lewis Except \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. *Yesterday*  
B. *Puff*  
C. *Footprints in the Sand*  
D. *Better in Time*
10. Which of the following words can not be used to describe the music style of *Seasons in the Sun*?  
A. soft  
B. tender  
C. grotesque  
D. emotional

### III. Vocabulary (20%)

Column A	Column B	Column A	Column B
1. wonder	A. father	6. memorize	F. fate
2. down	B. be surprised	7. lane	G. fog
3. destiny	C. path	8. mist	H. yearn
4. mighty	D. depressed	9. sail	I. remember
5. long (for)	E. travel	10. papa	J. powerful

#### IV. Translation (30%)

1. His head was bent in sorrow; green scales fell like rain.
2. Heaven knows what the future holds or least where the story goes.
3. Those old melodies still sound so good to me as they melt the years away.
4. Puff, that mighty dragon, ceased his fearless roar.
5. When they get to the part where he's breaking her heart, it can really make me cry just like before.

# Unit Two Country Life

## Part 1 Cultural Background and Related Information

Country music (or country and Western), a homegrown American art form, is a blend of popular musical forms originally found in the Southern United States and the Appalachian Mountains. It is rooted in traditional folk music, Celtic music (凯尔特音乐), gospel music (福音音乐) and old-time music.

The term country music gained popularity in the 1940s when the earlier term hillbilly music came to be seen as denigrating (贬低的) and became widely used in the 1970s, while country and Western has declined in use since that time, except in the United Kingdom and Ireland where it is still commonly used. Today the term country music is used to describe many styles and subgenres. Country music started to attract public attention in the 1920s when local performers from Atlanta and Fort Worth played their music and barn-dance (谷仓舞会) programs became popular on radio stations. And from the 1920s to the 1960s, country music underwent a number of changes and developments through the stages of early country, cowboy (牛仔音乐), western swing (西部摇摆), blue grass (兰草音乐), honky-tonk (酒吧音乐), rockabilly (乡土摇滚) and the Nashville sound (纳什维尔之声). The 1970s and 1980s saw the emergence of outlaw (叛道运动), country pop and new country (新乡村音乐). *Time* magazine commented on the development of country music in this way—"After half a century of condescension, neglect and even ridicule, country in all its guises—bluegrass, heart songs, western ballads, rural blues, delta white soul, Memphis honky-tonk and of course the familiar pop hybrid known as the Nashville Sound—is in the midst of an astronomic growth and gives no signs of stopping."

The characteristics of country music are generally summarized as follows:

1. A simple chord progression. Generally country music depends on a limited number of chords. It is not musically complicated, which certainly contributes to its popularity and playability.

2. A strong story line. A reality-based or imaginary story is usually embedded in the country music lyrics which may strike a chord in the audience's hearts.

3. A simple and memorable chorus, which supports the storyline and explains the reason why so many people find it easy to recall and to sing a good country song.

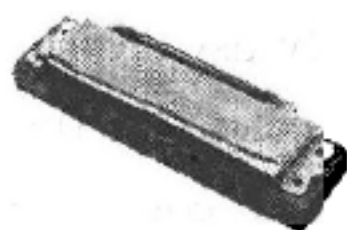
4. Identifiable instrumentation. Organs, orchestras, strings, wind instruments are NOT country. Guitars, banjos, fiddles, pedal steel guitars, harmonicas definitely are.

There are exceptions of course but instruments must be played in a country manner.

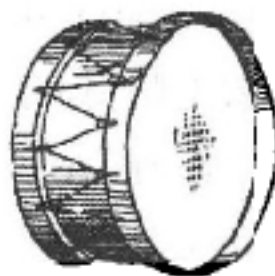
The pioneer of American country music is Vernon Dalhart, who was the first country singer to have a nationwide hit. Important early country musicians also include Jimmie Rodgers and the Carter Family. Several new rock and pop stars have also ventured into country music in the 21st century, such as Carrie Underwood and Taylor Swift.

## Part 2 Warm-up

**Directions:** *Identify the musical instruments in the following pictures, which are often used in playing country music. Put the corresponding letter on the line below each picture.*



Picture 1: \_\_\_\_\_



Picture 2: \_\_\_\_\_



Picture 3: \_\_\_\_\_



Picture 4: \_\_\_\_\_



Picture 5: \_\_\_\_\_



Picture 6: \_\_\_\_\_

A. fiddle    B. drum    C. bass    D. guitar    E. mandolin    F. harmonica

## Part 3 In-class Listening

### Song A

**Take Me Home, Country Roads—John Denver**

Almost heaven, West Virginia<sup>1</sup>

Blue Ridge Mountains<sup>2</sup>, Shenandoah River<sup>3</sup>

Life is old there, older than the trees

Younger than the mountains, growing like a breeze

Country roads, take me home

To the place I belong



West Virginia, Mountain mamma  
 Take me home, country roads  
  
 All my memories gather round her  
 Miner's lady, stranger to blue water<sup>4</sup>  
 Dark and dusty, painted on the sky  
 Misty taste of moonshine<sup>5</sup>, teardrops in my eye  
  
 Country roads, take me home  
 To the place I belong  
 West Virginia, Mountain mamma  
 Take me home, country roads  
  
 I hear her voice in the morning hours  
 She calls me  
 The radio reminds me of my home far away  
 And driving down the road  
 I get a feeling  
 That I should have been home yesterday, yesterday  
  
 Country roads, take me home  
 To the place I belong  
 West Virginia, Mountain mamma  
 Take me home, country roads  
  
 Country roads, take me home  
 To the place I belong  
 West Virginia, Mountain mamma  
 Take me home, country roads  
 Take me home, country roads  
 Take me home, country roads

### 〈Words〉

breeze /briz/ *n.* 微风

gather /'gæðə/ *v.* 聚集, 集合

miner /'mainə/ *n.* 煤矿工人

misty /'misti/ *a.* 被雾笼罩的

### 〈Notes〉

1. West Virginia is a state in the Appalachian and Mid-Atlantic regions of the United States, bordered by Virginia to the southeast, Kentucky to the southwest, Ohio to the northwest, and Pennsylvania and Maryland to the northeast. The capital and the largest city is Charleston. The state is noted for its mountains and diverse topography (地形), its historically significant logging and coal mining industries, and its political

and labor history.

2. “Blue Ridge Mountains” run in a strip from northeast West Virginia to its southwest across the eastern part of the state.

3. “Shenandoah River” is in West Virginia, running right through Harper’s Ferry into the Potomac.

4. In this line, “lady” here indicates “wife”; “blue water” suggests “ocean”. It means his mother was a common housewife who had never been in touch with the outside world.

5. “Moonshine” originally means whiskey illegally distilled from a corn mash, and in this line it means “home-made whiskey”.

