

6B SONG I Got Life

a Look at the pictures and identify them. Don't write anything yet.

1-7



8-16



I Got Life

I ain't got no home, ain't got no ¹ shoes
 I ain't got no ² _____, ain't got no class
 Ain't got no skirts, ain't got no ³ _____
 Ain't got no ⁴ _____, ain't got no beer
 Ain't got no man

Ain't got no ⁵ _____, ain't got no culture
 Ain't got no friends, ain't got no schooling
 Ain't got no love, ain't got no ⁶ _____
 Ain't got no ⁷ _____, ain't got no token
 Ain't got no god

What have I got?
 Why am I alive anyway?
 Yeah, what have I got
 Nobody can take away?

I've got my hair, got my ⁸ _____
 I've got my brains, got my ⁹ _____
 I've got my eyes, got my ¹⁰ _____
 I've got my ¹¹ _____, I got my smile

I've got my ¹² _____, got my chin
 I've got my ¹³ _____, got my lips
 I've got my heart, got my soul
 I've got my back, I got myself

I've got my ¹⁴ _____, got my hands
 I've got my ¹⁵ _____, got my legs
 I've got my feet, got my ¹⁶ _____
 I've got my liver, got my blood

I've got life, I've got my freedom
 I've got life
 I've got life
 And I'm gonna keep it
 I've got life
 And nobody's gonna take it away
 I've got life

b Listen and complete the song with the words from a.

c Find words in the song which mean...

- 1 art, literature, music, etc. _____
- 2 the opposite of *dead* _____
- 3 the part of your body inside your head that controls your thoughts, feelings, and movements _____
- 4 the spiritual part of a person _____
- 5 the red liquid that flows through your body _____
- 6 the noun from *free* _____

d Match the colloquial expressions from songs (1-7) with the grammatically correct expressions (a-g).

Expressions in songs	Grammatically correct expressions
1 I ain't (rich)	a I don't have
2 I aint got no (money)	b I'm going to ...
3 I wanna (be free)	c I've got
4 I'm gonna (leave you)	d because
5 Yeah	e I'm not ...
6 'cos / 'cause	f I want to ...
7 I got	g Yes

GLOSSARY

class = (in this context) style
 schooling = education
 token = a piece of paper or plastic that you can use to buy things
 liver = the part of your body that cleans your blood

SONG FACTS

I Got Life was originally recorded by Nina Simone in 1968. She was a talented pianist, but she was rejected by music schools because she was black. She turned to pop music and used classical influences to give her songs a more complex sound.