

## I. Introduction

Beyoncé Giselle Knowles-Carter or simply known as Beyonce is an American singer, songwriter, and actress. She is very famous for songs that has transcended language barriers all over the world. Critically hailed as one of the best entertainers in contemporary popular music, Beyoncé creates songs that are often characterized by themes of love, relationships, and monogamy, as well as female sexuality and empowerment.

## II. Listening 1

Listen to the first part of the song and fill in the blanks with the words in the box.

chase    confronted    day    throw on    stick up    beer    roll out    wanted

If I were a boy  
 Even just for a \_\_\_\_\_  
 I'd \_\_\_\_\_ of bed in the morning  
 And \_\_\_\_\_ what I wanted and go  
 Drink \_\_\_\_\_ with the guys  
 And \_\_\_\_\_ after girls  
 I'd kick it with who I \_\_\_\_\_  
 And I'd never get \_\_\_\_\_ for it  
 Because they'd \_\_\_\_\_ for me.

## III. Vocabulary

Match the words and phrases with their meanings.

COLUMN A	COLUMN B
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. confronted</li> <li>2. throw on</li> <li>3. chase after</li> <li>4. roll out</li> <li>5. stick up for</li> </ol>	<p><b>A) (phrasal verb) to speak in support of a person or an idea, belief, or plan, especially when no one else will</b></p> <p><b>B) (verb) to be presented with something, usually an accusation or criticism</b></p> <p><b>C) (phrasal verb) To put on some clothing hastily or carelessly</b></p> <p><b>D) (verb) pursue someone romantically ;court, woo</b></p> <p><b>E) (intransitive verb) to get out of bed</b></p>



## IV. Listening 2

After filling in the blanks, listen to the song again, this time, as a whole song.  
This is 'If I Were A Boy'.

### **PENNY LANE** The Beatles

{verse 1}

If I were a boy even just for a day  
I'd roll out of bed in the morning  
And throw on what I wanted and go  
Drink beer with the guys  
And chase after girls  
I'd kick it with who I wanted  
And I'd never get confronted for it  
'Cause they stick up for me

{Chorus}

If I were a boy  
I think I could understand  
How it feels to love a girl  
I swear I'd be a better man  
I'd listen to her  
'Cause I know how it hurts  
When you lose the one you wanted  
'Cause he's taking you for granted  
And everything you had got destroyed

{Verse}

If I were a boy  
I would turn off my phone  
Tell everyone it's broken  
So they'd think that I was sleeping alone  
I'd put myself first  
And make the rules as I go  
'Cause I know that she'd be faithful  
Waiting for me to come home  
To come home...

{Chorus}

If I were a boy  
I think I could understand  
How it feels to love a girl  
I swear I'd be a better man  
I'd listen to her  
'Cause I know how it hurts  
When you lose the one you wanted (wanted)



'Cause he's taking you for granted (granted)  
And everything you had got destroyed

{Bridge}

It's a little too late for you to come back  
Say it's just a mistake  
Think I'd forgive you like that  
If you thought I would wait for you  
You thought wrong

{Chorus}

But you're just a boy  
You don't understand  
Yeah you don't understand, oh  
How it feels to love a girl  
Someday you wish you were a better man  
You don't listen to her  
You don't care how it hurts  
Until you lose the one you wanted  
Cause you're taking her for granted  
And everything you had got destroyed  
But you're just a boy!

## V. Discussion

1. What is the song about?
2. Do you agree that girls and boys feel and behave differently?
3. How does this affect inter-gender interaction?
4. Do you think that women are more emotionally intelligent than men? Why or why not?
5. Do you think that the line "but you're just a boy" at the end justifies the man's actions in the song?

## VI. Full Song

Watch the music video / performance of this song.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=62zWPgh2b3o>

## I. Pre - Discussion

A. Match the meaning of the phrases from column A to column B.

COLUMN A	COLUMN B
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Talking that mess</li> <li>2. Got me twisted</li> <li>3. Your everything</li> <li>4. Shed a tear</li> <li>5. Wink of sleep</li> <li>6. Truth of the matter</li> <li>7. 'Cause you made your bed, now lay in it</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A) To speak offensively behind someone's back</li> <li>B) A moment of sleep</li> <li>C) The truth or bottom line of a situation</li> <li>D) Someone who is incredibly important to you</li> <li>E) You made a decision and now must accept its consequences.</li> <li>F) Confused, misunderstood, having the wrong idea.</li> <li>G) To cry</li> </ol>

## B. Put the verbs in brackets in the right tense.

So go ahead and \_\_\_\_\_ (got) gone  
 \_\_\_\_\_ (called) up that chick and \_\_\_\_\_ (saw) if she's home  
 Oops, I bet you thought, that I didn't know  
 What did you think I was putting you out for?  
 Because you was untrue  
 Rollin' her around in the car that I bought you  
 Baby, \_\_\_\_\_ (dropped) them keys  
 \_\_\_\_\_ (Hurried) up before your taxi leaves.