### 〈Appreciation〉

*Take Me Home, Country Roads* is a song from John Denver’s 1971 breakout album *Poems, Prayers and Promises*. It was written by John Denver in collaboration with Bill Danoff and Taffy Nivert, and initially recorded by John Denver. The single went to number two on the US Billboard Hot 100. After many other hit singles, *Take Me Home, Country Roads* remains Denver’s signature song.

The song received an enthusiastic response from West Virginians, which becomes the theme song of West Virginia University and has been performed at every home football pre-game show since 1972. The song is also played for other athletic events and university functions, including after football games, upon which the fans are encouraged to stay in the stands and sing the song along with the team. The song can inspire their love and passion for their hometown and help them to share excitement with each other.

The lyrics unfold the beautiful and heavenly scenery in the countryside including mountains, rivers, trees, breeze and country roads, etc, which will easily arouse the listeners’ longing for the peaceful and cheerful country life. The singer-songwriter also expresses his deep love for his family, especially his mother, which will greatly move the listeners. The song progresses from a picture of the countryside to the memory of his mother and reaches climax by repeat of chorus and the title “take me home, country roads”.

John Denver (December 31, 1943 – October 12, 1997) is not only an American singer-songwriter but also a poet. As one of the most popular acoustic artists of the 1970s, Denver recorded and released around 300 songs, about 200 of which, he composed by himself. He was named Poet Laureate of Colorado in 1977. Songs such as *Leaving on a Jet Plane*, *Take Me Home, Country Roads*, *Rocky Mountain High*, *Sunshine on My Shoulders*, *Thank God I’m a Country Boy* and *Annie’s Song* all attained worldwide



popularity.

In his early years, Denver joined the Chad Mitchell Trio, a folk group that had been renamed “The Mitchell Trio” prior to Chad Mitchell’s departure and before Denver’s arrival and then “Denver, Boise, and Johnson” which stood for its members John Denver, David Boise, and Michael Johnson respectively. In 1969, Denver left the band to pursue a solo career and released his first album *Rhymes and Reasons*. At that time, the company did not actively promote *Rhymes and Reasons* with a tour, but Denver himself embarked on an impromptu supporting tour throughout the Midwest, offering to play free concerts at local venues. His next two albums *Take Me to Tomorrow and Whose Garden Was This?* soon came out, featuring songs he had composed while touring the American Midwest.

The album *Poems, Prayers & Promises* released in 1971 was a breakthrough for John Denver in the US, thanks in part to the single *Take Me Home, Country Roads*. Between 1974 and 1975, Denver experienced impressive chart dominance, with a string of four number-one songs and three number-one albums. He was regarded as one of the most famous country singers in the 1970s.

### 〈Exercises〉

#### I. Paraphrase

**Directions:** *In this part, there are four sentences from the song above. Paraphrase them in your own words.*

1. Almost heaven, West Virginia  
Blue Ridge Mountains, Shenandoah River

- 
2. All my memories gather round her  
Miner’s lady, stranger to blue water

- 
3. Dark and dusty, painted on the sky

- 
4. Misty taste of moonshine, teardrops in my eye
- 

#### II. Imitation

**Directions:** *Read the following sentences carefully before you learn to sing this song. While you read, please pay attention to **liaison** (连读) in English Phonetics. One of the liaison rules dictates that words are connected when a word ends in a consonant sound and the next word starts with a vowel sound.*

1. Life is old there.  
          └─┘
2. Growing like a breeze.  
          └─┘

3. Dark and dusty, painted on the sky.
4. Misty taste of moonshine, teardrops in my eye
5. The radio reminds me of my home far away
6. I get a feeling that I should have been home yesterday, yesterday

### III. Oral Activity

**Directions:** *In this part there are three oral tasks. Work in pairs or groups to discuss the topic in each task and then show your opinion to the class.*

**Task 1.** What do you feel after you hear this song? What does it remind you of?

**Task 2.** How much do you know about John Denver and share your information and knowledge with your classmates.

**Task 3.** How much do you know about country music? And how do you like it?

### Song B

#### Jambalaya—Hank Williams

Good-bye Joe, me gotta go<sup>1</sup>, me oh my oh<sup>2</sup>  
 Me gotta go pole the pirogue down the bayou  
 My Yvonne<sup>3</sup>, the sweetest one, me oh my oh  
 Son of a gun<sup>4</sup>, we'll have big fun on the bayou  
 Jambalaya and a crawfish pie and fillet gumbo  
 Cause tonight I'll gonna see my ma cher amio<sup>5</sup>  
 Pick guitar, fill fruit jar and be gay-o  
 Son of a gun, we'll have big fun on the bayou  
 Thibodeaux, Fontaineaux<sup>6</sup>, the place is buzzing  
 Kinfolk come to see Yvonne by the dozen  
 Dress in style and go hog wild<sup>7</sup>, me oh my oh  
 Son of a gun, we'll have big fun on the bayou  
 Jambalaya and a crawfish pie and fillet gumbo  
 Cause tonight I'll gonna see my ma cher amio  
 Pick guitar, fill fruit jar and be gay-o  
 Son of a gun, we'll have big fun on the bayou  
 Settle down far from town get him a pirogue  
 And he'll catch all the fish in the bayou  
 Swap his mon to buy Yvonne what she need-o<sup>8</sup>  
 Son of a gun, we'll have big fun on the bayou



Jambalaya and a crawfish pie and fillet gumbo  
 Cause tonight I'll gonna see my ma cher amio  
 Pick guitar, fill fruit jar and be gay-o  
 Son of a gun, we'll have big fun on the bayou

### 〈Words〉

jambalaya /ˌdʒæbəˈlaɪə/ *n.* 什锦饭

pole /pəʊl/ *v.* 用篙撑船

pirogue /ˈpiərəʊg/ *n.* 独木船

bayou /ˈbaɪuː/ *n.* (尤指美国东南部的)水流缓慢、  
水草繁多的小河

crawfish /ˈkrɔːfɪʃ/ *n.* 淡水螯虾(肉)

fillet /ˈfɪlɪt/ *n.* 鱼片(柳),肉片

gumbo /ˈɡʌmbəʊ/ *n.* 肉菜浓汤

gay /geɪ/ *a.* 愉快的,欢乐的

kinfolk /ˈkɪnfəʊk/ *n.* (过时)家人,亲戚

hog /hɒg/ *n.* 猪

settle /ˈsetl/ *v.* 安定下来,定居

swap /swɒp/ *v.* 交换,交易

### 〈Notes〉

1. “Me gotta go” is quite a colloquial way of saying “I have to go”. “Gotta” means “have (got) to”.

2. “Me oh my oh” does not convey any real meaning, but just achieve a certain sound effect in singing.

3. “Yvonne” is a Cajun name for girls. Cajun is a member of people living in Louisiana in the US, who were originally French-Canadian (阿卡迪亚人).

4. “Son of a gun” is usually used to address the speaker's own children. It conveys affection and concern. The refrain “son of a gun, we'll have big fun on the bayou” has become a well-recognized and often repeated sentence among the American people.

