



MUSICAL GRAMMAR PIECES: Billie Eilish (My Future). A song-based lesson plan about the Power of Being ALONE!



WELCOME to the **SONG ACTIVITY FACTORY!**

The place to be if you **believe in the power of songs** to teach **ENGLISH!**

This week's song-based lesson plan brings **BILLIE EILISH** in her new happier and more hopeful phase!.

I hope that **YOU** and your students have lots of fun with this lesson plan!!

Description:

This song-based lesson plan features the lyrics and music video for **“My Future”** by **Billie Eilish**. Students **READ** quotes about being alone and **TALK** about them, **WATCH** the video extract of an interview with Billie Eilish and **DO** a listening exercise with it, **READ** verses from the song and **CORRECT** grammar mistakes in them, **LISTEN** to the song, **WATCH** the music video and **TALK** about it.

OBS: This lesson plan was made for **ONLINE TEACHING**, but it can be modified for face-to-face instruction, as well.

Language level: B2

Learner type: All ages

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Skills: speaking, reading, listening and writing

Topic: being alone vs being lonely and the power of being alone

Language/grammar: agreeing, disagreeing, grammar correction (modal verbs, spelling)

Materials: Youtube video, Vimeo video, google slide, interactive worksheet and mp3 files

Duration: around 1 hour

Downloadable materials: instructions; [google slides](#); [song extract mp3](#)

STEP-BY-STEP LESSON PLAN

Part 1 - Quotes

Step 1 (5 min)

Screenshare the quotes below and ask students to read it aloud.

Help them with the vocabulary.

Ask them what the theme, topic of the quotes is. (being alone vs being lonely)

Tell them the difference between *alone* and *lonely* (being **alone** is having no one around. Being **lonely** is feeling sad because no one is around).

IT'S EASY TO STAND WITH
THE CROWD
IT TAKES
COURAGE
TO STAND ALONE

I USED TO THINK THE WORST
THING IN LIFE WAS TO END
UP ALL ALONE, IT'S NOT. THE
WORST THING IN LIFE IS TO
END UP WITH PEOPLE THAT
MAKE YOU FEEL ALL ALONE.

SOMETIMES, YOU NEED
TO BE ALONE. NOT TO
BE LONELY, BUT TO
ENJOY YOUR FREE TIME
BEING YOURSELF.

Step 2 (5 min)

Divide students into pairs (breakout rooms) and have them discuss the following questions:

- 1- Talk about the 3 quotes and say if you agree/ disagree with them and why
- 2- Say which one is your favorite quote and why
- 3- Say which one is your least favorite and why

Step 3 (5 - 7 min)

When students are back to the main room, have the pairs share their ideas. Have a mini discussion, asking other students if they agree/disagree with their classmates' ideas.

Part 2 - Interview

Step 4 (5 min)

Tell students you're going to play the video extract of an interview with Billie Eilish in which she talks about her new song. Their task is to find out the answer to this question:

Does Billie Eilish think that being alone is a positive or negative experience? Explain.
(she thinks it's a positive experience because you learn and grow a lot with it)

Play the video twice, or have students watch it on their devices.

<https://vimeo.com/450043066>

Step 5 (5 min)

Interactive worksheet

Share the link to the [interactive worksheet](#) and play the video again for students to fill in the gaps.
Play the video twice.

Interview - video extract script

Billie Eilish:

"It's just that growth. You know? It's growth. You know? I feel like, at least for me, I feel like there was... like, I spent -1- years and years relying on having someone. And as soon as I didn't -2- have someone, I got somebody else. And I'm not talking about relationships. -3- I'm talking about everything. like any... like, I couldn't, I, I could never -4- be alone. Like, I couldn't take my own company for so long. And I don't know, I just felt like I needed, I needed that growth. I needed a moment to myself -5-, and I got it. And it was really hard. like, It's really, it's so much harder than you think, to not rely on people, you know? to just have yourself -6- to rely on. And just, like, it's weird. It's not something you'd think about being hard. But when you're in that, like, you know, alone zone, it's a new feeling -7-. Like, and I really wanted to talk about it. You know, I feel like people... everything is about love, and everything is about... you know, there's nothing that talks about how being alone -8- is really powerful and you grow a lot and you learn a lot and like, it's not bad, you know?"

Tell students to click FINISH!! And CHECK MY ANSWERS to see their results.

Answers:

1- spent 2- didn't 3- relationships 4- never 5- myself 6- yourself 7- feeling 8- alone

Part 3 Musical Grammar Pieces

Step 6 (7 min)

Show the slide with 2 verses from the song, and tell them that there are 6 grammar mistakes in the verses (3 in each). Give them about 5 minutes to find the mistakes, but tell them not to give the answers now!

Just write them down to check later.

When the time's up, play the extracts 2x for them to correct their work.

[Verse 1]

I can't to seem to focus (**can't seem**)

And you don't seems to notice I'm not here (**seem**)

I'm just a mirror

You check your complexion

To find yours reflection's all alone (**your**)

I had to go

[Verse 2]

I know supposedly I'm lonely now (Lonely now)

Know I'm supposed to been unhappy (**be**)

Withtout someone (Someone) (**without**)

But aren't I someone? (Aren't I someone? Yeah)

I'd like be your answer (Be your answer) (**to be**)

'Cause you're so handsome (You're so handsome)

Step 7 (10 min)

Divide students into small groups (**BREAKOUT ROOMS**). They have to compare their answers and come to a final group decision on the corrections.

Step 8. (5 min)

Back to the main room. A student from each group (the captain) will send you (privately) the corrected sentences in the **CHAT BOX**. Award points to the right corrections. The group with more right corrections is the winner.

Step 9 (5 min)

Play the music video, and have students say what they thought of it to close the activity

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dm9Zf1WYQ_A

That's it for this week! I hope this activity is helpful and enjoyable!

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Happy teaching! :)

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