

a (4/20) Listen to the song. Match the halves of sentences. Match 1–6 with a–f and 7–12 with g–l.

House of the Rising Sun



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|--|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1 There is a house in New Orleans | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | a down in New Orleans |
| 2 And it's been the ruin of many | <input type="checkbox"/> | b is when he's on a drunk |
| 3 My mother was a tailor | <input type="checkbox"/> | c a poor boy, and God, I know I'm one |
| 4 My father was a gambling man | <input type="checkbox"/> | d they call the Rising Sun |
| 5 Now the only thing a gambler needs | <input type="checkbox"/> | e she sewed my new blue jeans |
| 6 And the only time he's satisfied | <input type="checkbox"/> | f is a suitcase and a trunk |
| 7 Oh mother tell your children | <input type="checkbox"/> | g they call the Rising Sun |
| 8 To spend your lives in sin and misery | <input type="checkbox"/> | h not to do what I have done |
| 9 Well I got one foot on the platform | <input type="checkbox"/> | i to wear that ball and chain |
| 10 I'm going back to New Orleans | <input type="checkbox"/> | j a poor boy, and God, I know I'm one |
| 11 Well, there is a house in New Orleans | <input type="checkbox"/> | k in the House of the Rising Sun |
| 12 And it's been the ruin of many | <input type="checkbox"/> | l the other foot on the train |

b Choose the best alternatives to make a summary of the song.

House of the Rising Sun is a song about a person's ¹good / bad life in New Orleans, USA. The man in the song doesn't have ²much money / many friends. His ³mother / father lost everything, ⁴drank / ate too much and ⁵loved / left the town. The man wants to ⁶live in / leave the House of the Rising Sun, but he can't.

SONG FACTS

House of the Rising Sun is an old folk song from America. Nobody is sure who wrote the song. It tells the story of a man whose life went wrong in New Orleans, USA. It was an international number 1 hit for British group The Animals in 1964.

GLOSSARY

ruin *noun* = something that makes everything bad
 poor = without money
 tailor = a person who makes clothes
 gambler = a person who tries to win money on games or sports
 suitcase / trunk = a bag / large box to carry your things when travelling
 satisfied = happy
 on a drunk = drinking alcohol
 sin and misery = doing bad things and feeling unhappy
 platform = the place at a station where the train arrives
 wear that ball and chain = to do something you don't want to do