5. “Ma cher amio” is considered poor Cajun French for “my dear”. However, Williams uses the word “my” before the French “ma”, which has caused redundancy and even confusion among listeners, particularly given his pronunciation.

6. “Thibodeaux” and “Fontaineaux” are names for places in Louisiana.

7. “Go hog wild” is quite colloquial expression, meaning playing wildly and excitedly.

8. “Mon” is Cajun French for “stuff” in English. The whole sentence means Joe will give off what he gains from his work to buy what Yvonne needs.

### 〈Appreciation〉

*Jambalaya* is one of the most influential and classical works of Hank Williams, a well-known American country music performer in 1940s. Named for a Creole and Cajun dish, jambalaya, it spawned numerous cover versions and has since achieved popularity in a number of music genres.

Hank Williams is hailed as one of the best country music singers in America. Al-

though he was unable to write music to a significant degree and died at an early age presumably from alcohol and drugs, he was placed among the greatest country music stars of all time and left to the later generations dozens of works including *Love-sick Blues*, *There Will Be No Teardrops Tonight*, *Wedding Bells*, *Mind Your Own Business*, *Jambalaya* and so on. In addition, Hank



brought together Bob McNett (guitar), Hillous Butrum (bass), Jerry Rivers (fiddle) and Don Helms (steel guitar) to form the most famous version of the Drifting Cowboys. The band went through several lineups during Williams' career, and surviving members of the group continued to tour and make public appearances to this day.

Jambalaya is a Cajun rice dish with meat, vegetables and seafood. Cajuns are an ethnic group mainly living in the State of Louisiana in the South of America, who are the descendants of Canadian French. Today, the Cajuns make up a significant portion of south Louisiana's population, and have exerted an enormous impact on the state's culture. They have their own language, which is related to French and they can also speak English. The song *Jambalaya* is based on the melody of a Cajun French song called *Grand Texas* and is written in colloquial English with some Cajun color. The original Cajun French song *Grand Texas* is a song about lost love, a woman who left the singer to go with another man to "Big Texas" for a better life. By contrast, *Jambalaya* by Hank Williams is about a happy Cajun wedding party and their colorful life. On the surface, the lyrics depict parties and stereotypical food of Cajun cuisine. However, it truthfully reflects the Cajun people's way of life as well as their enthusiasm and optimism towards life.

Released in 1952, the song was performed by Williams as a country song. It reached number one on the U. S. country charts for fourteen non-consecutive weeks and remains one of Hank Williams' most popular songs today. There have been numerous cover versions by singers from different countries and adapted into several languages.

### 〈Exercises〉

#### I. Column Matching

**Directions:** Column A is a list of numbers of the stanzas in this song and Column B is a gist (主旨) of each stanza. Match Column A with Column B based on your understanding of the lyrics.

Column A	Column B
Stanza 1	A. People are busy preparing for the celebration feast tonight when Joe will be with his dear Yvonne.

(续)

Column A	Column B
Stanza 2 and 4 (chorus)	B. The happy couple are planning for their future life in which Joe will happily support Yvonne by fishing on the bayou.
Stanza 3	C. The extended families of the bride and the groom all come to attend the party and admire the bride.
Stanza 5	D. Joe is traveling down the bayou by boat to marry Yvonne.

## II. Rhyme

**Directions:** *A rhyme is a repetition of similar sounds in two or more words and is often used in songs. Noticeably, it usually occurs at the end of a lyrical line to achieve special sound effect. Find out the rhyme in the following lyrics.*

1. Jambalaya and a crawfish pie and fillet gumbo

Cause tonight I'll gonna see my ma cher amio

Pick guitar, fill fruit jar and be gay-o

Son of a gun, we'll have big fun on the bayou

- From *Jambalaya*

Rhyme [   ]

2. I'm sitting here in a boring room

It's just another rainy sunday afternoon

I'm wasting my time, I've got nothing to do

I'm hanging around, I'm waiting for you

But nothing ever happens, and I wonder

- From *Lemon Tree*

Rhyme [   ]

3. Shadows on the hills

Sketch the trees and the daffodils

Catch the breeze and the winter chills

in colors on the snowy linen land.

- From *Vincent*

Rhyme [   ]

4. Edelweiss, edelweiss

Every morning you greet me

Small and white

Clean and bright

You look happy to meet me

- From *Edelweiss*

Rhyme [   ]

## III. Oral Activity

**Directions:** *In this part there are two oral tasks. Work in pairs or groups to fulfill the tasks.*

**Task 1.** Describe what happened to Joe that day and how he felt.

**Task 2.** Compare the two songs covered in the In-class Listening part and discuss with your group members in which way do they resemble and differ from each other?

## **Part 4 After-class Listening**

### **Song A**

#### **Hotel California—Eagles**

On a dark desert highway, cool wind in my hair  
Warm smell of colitas, rising up through the air  
Up ahead in the distance, I saw a shimmering light  
My head grew heavy and my sight grew dim  
I had to stop for the night  
There she stood in the doorway  
I heard the mission bell  
And I was thinking to myself  
This could be heaven or this could be hell  
Then she lit up a candle and she showed me the way  
There were voices down the corridor  
I thought I heard them say. . .  
  
Welcome to the Hotel California  
Such a lovely place  
Such a lovely face  
Plenty of room at the Hotel California  
Any time of year  
You can find it here  
  
Her mind is Tiffany-twisted  
She got the Mercedes Benz  
She got a lot of pretty, pretty boys  
That she calls friends  
How they dance in the courtyard  
Sweet summer sweat  
Some dance to remember  
Some dance to forget  
  
So I called up the Captain  
Please bring me my wine  
He said;  
“We haven’t had that spirit here since 1969”  
And still those voices are calling from far away

Wake you up in the middle of the night  
 Just to hear them say...  
 Welcome to the Hotel California  
 Such a lovely Place  
 Such a lovely face  
 They're living it up at the Hotel California  
 What a nice surprise  
 Bring your alibis  
 Mirrors on the ceiling  
 The pink champagne on ice  
 And she said:  
 "We are all just prisoners here, of our own device"  
 And in the master's chambers  
 They gathered for the feast  
 They stabbed it with their steely knives  
 But they just can't kill the beast  
 Last thing I remember  
 I was running for the door  
 I had to find the passage back to the place I was before  
 "Relax" said the night man  
 We are programmed to receive  
 You can check out any time you like  
 But you can never leave

### 〈Words〉

colitas /kəlaɪtəs/	n. 隐指大麻	Mercedes Benz /məˈseɪdɪz benz/	n. 梅赛德斯—奔驰汽车
shimmer /ʃɪmə/	v. 闪烁; 发光	spirit /ˈspɪrɪt/	n. 烈性酒
dim /dɪm/	a. 模糊的; 暗淡的	alibi /æˈlɪbaɪ/	n. 理由
doorway /ˈdɔːweɪ/	n. 门道, 门口	champagne /ʃæmpɛɪn/	n. 香槟
mission /mɪʃən/	n. 传道区	chamber /ˈtʃeɪmbə/	n. 房间
hell /hel/	n. 地狱	stab /stæb/	v. 刺; 捅
corridor /ˈkɒrɪdɔː/	n. 走廊	program /ˈprəʊgræm/	v. 计划; 安排
twist /twɪst/	v. 扭曲		

### 〈Exercises〉

#### I. Questions for Comprehension

**Directions:** In this part there are 5 incomplete sentences or questions. For the first 4 sentences or questions, there are 4 choices marked A, B, C and D. Choose the best one based on your understanding of this song. And for the question numbered 5, write down your



answers in the space provided.

