

Song 1: “LESSONS IN LIFE”
by: Irena Guslenko



ACTIVITY MENU

PRE-LISTENING

Mind Map: Respect
Listening Cloze

LISTENING

Listening Cloze: Part 2
Total Physical Response

POST-LISTENING

Lessons in Life
Creative Writing

Lessons in Life: Lyrics

by Bridgette Bryant

(2:26)

- 1 Having a friend is like planting a flower
 Show love and kindness it one day will bloom
 Let's be aware as we walk on this planet Even the tiniest creature needs room.
- 5 Lessons in life aren't always so simple
 Nothing you're given will ever come free
 Even the smallest of gifts deserves "thank you"
 I respect you and you respect me
 I think of you and you think of me.
- 10 Remember everyone here is important
 When you're forgotten, it makes you feel sad
 Know that you matter and you make a difference
 Let no one shame you or make you feel bad.
 Lessons in life aren't always so simple
- 15 Nothing you're given will ever come free (nothing ever gonna come to you freely)
 Even the smallest of gifts deserves "thank you"
 I respect you and you respect me
 I think about you and you think about me. (I think of you and you think of me)
- 19 Lessons in life aren't always so simple
 Nothing you're given will ever come free
 Even the smallest of gifts deserves "thank you"
 I respect you and you respect me
 I think of you and you think about me. (I think of you and you think of me)

Purpose: to practice vocabulary, discuss life values and the importance of showing respect of others; creative writing.

Students: Access

Level: Multi

Time: 50-60 min.

Materials:

- Pictures/word cards which can be used to fill in the gaps in the song. Prepare more cards than the gaps to make the task more difficult. Each group of 4-5 students will need one set of cards.
- Pencils and blank paper for writing
- Copies of the song, “Lessons in Life” with blank spaces for missing words

Pre-listening Activities: Choose one or both of the activities below.

Activity 1

Mind Map: Respect

Purpose: To generate interest and activate background knowledge about the topic

Level: All

Time: 4-5 minutes

Preparation and Materials: Divide students into groups of 4-5. Pass out blank paper and pencils to the groups as needed.

Instructions: Ask groups to discuss among themselves why **respect** is so essential for people and their relationships. Have the students make a mind map to illustrate their ideas.

Activity 2

Listening Cloze

Purpose: To practice vocabulary found in the song

Level: All

Time: 5-7 minutes

Preparation and Materials: Give a copy of the song, “Lessons in Life,” to each student or one per group. The copy will have gaps of missing key words. Next, give each group a pile of cards with key words to the song as well as some extra words.

As a version of the activity, prepare some pictures to substitute for the missing words in the song. Don't forget to add some extra cards to make the task a little bit more challenging!

Instructions: Instruct the students to guess the missing words in the song and fill in the gaps with the cards.

Listening Activities: Choose one of the listening activities below

<p>Activity 4 Listening Cloze Response Purpose: To practice listening and comprehension skills Level: All Time: 10-15 minutes Preparation and Materials: Students remain in the same groups as in Activity 2. With their filled in cloze from Activity 2, students will listen to the song, "Lessons in Life" and check their answers. Instructions: Tell students to move their cards to the correct spaces if there are any corrections. Have each group sing the song and do their motions while the other groups watch. Groups should choose which of the motions they like the best, and the group with the most liked motions wins.</p>
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Post-listening: Choose one or both of the activities below

Activity 5

Lessons in life

Purpose: To practice vocabulary, writing skills, and communication skills

Level: All

Time: 10 min

Preparation and Materials: The students remain in their groups.

Instructions: Instruct the groups to find examples of *lessons in life* from the song and to add some more examples from their own experiences. (Example of *lessons in life* from their own personal experiences: I was really upset when my best friend started ignoring me, but I learned it's OK. We talked about it, and she had been going through a hard time.)

The group members should discuss examples of *lessons in life* among themselves.

Towards the end of the activity time, ask the students the following questions:

- What are some examples of *lessons in life* from the song that your group discussed?
- What are some examples of lessons in life from your own life experience?

Activity 6

Creative Writing

Purpose: To practice creative writing

Level: All

Time: 10-20 min

Preparation and Materials: Hand out pencils and blank paper to each student.

Instructions: Ask the students to use their imagination and creativity to change some words or lines in the song and make their own version of it. They can also create a poem or short story if the students prefer.

Towards the end of the activity session ask for several volunteers willing to read their version of the song to the whole group.