

March 24th – Day of Remembrance for Truth and Justice

"Mothers of the Disappeared" by U2

Before listening.

- What do you think the phrase "Mothers of the Disappeared" means?
- What do you think is the song "Mothers of the Disappeared" about?
- What was Bono's inspiration for writing this song?
- Match the pictures to the words.

- Heartbeat
- Tears
- Wind
- Naked
- Prisoner
- Midnight
- Rain
- Tree



While listening

Listen to the song and choose the correct words

Midnight, our sons and **daughters/sisters/brothers**
Cut **down/up/off**, taken from us
Hear their **music/talking/heartbeat**
We **listen/hear/see** their heartbeat

In the **wind/sea/earth** we hear their laughter
Through the rain we see their **eyes/tears/heart**
Hear their heartbeat
We/I/You hear their heartbeat

Night hangs like a **slave/police/prisoner**
Stretched over black and **blue/white/red**
Hear their heartbeat
We hear their heartbeat

In the **sea/trees/houses** our sons stand naked
Through the walls our daughters **cry/smile/talk**
See their **eyes/tears/heart** in the rainfall

After listening

- How does the song make you feel? Why?
- What does the song say about the impact of the disappearance of loved ones?
- What other songs do you know that are inspired by social justice issues?
- What is the importance of art in raising awareness about social justice issues?

2) Complete the text with information about the band and movements in central America.

"Mothers of the Disappeared" is a song by the rock band _____. It is the eleventh and final track on their 1987 album _____. The song was inspired by lead _____ Bono's experiences in Nicaragua and El Salvador in July 1986, following U2's involvement on Amnesty International's A Conspiracy of Hope tour. He learned about _____, a group of women whose children had been "disappeared" by the Argentine and Chilean dictatorships. While in Central America, he met members of COMADRES, a similar organization whose _____ had been disappeared by the government in El Salvador. Bono sympathized with the Madres and COMADRES and wanted to pay tribute to their cause.



The Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo is an association of Argentine _____ whose children were "disappeared" during the Dirty War of the military dictatorship between _____ and 1983. They organized themselves while trying to find out what had happened to their children and began to march in 1977 at the _____ in Buenos Aires, in front of the _____ presidential palace, publicly defying the government's state terrorism intended to silence all opposition.