1. What is the most probable identity of the protagonist in the song as suggested in the 1st stanza?
    - A. A weary traveler
    - B. A hotel manager
    - C. A playboy
    - D. A vagabond
  2. In the beginning, the hotel appears \_\_\_\_\_.
    - A. cold and uncomfortable
    - B. deserted and haunted
    - C. inviting and tempting
    - D. luxurious and unaffordable
  3. The woman described in the song is \_\_\_\_\_.
    - A. beautiful and charming
    - B. sincere and warmhearted
    - C. romantic and interesting
    - D. vanity-oriented and flirtatious
  4. At the end of the song, the hotel turned out to be \_\_\_\_\_.
    - A. terrific and impeccable
    - B. horrible and nightmarish
    - C. expensive but comfortable
    - D. crowded and suppressed
  5. What do you think the songwriter wants to convey through this story-telling song?
- 

## II. Recalling Your Experience in a Hotel

**Directions:** Tell the class one of your special experiences in a hotel, which can be interesting, terrible or undesirable. Try to use the words, phrases or even sentences you have learned from this song.

## Song B

### Changing Partners—Patti Page

We were waltzing together  
To a dreamy melody  
When they called out "change partners"  
And you waltzed away from me  
Now my arms feel so empty  
As I gaze around the floor  
And I'll keep on changing partners  
Till I hold you once more  
  
Though we danced for one moment  
And too soon we had to part

In that wonderful moment  
 Something happened to my heart  
 So I'll keep changing partners  
 Till you're in my arms and then  
 Oh, my darling I will never change partners again  
  
 Though we danced for one moment  
 And too soon we had to part  
 In that wonderful moment  
 Something happened to my heart  
 So I'll keep changing partners  
 Till you're in my arms and then  
 Oh, my darling I will never change partners again

### 〈Words〉

partner /'pɑ:tənə/ *n.* 舞伴; 搭档

melody /'melədi/ *n.* 优美的旋律, 美妙的音乐

waltz /wɒltz/ *v.* 跳华尔兹

## Song C

### Teardrops on My Guitar—Taylor Swift

Drew looks at me, I fake a smile so he won't see  
 What I want and I need  
 And everything that we should be  
 I'll bet she's beautiful, that girl he talks about  
 And she's got everything that I have to live without  
  
 Drew talks to me, I laugh cause it's just so funny  
 I can't even see anyone when he's with me  
 He says he's so in love, he's finally got it right  
 I wonder if he knows he's all I think about at night  
 He's the reason for the teardrops on my guitar  
 The only thing that keeps me wishing on a wishing star  
 He's the song in the car I keep singing  
 Don't know why I do  
  
 Drew walks by me, can he tell that I can't breathe  
 And there he goes, so perfectly  
 The kind of flawless I wish I could be  
 She'd better hold him tight, give him all her love  
 Look in those beautiful eyes and know she's lucky  
 Cause he's the reason for the teardrops on my guitar

The only thing that keeps me wishing on a wishing star  
 He's the song in the car I keep singing  
 Don't know why I do  
  
 So I drive home alone, as I turn out the light  
 I'll put his picture down  
 And maybe get some sleep tonight  
 Cause he's the reason for the teardrops on my guitar  
 The only one who's got enough for me to break my heart  
 He's the song in the car I keep singing  
 Don't know why I do  
 He's the time taken up, but there's never enough  
 And he's all that I need to fall into  
 Drew looks at me, I fake a smile so he won't see

### 〈Words〉

teardrop /'ti:drɒp/ *n.* 泪珠

flawless /'flɔ:lɪs/ *a.* 完美的;无暇的

fake /feɪk/ *v.* 假装

### 〈Further Development〉

#### I. Reading-Cloze

**Directions:** The following passage is a brief introduction to the Eagles. There are 20 blanks in the passage. For each blank there are four choices marked A, B, C and D below the passage. Read it carefully and then choose the one that best fits into the passage.

#### The Success of the Eagles

The Eagles is an American rock band (1) \_\_\_\_\_ in Los Angeles, California in 1971. With five number one singles (单曲), fourteen Top 40 (2) \_\_\_\_\_, and four number one albums, the Eagles were among the most successful recording (3) \_\_\_\_\_ of the 1970s. At the end of the 20th century, two of those albums—*Their Greatest Hits and Hotel California*—ranked among the ten (4) \_\_\_\_\_ albums ever, and the (5) \_\_\_\_\_ of 2007's *Long Road Out of Eden* proved the Eagles' staying power in the new millennium. Though most of its members came from outside California, the group was closely identified (6) \_\_\_\_\_ a country- and folk-tinged sound (7) \_\_\_\_\_ initially found favor in Los Angeles during the late 1960s. But the band also drew upon traditional rock & roll (8) \_\_\_\_\_ and, in their later work, helped define the broadly popular rock sound that became known as classic rock. (9) \_\_\_\_\_, the Eagles achieved a (10) \_\_\_\_\_ appeal among generations of music fans.

The seeds for the band were planted when Linda Ronstadt and then-manager John

Boylan (11)\_\_\_\_\_ musicians Glenn Frey and Don Henley in the spring of 1971. The Eagles would play only once together as a live unit backing Linda Ronstadt (for a July concert at Disneyland), but all four (12)\_\_\_\_\_ on her 1971 album.

Eagles was a breakthrough success, (13)\_\_\_\_\_ three Top 40 singles. The first single and lead track, *Take It Easy*, was a song (14)\_\_\_\_\_ by Glenn Frey and his neighbor and fellow country-folk rocker (摇滚乐表演者) Jackson Browne. Browne had written the first and third verses, and the (15)\_\_\_\_\_. The song reached No. 12 on the Billboard Hot 100 and (16)\_\_\_\_\_ the Eagles to stardom (明星地位). The single was followed by the bluesy "Witchy Woman" and the soft country rock ballad "Peaceful Easy Feeling", charting at No. 9 and No. 22 (17)\_\_\_\_\_. The group's (18)\_\_\_\_\_ album was recorded in England in February 1972 and released on June 17, 1972.

The Eagles (19)\_\_\_\_\_ in July 1980, but reunited in 1994 for *Hell Freezes Over*, a mix of live and new studio tracks. They have toured intermittently (断断续续地) since then. In 2007, Eagles released *Long Road out of Eden*, their first full studio album in 28 years.

