



★ The Language of Song

Exploring Eurovision
and the music
industry



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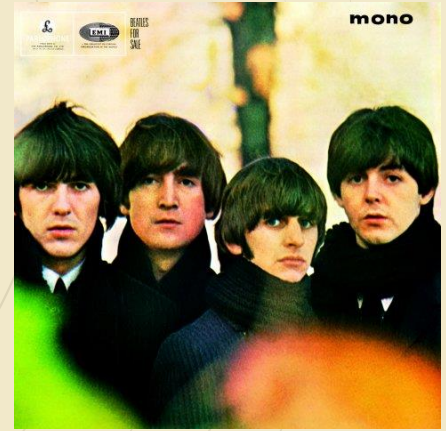
01

Essential Vocabulary



The Beatles

The Beatles are probably the most famous band in music history. They **got together** in Liverpool, England, in 1960. The **original members** were John Lennon, Paul McCartney, George Harrison, and Ringo Starr.



★ John and Paul were the main **songwriters**. They wrote the **lyrics** and created the **melodies**. George played **lead guitar**, and Ringo played the **drums**. Paul also played **bass guitar**.

Before they became famous, The Beatles played **small gigs** in Liverpool. Then they traveled to Hamburg, Germany, to play in clubs there. They performed almost every night—sometimes for six to eight hours! These long **live** shows helped them improve their **performance skills**, **timing**, and **stage presence**.



The Beatles

In 1962, the band **signed a record deal** with EMI and started working with **producer** George Martin. He helped them create new **arrangements** and experiment with sounds in the **studio**. That same year, they **recorded a single** called *Love Me Do*. It **reached number 17** on the UK charts. Soon after, they had a **number one hit** with *Please Please Me*, and **Beatlemania** began! 

Over the next few years, The Beatles became international **superstars**. They **went on tour** around the world and **headlined** concerts in front of thousands of **fans**.  Their concerts were so loud with screaming that they couldn't hear their own **instruments**!

The Beatles stopped **touring** in 1966 and focused on the studio. They created famous albums like *Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band* and *The White Album*. These albums had creative **backing vocals**, unusual **instrumentals**, and deep lyrics.

In 1970, the band **split**. The members wanted to go in **different musical directions** and each one **went solo**. Even after their split, The Beatles remained popular. Their music still **charts** today, and they've inspired many **covers** and **tribute bands**. 

Music Adjectives

Upbeat - Energetic, cheerful, and lively



Melancholic - Sad, emotional, reflective

Anthem (n) - Bold, powerful, and made to be sung by crowds

Angsty - Expressing inner turmoil, frustration, or rebellion

Soulful - Deep, emotional, and often vocally expressive.

Edgy - Bold, sharp, and slightly rebellious or raw.

Nostalgic - Evokes a sense of the past or personal memories.

Catchy - Instantly memorable and easy to sing along to



Raw - Unpolished, emotional, and honest

upbeat

soulful

edgy

raw

anthem

music adjectives

melancholic

nostalgic

catchy

most



Describing Music



I've been singing the song all day. It's a real **ear worm**



This song is on my running play list because it has a **strong beat**

The Spice Girls are my **guilty pleasure**, I know they're **cheesy** but I just love listening to them

I never get bored of hearing *Yesterday* by the Beatles, it's a **timeless classic**

I used to listen to this song a lot when I was at school. It **brings back a lot of memories**

They were playing the song in every bar. It was a **smash hit**



What about you?

What recent songs do you think will become **timeless classics**?

