



## Learning English with Songs

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QwaxNPY5nIY>

### 1. Listen to “The Thanksgiving Song” from Ben Rector's 2020 Christmas album and match the following phrases from the song with their meanings:

“Familiar highways”	Celebrating abundance and togetherness
“The kind of love a thousand miles can’t wash away”	Roads or routes that bring back memories
“Life is short and bittersweet”	Long-standing emotional bonds that remain strong
“Fill your plate and fill your drink”	The idea that life is both joyful and challenging

### 2. Listen again to the lyrics and decide if the following statements are True or False:

1. The songwriter describes his return journey to his hometown as familiar but different, expressing nostalgia for the past while acknowledging that some things remain the same.
2. The line “*The old kid’s table all have kids of their own*” paints a picture of how the holiday season changes for the new generations.
3. The main feelings associated with family gatherings in the song are love, nostalgia, gratitude, and a bittersweet reflection on the passage of time and loss.
4. The line “*life never stops changing but some things never change*” means that life always remains the same.
5. The line “*Mom still can’t talk about him and not almost cry*” reflects nostalgia and grief for a loved one who has passed away.
6. The line “*the longest year in history*” probably refers to challenges of the C-19 pandemic, which caused isolation, loss, and difficulty, but also highlighted the importance of family and resilience.

### 3. What is, in your opinion, the overall tone of the song?

- ❖ joyful
- ❖ nostalgic
- ❖ bittersweet
- ❖ reflective