The Eagles were a major force in popularizing the Southern California country rock sound. Rolling Stone magazine's 2003 list of the "500 Greatest Albums of All Time" ranked Eagles (20)\_\_\_\_\_ number 374.

- |                     |                  |                 |                   |
|---------------------|------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1. A) consisted     | B) composed      | C) formed       | D) released       |
| 2. A) crashes       | B) hits          | C) hurts        | D) beats          |
| 3. A) actors        | B) dancers       | C) participants | D) artists        |
| 4. A) best-seller   | B) best-selling  | C) best-sold    | D) best-sells     |
| 5. A) perception    | B) pessimism     | C) popularity   | D) priority       |
| 6. A) with          | B) for           | C) into         | D) at             |
| 7. A) when          | B) who           | C) that         | D) where          |
| 8. A) means         | B) vehicles      | C) categories   | D) styles         |
| 9. A) As a result   | B) However       | C) Whereas      | D) At most        |
| 10. A) temporary    | B) awkward       | C) moderate     | D) perpetual      |
| 11. A) recruited    | B) reinforced    | C) released     | D) removed        |
| 12. A) avoided      | B) appeared      | C) amazed       | D) applied        |
| 13. A) dreaming     | B) promoting     | C) losing       | D) yielding       |
| 14. A) writing      | B) to be written | C) written      | D) having written |
| 15. A) chorus       | B) course        | C) cord         | D) choice         |
| 16. A) proceeded    | B) propelled     | C) prohibited   | D) processed      |
| 17. A) respectfully | B) respectedly   | C) respectably  | D) respectively   |
| 18. A) various      | B) debut         | C) eventual     | D) previous       |
| 19. A) broke down   | B) broke in      | C) broke up     | D) broke out      |
| 20. A) on           | B) as            | C) at           | D) for            |

## II. More Listening

**Directions:** Try to find more English songs with the theme of country life and share them with your classmates.

## III. Speaking

**Directions:** Discuss in depth with your group members about country life and urban life. Which aspects of them appeal to you and which don't. Explain your reasons.

## IV. Writing

**Directions:** Read the following tips on How to Write a Music Review and then write a review on Taylor Swift's *Teardrops on my Guitar*.

**Tip 1:** Start with such simple facts as who the singer is, what type of music it is, past albums and song titles, etc. and then progress from the general to the specific.

**Tip 2:** Listen to the song a few times. Write down how you feel while you listen. First impression matters, but a deeper understanding can come from listening again. Some songs have hidden messages. Your job as a reviewer is to uncover those messages.

**Tip 3:** Show your impressions and points of view in a vivid and detailed way. Select specific lines or words as examples to support your view. Be objective.

**Tip 4:** Make comparison with any previous works the singer has produced or those works from other singers which have similar musical styles or themes. Try to focus on one or two points. Don't spread yourself too thin.

## Part 5 Achievement Test

### I. Listening Comprehension (30%)

**Directions:** Listen to the following part of *Hotel California* carefully and then fill in the blanks numbered from 1 to 10 with three words at most.

On a dark (1) \_\_\_\_\_ highway, cool wind in my hair  
Warm smell of colitas, (2) \_\_\_\_\_ up through the air  
Up ahead in the distance, I saw a (3) \_\_\_\_\_ light  
My head grew heavy and my (4) \_\_\_\_\_ grew dim  
I had to stop for the night  
There she stood in the (5) \_\_\_\_\_  
I heard the mission bell  
And I was thinking to myself  
This could be heaven or this could be (6) \_\_\_\_\_  
Then she lit up a candle and she showed me the way  
There were voices down the (7) \_\_\_\_\_  
I thought I heard them say...  
  
Welcome to the Hotel California  
Such a lovely place  
Such a lovely face





- D. wealthy and colorful life
7. Which of the following song is the signature song of the Eagles?  
 A. *Changing Partners* B. *Teardrops on My Guitar*  
 C. *Hotel California* D. *Take Me Home, Country Roads*
8. Which of the following song belongs to new country music?  
 A. *Yesterday Once More* B. *Teardrops on my Guitar*  
 C. *Changing Partners* D. *Jambalaya*
9. \_\_\_\_\_ is a famous American rock band.  
 A. The Eagles B. Westlife  
 C. The Carpenters D. Boyzone
10. The theme of country music may include \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A. love B. regional specialties  
 C. country life D. all of the above

### III. Vocabulary (20%)

**Directions:** In this part there are six groups of words. In each of the groups there is one word which is different from others in some way. You should try to find it in each of the groups and then circle it.

Group Number	Words
Group 1	breeze, moonshine, wind, light, sunshine
Group 2	jambalaya, crawfish, pie, gumbo, pirogue
Group 3	spirit, melody, waltz, jazz
Group 4	teardrop, alibi, smile, surprise, laughter
Group 5	stab, gather, pole, mission, settle
Group 6	miner, chamber, stranger, kinfolk, partner, master

### IV. Translation (30%)

**Directions:** In this part there are 5 English sentences from the songs in the After-class Listening. Please translate them into Chinese and write down your translation in the space provided.

1. My head grew heavy and my sight grew dim; I had to stop for the night

---

2. Her mind is Tiffany twisted; She's got the Mercedes bends; She's got a lot of pretty, pretty boys that she calls friends.

- 
3. We were waltzing together to a dreamy melody; when they called out "change

partners” and you waltzed away from me.

---

4. I'll bet she's beautiful, that girl he talks about and she's got everything that I have to live without.

---

5. He's the reason for the teardrops on my guitar; the only thing that keeps me wishing on a wishing star.

---

## Unit Three Sports

### Part 1 Cultural Background and Related Information

Rhythm and blues, also known as R&B, is a genre of popular African American music that originated in the 1940s. It incorporates a variety of styles ranging from Motown (汽车城音乐,起源于底特律的黑人音乐), jump blues, club blues, and soul, to contemporary ones such as funk (乡土爵士乐,一种强节奏的现代流行音乐), disco, and rap. And the term “rhythm and blues” was coined in 1949 by Billboard Magazine to describe a number of related musical styles created by and for blacks.

The development of R&B is closely associated with various changes that took place in the United States just prior to and during World War Two. Seeking to escape racial oppression and pursue a better life, large segments of Black American communities migrated from the South to the urban industrial centers such as Chicago, Detroit, New York, and Los Angeles, bringing with them the music of the South. The Southern sound, mainly blues, gospel (福音音乐,美国黑人的一种宗教音乐) and jazz, was transformed to create the urban sounds of R&B.

The term experienced a number of meaning shifts. In the early 1950s and beyond, the term “rhythm and blues” was frequently applied to blues records. Starting in the 1950s, after this style of music laid the groundwork for rock and roll, the term became used to refer to music styles that encompassed electric blues, gospel and soul music. By the 1970s, rhythm and blues was used as an umbrella term for soul and funk. In the 1980s and 1990s, with the emergence of a newer style of R&B, which added stylistic components of hip-hop or rap, the title of contemporary R&B was born.