## II. Listening

Listen to the song. This is 'Irreplaceable'.

**IRREPLACEABLE**   
 Beyonce

To the left, to the left  
 To the left, to the left  
 To the left, to the left

Everything you own in the box to the left  
 In the closet that's my stuff  
 Yes, if I bought it, please don't touch  
 And keep talking that mess that's fine  
 But could you walk and talk at the same time  
 And, it's my name that's on that jag  
 So come move your bags, let me call you a cab



Standing in the front yard  
 Tellin' me, how I'm such a fool  
 Talkin' 'bout, I'll never ever find a man like you  
 You got me twisted

[Chorus]

You must not know about me, you must not know about me  
 I could have another you in a minute  
 Matter of fact, he'll be here in a minute, baby  
 You must not know about me, you must not know about me  
 I can have another you by tomorrow  
 So don't you ever for a second get to thinking  
 You're irreplaceable

So go ahead and get gone  
 Call up that chick and see if she's home  
 Oops, I bet you thought, that I didn't know  
 What did you think I was putting you out for  
 Because you was untrue  
 Rollin' her around in the car that I bought you  
 Baby drop them keys  
 Hurry up before your taxi leaves

Standing in the front yard  
 Tellin' me, how I'm such a fool  
 Talkin' 'bout, I'll never ever find a man like you  
 You got me twisted

(repeat Chorus)

So since I'm not your everything  
 How about I'll be nothing  
 Nothing at all to you  
 Baby I won't shed a tear for you  
 I won't lose a wink of sleep  
 'Cause the truth of the matter is  
 Replacing you is so easy

To the left, to the left  
 To the left, to the left  
 To the left, to the left  
 Everything you own in the box to the left  
 To the left, to the left  
 Don't you ever for a second get to thinking  
 You're irreplaceable

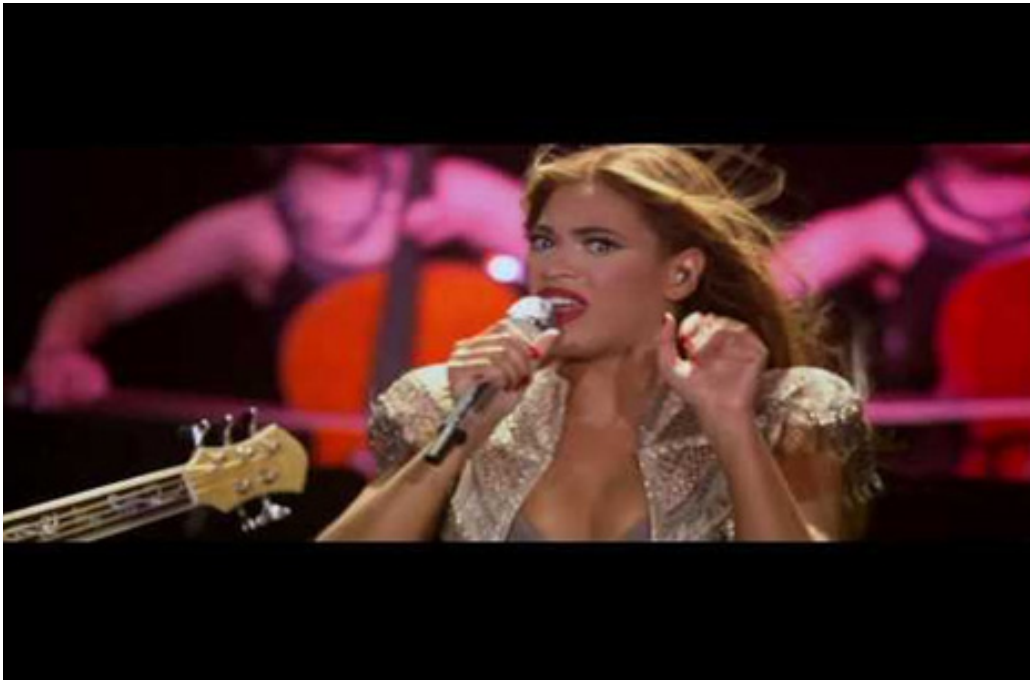


### III. Discussion

1. What do you think is the message of the song?
2. If you have witnessed a man being kicked out of the house by a woman, what reason/s could you think of?
3. What would you do if you were in the woman's shoes? Will you do the same thing? Why or why not?
4. What do you think of people repossessing 'gifts' they've given to their partners at the end of the relationship?

