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LISTENING – Nick Cave & The Bad Seeds ft. Kylie Minogue

Where the Wild Roses Grow

Focus: Listening (comprehension); Grammar (Past Simple, for); Writing (Free writing; Writing opinions); Pronunciation (multiple words).

PRE-LISTENING

1) Do you know the song "Where the Wild Roses Grow"? If so, what is the song about? If not, what do you think it is about given its title?

LISTENING

2) Listen to the song and complete the activities A-D.

A) Complete the chorus.

_____ The Wild Rose _____ Elisa Day

Why they call me it _____ for _____ Elisa Day

B) Complete the verses using the Past Simple tense of the verbs below. Also match the number and verbs.

	be		grow		run		smile
	be		knock		subside		stare
	enter		know		see		wipe

From the first day I (1) _____ her I (2) _____ she (3) _____ the one,

She (4) _____ in my eyes and (5) _____

For her lips (6) _____ the colour of the roses

That (7) _____ down the river, all bloody and wild

When he (8) _____ on my door and (9) _____ the room

My trembling (10) _____ in his sure embrace,

He would be my first man, and with a careful hand

He (11) _____ at the tears that (12) _____ down my face

LIVEWORKSHEETS

C) Complete the verses. Record your answer by clicking on the microphone.

On the second day I _____ her a flower

She was more _____ than any woman I'd seen

I said, "Do you know where the _____ roses grow

So sweet and scarlet and _____?"

On the second day he came _____ a single _____ rose

He said "Will you give me your loss and your _____"

I _____ my head as I lay on the bed

"If I show you the _____, will you follow?"

D) Correct the verses. (There are multiple mistakes to correct.)

On third day he took me to the river	
He showed me the roses we kiss	
And the last thing I heard was muttered world	
As he knelt above me with a rock in is fist	
On last day I took her where the wild roses grew	
And she lay on the bench the wind light as a thief	
And I kissed her hello	
Saying "All beauty must die"	
And I lent down and planned a rose between her teeth	

POST-LISTENING

3) What is the song about? Was your answer correct in Exercise 1?

LIVEWORKSHEETS

4) What actions/decisions could have been taken to avoid the deadly end of the story?

5) As you have heard, the chorus is "They call me The Wild Rose, but my name is Elisa Day". What do you think the writer wanted to say with these lines?

6) This song is based on an urban legend. What is an "urban legend"?

7) Elisa Day is a popular legend in Ireland. What does it teach?

GRAMMAR

8) Rewrite the chorus using the Present Simple tense.

9) Choose a sentence where the word 'for' has the same meaning as in the chorus.

a) I studied the guitar for three years.

b) I went for an interview.

c) I decided to stop and take a deep breath for I was enraged.

d) Is that cake for eating?

10) Rewrite the sentence into negative form.

a) He came with a single red rose _____

b) I nodded my head _____

c) He showed me the roses _____

LIVEWORKSHEETS

9) Complete the table below.

Base form	Past Simple	Past Participle
be		
enter		
grow		
kneel		
knock		
know		
run		
subside		
see		
smile		
stare		
wipe		

LIVEWORKSHEETS