The general characteristics of R&B include soulful singing over a strong backbeat (强节奏), commonalities in rhythm, repetition of rhythms, verses and notes, and often complex blending of instruments. And the common musical instruments used in R&B music differ in the two band sections. The rhythm section comprises a drum set, bass, piano, sometimes organ and piano together and the guitar; and the horn section consists of the trumpet (小号), saxophone, sometimes trombone (长号). The emphasis on horns is one of the ways in which the music has stood out as different from white rock music.

All through the second half of the twentieth century, R&B proved to be the most influential genre of music in terms of the effects it had on genres such as rock and roll, country and western, jazz, and gospel. In the twenty first century, R&B surely will

continue to exert an impact on various aspects of music industry, playing an important role in the evolution of modern music.

## Part 2 Warm-up

**Directions:** The right column of the following table contains the definitions of 10 words chosen from the passage above. The first two letters of each word have been provided in the left column. Decide on the exact meaning of each definition and write the missing letters to complete the words in the brackets.

1. (fu     )	1. (n.) a type of modern popular music with a heavy regular beat used for dancing
2. (sa     )	2. (n.) a metal instrument which you blow into, especially to play jazz
3. (go     )	3. (n.) a style of music popular in America with black Christians
4. (ra     )	4. (n.) a genre of African-American music in which rhyming lyrics are chanted to a musical accompaniment
5. (ba     )	5. (n.) an instrument that produces tones in a low register
6. (co     )	6. (v.) to invent a new word
7. (mi     )	7. (v.) to move from one place to live or work, often for a limited period
8. (en     )	8. (v.) to include several things
9. (co     )	9. (a.) happening at the present time
10. (fr    )	10. (ad.) happening often

## Part 3 In-class Listening

### Song A

#### I Believe I Can Fly—R. Kelly

I used to think that I could not go on  
 And life was nothing but<sup>1</sup> an awful song  
 But now I know the meaning of true love  
 I'm leaning on the everlasting arms<sup>2</sup>

If I can see it, then I can do it  
 If I just believe it, there's nothing to it<sup>3</sup>

I believe I can fly  
 I believe I can touch the sky  
 I think about it every night and day  
 Spread my wings and fly away  
 I believe I can soar



I see me running through that open door  
I believe I can fly  
I believe I can fly  
I believe I can fly

See I was on the verge of breaking down<sup>4</sup>  
Sometimes silence can seem so loud<sup>5</sup>  
There are miracles in life I must achieve  
But first I know it starts inside of me

If I can see it, then I can do it  
If I just believe it, there's nothing to it

I believe I can fly  
I believe I can touch the sky  
I think about it every night and day  
Spread my wings and fly away

I believe I can soar  
I see me running through that open door  
I believe I can fly  
I believe I can fly  
I believe I can fly

Hey, because I believe in me  
If I can see it, then I can do it  
If I just believe it, there's nothing to it

I believe I can fly  
I believe I can touch the sky  
I think about it every night and day  
Spread my wings and fly away  
I believe I can soar  
I see me running through that open door  
I believe I can fly  
I believe I can fly  
I believe I can fly

Hey, if I just spread my wings  
I can fly  
I can fly  
I can fly

...

### 〈Words〉

awful /'ɔːfʊl/ a. 糟糕的, 可怕的

everlasting /'evə'læstɪŋ/ a. 永久的, 永恒的

soar /sɔː/ v. 飞翔

verge /vɜːdʒ/ n. 边缘, 边界

miracle /'mɪrəkl/ n. 奇迹

### 〈Notes〉

1. The phrase “nothing but” means “only”.
2. In this line, “lean on” is a verb phrase meaning “depend on”; “the everlasting arm” is used here as an image of belief or hope.
3. The clause “there’s nothing to it” means “there’s nothing especially tough to it” or “it’s not difficult”.
4. “On the verge of” is a propositional phrase meaning “nearly, almost”; “break down” is a verb phrase meaning “lose control of one’s emotions”.
5. Literally, the word “silence” seems to be a little bit contradictory to the word “loud”, while approached from a deeper perspective, this line does make sense in terms of the rich connotation it bears. It implies that “being silent” is not equal to “being docile and passive”, and that for those who are indomitable and determined, silence is only a short transition, an accumulation of strength, or even a silent counterattack. Like peace before the storm, silence in itself can be louder and more powerful than it appears.

### 〈Appreciation〉

*I Believe I Can Fly* is a 1996 song written, produced and performed by R. Kelly. Since its release, it has become commonly associated with the NBA, most notably with the superstar Michael Jordan, and it was featured in the 1996 movie *Space Jam* in which Michael Jordan played a fictional version of himself as the protagonist. The song has won three Grammys and various other musical awards.

With its refreshing rhythms and inspiring lyrics perfectly combined, the song easily strikes a chord with listeners and enables them to cheer up, to gain confidence, and to transcend their worries and concerns. In this song, a subtle comparison between “down” and “up” is presented to hint the change of “my” mentality. Lines such as “I was on the verge of breaking down” suggest that “I” used to have a negative attitude towards life, and felt “down” about life. Then, knowing the meaning of “true love”, and endowed with the “everlasting arms”, “I” managed to turn my life around and divert it towards a positive and upward direction, as manifested in lines such as “I believe I can fly”, “I believe I can touch the sky” and “I believe I can soar”.

Another noteworthy aspect of the song is that metaphor, as a dominant rhetoric device, is repeatedly employed throughout the lyrics. Things with symbolic meanings such

as “arms”, “wings”, and “open door”, are imbedded in the lyrics so as to diversify the image presentation and add extra uplifting aura. In addition, the image of “flight” is vividly specified and skillfully highlighted with the supporting images presented in a sensible way, and the motif brought out by the image connotations of “flight” to some degree coincides with the Chinese philosophical thinking that the biggest enemy is self. Only when the one himself is determined to smash all the shackles that bind him, to fend off all the inner demons that haunt him, can he be really rescued and emancipated, and thus being able to enjoy life, to embrace love, to challenge the impossible, to fly off into the wonder land that has been long desired.

Robert Kelly whose charming voice contributed to the most well-known version of this song, is an American R&B singer, songwriter and record producer, and best known by the stage name R. Kelly. He has released a collection of hit singles including *I Believe I Can Fly*, *If I Could Turn Back the Hands of Time*, *The World's Greatest*, and the hip-hopera (嘻哈歌剧) *Trapped in the Closet*. In addition, as a versatile artist, he has written, produced, and remixed music for many artists including Michael Jackson, Whitney Houston, and Céline Dion, etc.



Kelly's debut solo album, *12 Play*, was released in the fall of 1993 and yielded the singer's first number-one hit, *Bump n' Grind*, which spent a record-breaking 12 weeks at number one on the Hot R&B Singles chart. And it also topped the Billboard R&B singles chart for twelve consecutive weeks.