### IV. Full Song

Watch the music video / performance of this song.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tohjReLhfol>

## I. Pre – Discussion Activity

A. Choose the appropriate words.

(Remember / I'm a member of / I'm surrender) those walls I built  
 Well baby they're tumbling down  
 And they didn't even put up a (flight / fight / fright)  
 They didn't even (did / made / make) a sound  
 I found a way to let you in  
 But I never really had a (thought / out / doubt)  
 Standing in the (fright / light / fight) of your halo  
 I got my angel now

## B. Unscramble the underlined words.

evrEyhrewe I'm looking now  
 I'm rsdeduruond by your embrace  
 Baby I can ese your halo  
 You know you're my gnsvai grace  
 You're everything I edne and ermo  
 It's riwtetn all over your face  
 Baby I can feel your halo

“Halo” means a disk or circle of light shown surrounding or above the head of a saint or holy person to represent their holiness. It symbolizes an angel and is used to describe someone who is ‘angelic’ – kind, sweet, and overall good .

## II. Listening

Listen to the song. This is 'Halo'.



Remember those walls I built?  
 Well, baby they're tumbling down  
 And they didn't even put up a fight  
 They didn't even make a sound



I found a way to let you in  
But, I never really had a doubt  
Standing in the light of your halo  
I got my angel now

It's like I've been awakened  
Every rule I had you breakin'  
It's the risk that I'm taking  
I ain't never gonna shut you out!

Everywhere I'm looking now  
I'm surrounded by your embrace  
Baby, I can see your halo  
You know you're my saving grace  
You're everything I need and more  
It's written all over your face  
Baby, I can feel your halo  
Pray it won't fade away

I can feel your halo, halo, halo  
I can see your halo, halo, halo  
I can feel your halo, halo, halo  
I can see your halo, halo...  
Halo, ooh ooh...

Hit me like a ray of sun  
Burning through my darkest night  
You're the only one that I want  
Think I'm addicted to your light  
I swore I'd never fall again  
But this don't even feel like falling  
Gravity can't forget to pull me back to the ground again

And it's like I've been awakened  
Every rule I had you breakin'  
It's the risk that I'm taking  
I'm never gonna shut you out!

Everywhere I'm looking now  
I'm surrounded by your embrace  
Baby, I can see your halo  
You know you're my saving grace  
You're everything I need and more  
It's written all over your face  
Baby, I can feel your halo  
Pray it won't fade away





### III. Discussion

Songs can be interpreted in different ways and listeners can find whatever meaning they want in the lyrics. **Give your own interpretation of each stanza.**

STANZA	INTERPRETATION
Remember those walls I built? Well, baby they're tumbling down And they didn't even put up a fight They didn't even make a sound	
I found a way to let you in But, I never really had a doubt Standing in the light of your halo I got my angel now	
Everywhere I'm looking now I'm surrounded by your embrace Baby, I can see your halo You know you're my saving grace	

### IV. Full Song

Watch the music video / performance of this song.



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bnVUHCynig>

**I. Pre – Discussion**

1. "The world would be a much better place if women ran the show." Agree or disagree?

**II. Listening**

Listen to the song. This is "Run the World".

  
**RUN THE WORLD**  
Beyonce

Girls, we run this motha (yeah!) [x4]  
GIRLS!

*[Chorus:]*

Who run the world? Girls! [x4]  
Who run this motha? Girls! [x4]  
Who run the world? Girls! [x4]

*[Verse 1:]*

Some of them men think they freak this like we do  
But no they don't  
Make your check come at they neck,  
Disrespect us no they won't

Boy don't even try to touch this  
Boy this beat is crazy  
This is how they made me  
Houston Texas baby  
This goes out to all my girls  
That's in the club rocking the latest  
Who will buy it for themselves and get more money later  
I think I need a barber  
None of these niggas can fade me  
I'm so good with this,  
I remind you I'm so hood with this  
Boy I'm just playing  
Come here baby  
Hope you still like me  
F- you pay me



My persuasion can build a nation  
 Endless power, with our love we can devour  
 You'll do anything for me

*[Chorus:]*

Who run the world? Girls! [x4]  
 Who run this motha? Girls! [x4]  
 Who run the world? Girls! [x4]

*[Verse 2:]*

It's hot up in here  
 DJ don't be scared to run this, run this back  
 I'm reppin' for the girls who taking over the world  
 Help me raise a glass for the college grads

41 rollin' to let you know what time it is, check  
 You can't hold me (you can't hold me)  
 I work my 9 to 5, better cut my check  
 This goes out to all the women getting it in,  
 You're on your grind  
 To other men that respect what I do  
 Please accept my shine  
 Boy I know you love it  
 How we're smart enough to make these millions  
 Strong enough to bear the children  
 Then get back to business  
 See, you better not play me  
 Oh, come here baby  
 Hope you still like me  
 F- you hate me

