

Write your name HERE:



## *Viva la Vida*



### Concept

A song is a short poem or story set to music with a melody and vocals. Lyrics, verses, refrain, and meter are the main components of a song. The lyrics of a song are the words set to the music, written by a songwriter. For centuries, songs have been written and performed all over the world.

A song carries so much more than just a beautiful melody or a contagious beat. There is always a life moment kept for ever in a harmony tune that touches your heart. How many times you just “love” a song without really having very little or no facts of its creation yet you love it !

Well, let's try to understand the intrinsic message in this song's lyrics. There are no “exact answers”. Everyone may understand it in a personal and particular way. It is all about moods and feelings, so I hope you enjoy the task while you learn new words / expressions.

How would you describe what is a song? Explain it in your own words.

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### I used to rule the world

- This implies that you are not in control as you were before
- This indicates that you are not the one making the decisions anymore
- It strongly suggest that you have lost power / importance

Write your own description of the meaning forward in this expression

### Seas would rise when I gave the word

- Everyone obeyed me
- I was so important that when I showed up I was the one in charge of everything
- People listen to me because I had the power
- Everything I said was listed to and followed because they consider me a wise person

How yo you understand this phrase, what does it really mean ?

### Now in the morning, I sleep alone - Sweep the streets I used to own

- When I was rich everybody loved me and now that I'm poor I am forgotten by all
- I could "pay" a good companion but now I am lonely and broke
- I have to work hard for a living while before I had everything I need it

Rephrase the meaning in your won words.

### I used to roll the dice - Feel the fear in my enemy's eyes

- I was young restless and didn't care to step over to get what I wanted
- My life decisions were made by pure luck and people envy me
- People were jealous and envious of me because I was always lucky

I was young restless and didn't care to step over to get what I wanted

In your point of view what is the real message in this verse ?

Listen as the crowd would sing  
Now the old king is dead, long live the king  
One minute, I held the key  
Next the walls were closed on me

How do you understand the metaphor in this verse ?  
Write one opinion for each line

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**And I discovered that my castles stand  
Upon pillars of salt and pillars of sand**

What does this mean to you ? \* you can chose one or more options

- I realize that I was naive or wrong in my life-perception
- Life is unpredictable. You can be strong now and week later.
- I was wrong thinking that I didn't need anybody or listen to any advise

Your own understanding of the message

**I hear Jerusalem bells a-ringin'  
Roman Cavalry choirs are singin'  
Be my mirror, my sword and shield**

What does this mean to you ? \* you can chose one or more options

- It is now that I recognize that happiness is not on Earth but in heaven
- I'm dying and can hear Angeles singing in heaven
- God help me be like you, defend me from evil and let no one hurt me

Your own understanding of the message

My missionaries in a foreign field  
For some reason, I can't explain  
Once you'd gone, there was never, never an honest word  
And that was when I ruled the world

What does this mean to you ? \* you can chose one or more options

- The things I did were not my dreams, I was just trying to fit in
- My character didn't show who I really am inside my soul
- People pretend to be close to you but are not loyal

Your own understanding of the message

It was a wicked and wild wind  
Blew down the doors to let me in  
Shattered windows and the sound of drums  
People couldn't believe what I'd become

What does this mean to you ? \* you can chose one or more options

- Living la Vida loca was a careless temptation
- I surrender to an easy way out of responsibilities
- I wasted my life Living la Vida loca

Your own understanding of the message

Revolutionaries wait

For my head on a silver plate  
Just a puppet on a lonely string

What does this mean to you ? \* you can chose one or more options

- Rioters wanted me to become a loser
- People manipulate you for their own personal benefit
- My character didn't show who I really am inside my soul
- People only pretend to be close to you

Your own understanding of the message

Oh, who would ever want to be king?

I hear Jerusalem bells a-ringin'. BIS x 2  
Roman Cavalry choirs are singing  
Be my mirror, my sword and shield  
My missionaries in a foreign field  
For some reason, I can't explain  
I know Saint Peter won't call my name  
Never an honest word  
But that was when I ruled the world  
Oh-oh-oh, oh-oh, oh BIS x 5