In 1997, Kelly realized his longtime dream and signed a contract to play professional basketball with the Atlantic City Seagulls of the USBL. Kelly stated “I love basketball enough to not totally let go of my music, but just put it to the side for a minute, and fulfill some dreams of mine that I've had for a long time.” In Kelly's contract with USBL, a clause (合约条款) was included which would allow him to fulfill a music obligation when necessary. And Kelly is believed to be the first music artist to play professional basketball.

### 〈Exercises〉

#### I. Translation

**Directions:** Translate the following sentences into Chinese, considering the whole text of the lyrics and trying to keep the rhythm of the song.

1. I used to think that I could not go on, and life was nothing but an awful song.
2. But now I know the meaning of true love; I'm leaning on the everlasting arms.
3. If I can see it, then I can do it; if I just believe it, there's nothing to it.
4. I believe I can soar; I see me running through that open door.
5. There are miracles in life I must achieve, but first I know it starts inside of me.

## II. Imitation

**Directions:** An extra sound (/j/, /w/, /r/) is often put between two vowel sounds, because it marks the transition sound between the two vowels. This phonetic phenomenon is regarded as intrusion (增音). Read the following sentences or sentence fragments. While you read, please pay attention to the part where intrusion is involved.

1. I used to think that I could not go /w/ on.
2. If I can see /j/ it, then I can do /w/ it.
3. If I just believe it, there's nothing to /w/it.
4. Spread my wings and fly /j/away
5. See /j/I was on the verge of breaking down.
6. There /r/are miracles in life I must achieve.

## III. Oral Activity—Impromptu Speech

**Directions:** Make a short impromptu speech starting from "If I could fly", using your imagination as much as you can.

## Song B

### Better Man—Robbie Williams

Send someone to love me  
I need to rest in arms  
Keep me safe from harm  
In pouring rain  
Give me endless summer  
Lord I fear the cold  
Feel I'm getting old  
Before my time  
As my soul heals the shame  
I will grow through this pain  
Lord I'm doing all I can  
To be a better man  
Go easy on my conscience<sup>1</sup>  
'Cause<sup>2</sup> it's not my fault  
I know I've been taught  
To take the blame  
Rest assured<sup>3</sup> my angels  
Will catch my tears  
Walk<sup>4</sup> me out of here  
I'm in pain  
As my soul heals the shame

I will grow through this pain  
Lord I'm doing all I can  
To be a better man

Once you've found that lover  
You're homeward bound  
Love is all around  
Love is all around  
I know some have fallen  
On stony ground  
But Love is all around

Send someone to love me  
I need to rest in arms  
Keep me safe from harm  
In pouring rain

Give me endless summer  
Lord I fear the cold  
Feel I'm getting old  
Before my time

As my soul heals the shame  
I will grow through this pain  
Lord I'm doing all I can  
To be a better man

### 〈Words〉

Lord /lɔ:d/ *n.* 君主, 贵族, 上帝  
pour /pɔ:/ *v.* 倒, 往……倒  
soul /səʊl/ *n.* 灵魂, 心灵  
heal /hi:l/ *v.* 治愈, 病愈

conscience /kənʃəns/ *n.* 良心  
assured /əʃʊəd/ *a.* 确定的, 放心的  
homeward /həʊmwəd/ *a.* 回家的, 返航的  
bound /baʊnd/ *a.* 被缚住的, 必定的; 前往某地的

### 〈Notes〉

1. The phrase “go easy on” here means “to treat leniently”(温和对待).
2. “Because” is sometimes shortened in speech and informal writing to “’cause”.
3. “Rest assured” is a verb phrase meaning “to be certain something will happen”.
4. “Walk” here is used as a transitive verb, meaning “to walk with someone to a particular place, often to protect them on their way”.

### 〈Appreciation〉

*Better Man* is a song by British pop singer Robbie Williams, and it was said to be



written in honor of the Italian soccer star Roberto Baggio. The song was first released to radio stations in Latin America, in the summer of 2001 in its Spanish form, and it was later issued to radio in Australia and New Zealand in its original English version. The song had become a big success ever since it was released, reaching the highest positions on various Singles Charts around the world. In Argentina, it reached number one after the massive airplay of its Spanish version; in Mexico it became another top ten single for Williams.

The song begins with a brisk and lively guitar solo which reels you in and makes you sit up and take notice, and soon afterward your heart is spontaneously hooked as Robbie Williams' raw but charming voice comes along. When the whole song is finished, you might be totally crushed into submission. Reading between the lines, you might also notice that the whole song is more like a fragment of emotional soul confessions to God than an ordinary musical piece. The song can be roughly divided into two parts in terms of the messages it intends to convey. One part of the lyrics focuses on my plea to God for help and comfort. Such lines as "send someone to help me, I need to rest in arms", "give me endless summer, Lord I feel the cold" clearly indicate that my painful heart is desperate for warm reassurances. The other part is all about my resolution to do all I can to be a better man. And "to be a better man" is also a dominant message, somewhat serving as a motif of the whole piece, as manifested in such lines as "I will go through the pain, I'm doing all I can to be a better man" and "as my soul heals the shame, I will grow through this pain".

The sub-theme, love, is also skillfully imbedded in the song. Bringing your heart into the lyrics, you may hear the singer's heartfelt utterance: God, please "send someone to love me", and once I have "found that lover", love will be around and love will rescue me.

Robbie Williams, often nicknamed "Bad Boy", is currently Britain's biggest performer, and one of the most successful singers in British history.

Born in Stoke-on-Trent, a North England town on February 13th, 1974, Robbie Williams is a somewhat rebellious music genius, and had demonstrated his singing and performing talent since he was a little boy. He participated in public show at age 8, and his performance was so impressive that his family believed he would become somebody one day. In his teens, he once aspired to become an actor, and even joined the local theater company and landed minor roles in productions of musical plays, and he also appeared in the soap opera *Brookside*.



In 1990, the sixteen-year-old Williams landed the opportunity of becoming one fifth of the boy band Take That, one of the most popular idol groups of that time in Britain.

Williams rose to fame in the band's first run in the early to mid 1990s. After many disagreements with the management and certain group members, Williams left the group in 1995 to launch his solo career. The departure from Take That was a turning point for Williams, starting a new page in his pursuit of a bigger dream. The achievements he has made since he left the band far surpassed that of any one of his former band mates in Take That, bringing him worldwide fame with a string of hit singles including *Angels*, *Millennium*, *Rock DJ*, *She's the One*, and *Kids*.

Definitely sitting high on the UK throne, Williams seems to be the most popular man in Britain today. His success gives him every reason to think highly of himself.

### 〈Exercises〉

#### I. Lyrics Adaptation

**Directions:** Use your imagination and creativity. Adapt the song "Better Man" into a Chinese song. It's not word-for-word translation, so you can make some or even big changes to the lyrics to fit into your own writing or musical style.