My persuasion can build a nation  
 Endless power  
 With our love we can devour  
 You'll do anything for me

*[Chorus:]*

Who run the world? Girls! [x4]  
 Who run this motha? Girls! [x4]  
 Who run the world? Girls! [x4]

Who are we? What we run? The world (who run this motha, yeah) (2x)  
 Who are we? What do we run? We run the world! (who run this motha, yeah)  
 Who are we? What we run? We run the world  
 Who run the world? Girls



### III. Discussion

1. What is the difference between sex and gender?
2. Define gender roles.
3. What is gender identity?
4. Do gender roles exist in your country?
5. Describe a "typical" man or woman.
6. Are there different laws in your country depending on your gender?
7. Are there jobs deemed as appropriate for men but inappropriate for women and vice versa?
8. Is your culture permissive of the "genderqueers"?
9. Who do you think is a better leader, a man or a woman? Why?
10. What things can either men or women do that the other cannot and why?

### IV. Full Song

Watch the music video / performance of this song.



[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VBmMU\\_iwe6U](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VBmMU_iwe6U)

**I. Pre - Discussion**

1. What is your aspiration in life?
2. How important is the opinion of others to you?
3. Does media influence us?

**II. Listening**

Listen to the song. This is 'Pretty Hurts'.

  
**PRETTY HURTS**  
Beyonce

(Uh huh huh)  
(Uh huh huh)  
(Uh huh huh)

*[Verse 1:]*

Mama said, "You're a pretty girl.  
What's in your head, it doesn't matter  
Brush your hair, fix your teeth.  
What you wear is all that matters."

*[Pre-Hook:]*

Just another stage, pageant the pain away  
This time I'm gonna take the crown  
Without falling down, down, down

*[Hook:]*

Pretty hurts, we shine the light on whatever's worst  
Perfection is a disease of a nation, pretty hurts, pretty hurts  
Pretty hurts, we shine the light on whatever's worst  
We try to fix something but you can't fix what you can't see  
It's the soul that needs the surgery

(Uh huh huh)

*[Verse 2:]*

Blonder hair, flat chest  
TV says, "Bigger is better."  
South beach, sugar free  
Vogue says, "Thinner is better."

*[Pre-Hook:]*

Just another stage, pageant the pain away  
 This time I'm gonna take the crown  
 Without falling down, down, down

*[Hook:]*

Pretty hurts, we shine the light on whatever's worst  
 Perfection is a disease of a nation, pretty hurts, pretty hurts (pretty hurts)  
 Pretty hurts (pretty hurts), we shine the light on whatever's worst  
 We try to fix something but you can't fix what you can't see  
 It's the soul that needs the surgery

*[Bridge:]*

Ain't got no doctor or pill that can take the pain away  
 The pain's inside and nobody frees you from your body  
 It's the soul, it's the soul that needs surgery  
 (It's my soul that needs surgery)  
 Plastic smiles and denial can only take you so far  
 Then you break when the fake facade leaves you in the dark  
 You left with shattered mirrors and the shards of a beautiful girl

*[Hook:]*

Pretty hurts, we shine the light on whatever's worst (pretty hurts)  
 Perfection is a disease of a nation, pretty hurts, pretty hurts  
 Pretty hurts, we shine the light on whatever's worst  
 We try to fix something but you can't fix what you can't see  
 It's the soul that needs the surgery

*[Outro:]*

When you're alone all by yourself (pretty hurts, pretty hurts)  
 And you're lying in your bed (pretty hurts, pretty hurts)  
 Reflection stares right into you (pretty hurts, pretty hurts)  
 Are you happy with yourself? (pretty hurts, pretty hurts)

You stripped away the masquerade (pretty hurts, pretty hurts)  
 The illusion has been shed (pretty hurts, pretty hurts)  
 Are you happy with yourself? (pretty hurts, pretty hurts)  
 Are you happy with yourself? (pretty hurts, pretty hurts)

Yes  
 Uh huh huh





### III. Vocabulary

Discuss the meaning of these statements.

1. We shine the light on whatever is worst.
2. Plastic smiles and denial can only take you so far.
3. Perfection is a disease of a nation.
4. You stripped away the masquerade, the illusion has been shed.

### IV. Discussion

1. How was the persona of the singer affected by what TV and Vogue say?
2. In relation to this song, Beyonce said "*There's too much pressure on women to be beautiful in this society*". Do you agree?
3. What is your definition of 'self – empowerment' ?
4. How about 'body – positivism' ?
5. Do you think there are more people who are happy with themselves than those who aren't?

### V. Full Song

Watch the music video / performance of this song.



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LXXQLa-5n5w>