**For example:**

赐予我一个懂我爱我的人吧  
枕在她的臂弯我不再害怕  
倾盆的大雨中是她温暖的目光  
驱走困惑,让我不再惊吓  
.....

#### II. Imitation

**Directions:** Read the following sentences or sentence fragments before you learn to sing this song. While you read, please pay attention to the part where loss of plosion (失去爆破) is involved.

1. Sen(d) someone to love me
2. I nee(d) to rest in arms
3. Kee(p) me safe from harm.
4. Rest assure(d) my angels
5. Wal(k) me out of here
6. Once you've foun(d) tha(t) lover
7. You're homewar(d) boun(d)

#### III. Oral Activity

**Directions:** In this part there are two oral tasks. Work in pairs or groups to discuss the topic in each task and then express your opinion to the class.

**Task 1.** What do you think of the saying from *Lun Yu* (one of the great Chinese philosophical and literary works contributed by Confucius) that "Men at their birth, are naturally good" (人之初,性本善)? Is personality more shaped by gene or by environment? Give your reasons.

**Task 2.** When you are helpless, or even desperate, how do you normally manage to get out of trouble, and who will you turn to for advice and help?

## **Part 4    After-class Listening**

### **Song A**

#### **Waving Flag—K'naan**

When I get older, I will be stronger  
They'll call me freedom, just like a waving flag

When I get older, I will be stronger  
They'll call me freedom, just like a waving flag  
And then it goes back, and then it goes back  
And then it goes back

Born to a throne, stronger than Rome  
But violent prone, poor people zone  
But it's my home, all I have known  
Where I got grown, streets we would roam  
Out of the darkness, I came the farthest  
Among the hardest survival  
Learn from these streets, it can be bleak  
Accept no defeat, surrender, retreat

So we struggling, fighting to eat  
And we wondering when we'll be free  
So we patiently wait, for that faithful day  
It's not far away, but for now we say

When I get older, I will be stronger,  
They'll call me freedom, just like a waving flag  
And then it goes back, and then it goes back  
And then it goes back

So many wars, settling scores  
Bringing us promises, leaving us poor  
I heard them say, love is the way  
Love is the answer, that's what they say  
But look how they treat us, make us believers  
We fight their battles, then they deceive us  
Try to control us, they couldn't hold us  
'Cause we just move forward like buffalo soldiers

But we struggling, fighting to eat  
 And we wondering when we'll be free  
 So we patiently wait, for that faithful day  
 It's not far away, but for now we say  
  
 When I get older, I will be stronger  
 They'll call me freedom, just like a waving flag  
 And then it goes back, and then it goes back  
 And then it goes back  
  
 When I get older, I will be stronger  
 They'll call me freedom, just like a waving flag  
 And then it goes back, and then it goes back  
 And then it goes back  
  
 (Ohhhh Ohhhh Ohhhh Ohhhh)  
 And everybody will be singing it  
 (Ohhhh Ohhhh Ohhhh Ohhhh)  
 And you and I will be singing it  
 (Ohhhh Ohhhh Ohhhh Ohhhh)  
 And we all will be singing it  
 (Ohhh Ohh Ohh Ohh)  
  
 When I get older, I will be stronger  
 They'll call me freedom, just like a waving flag  
 And then it goes back, and then it goes back  
 And then it goes back  
  
 When I get older, I will be stronger  
 They'll call me freedom, just like a waving flag  
 And then it goes back, and then it goes back  
 And then it goes back  
  
 When I get older, when I get older  
 I will be stronger, just like a waving flag  
 Just like a waving flag, just like a waving flag  
 Flag, flag, just like a waving flag  
 ...

### 〈Words〉

throne /θrəʊn/ *n.* 王座, 王位

Rome /rəʊm/ *n.* 罗马

prone /prəʊn/ *a.* 有……倾向的, 易于……的

roam /rəʊm/ *v.* 漫步, 漫游

survival /səvaɪvəl/ *n.* 幸存, 残存

bleak /bli:k/ *a.* 荒凉的

surrender /sə'rendə/ v. 投降, 屈服于  
retreat /ri'tri:t/ v. 退却, 撤退  
score /skɔ:/ n. 得分; 乐谱; 二十; 宿怨

faithful /'feiθfʊl/ a. 忠实的  
deceive /di'si:v/ v. 欺骗  
buffalo /'bʌfələʊ/ n. 野牛, 水牛

## 《Exercises》

### I. Questions for Comprehension

**Directions:** In this part there are 5 incomplete sentences or questions. For each sentence or question, there are 4 choices marked A, B, C and D. Choose the best one based on your understanding of this song.

1. What does a waving flag most probably symbolize in this song?  
A. Love. B. Passion.  
C. Freedom. D. Struggle.
2. Which of the following has NOT been mentioned by this song about "my home"?  
A. It's a violence-prone zone.  
B. It's a war-torn zone.  
C. It constantly suffers floods.  
D. People there are poor, fighting to eat.
3. In the line "so many wars, settling scores", the set phrase "settle scores" is closest in meaning to "\_\_\_\_\_".  
A. gain points in a game or competition  
B. compose a written copy of a piece of music  
C. harm someone who has harmed you in the past  
D. remove cut marks in a hard surface
4. Confronted with so many misdeeds "they" have done, what do "we" most probably decide to do?  
A. To withdraw from the battle field temporarily.  
B. To seek help from other international organizations.  
C. To deceive them when necessary just as they have done to us.  
D. To get rid of their control and continue struggling for a better life.
5. Which of the following can best describe the tone of the song?  
A. Uplifting. B. Ironical.  
C. Gloomy. D. Indifferent.

### II. Role Play

**Directions:** Work in pairs to perform the role play of an interview. One of you plays the role of a sport journalist, and the other plays the role of the NBA superstar Michael Jordan. You can ask any questions that come to your mind, and answer them in a fun and casual way. While doing this, you are not required to follow the standard interview format, and the information you have contributed doesn't need to accord with the real facts. Switch the roles after one round is done.



## Song B

### Hand in Hand—Koreana

See the fire in the sky  
We feel the beating of our hearts together  
This is our time to rise above  
We know the chance is here to live forever  
For all time

Hand in hand we stand  
All across the land  
We can make this world a better place in which to live  
Hand in hand we can  
Start to understand  
Breaking down the walls that come between us for all time  
Arirang

Every time we give it all  
We feel the flame eternally inside us  
Lift our hands up to the sky  
The morning calm helps us to live in harmony  
For all time

Hand in hand we stand  
All across the land  
We can make this world a better place in which to live  
Hand in hand we can  
Start to understand  
Breaking down the walls that come between us for all time  
Arirang

Hand in hand we stand  
All across the land  
We can make this world a better place in which to live  
Hand in hand we can  
Start to understand  
Breaking down the walls that come between us for all time  
Hand in hand  
Hand in hand  
Hand in hand  
...