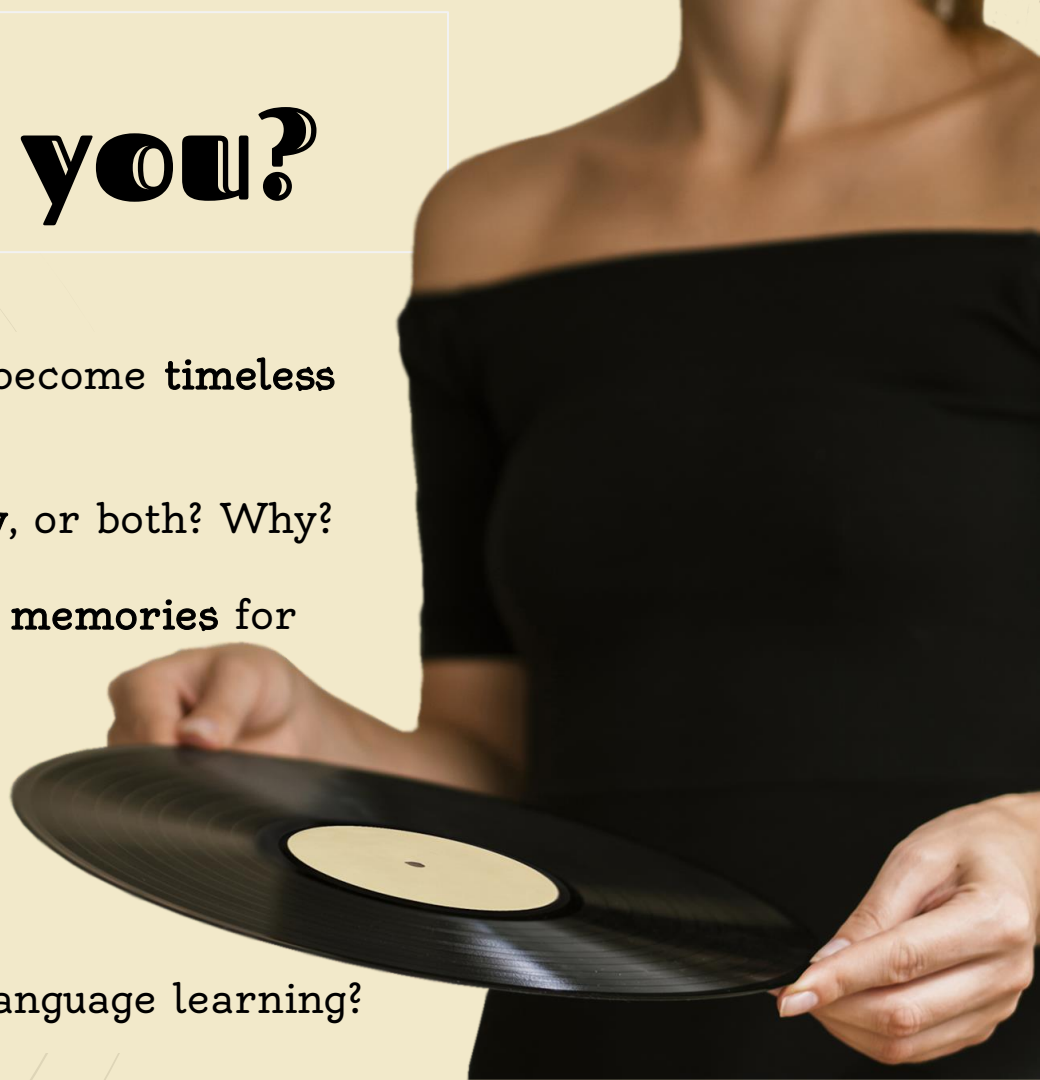
Do you think Eurovision is fun, **cheesy**, or both? Why?

What song **brings back** a lot of happy **memories** for you and why?

Can you think of a recent **smash hit** that you can't stand?

What song is your **guilty pleasure**?

Can **earworms** be used as a tool for language learning?



02

Eurovision



Eurovision – The Basics



 **International Song Contest:** Eurovision is an annual music **contest** where participating countries submit **original songs** performed **live**

 **Organization:** The contest is run by the **European Broadcasting Union** and is open to EBU member countries—not just those in geographical Europe.

 **Voting:** Each country awards two sets of points (jury and public televote) from 1 to 12 (excluding 9 and 11)

 **Semi-Finals + Grand Final:** Most countries compete in one of two **semi-finals**, with the top 10 from each joining the **Big Five** and host country in the **Grand Final**.

 **Hosting:** The country that wins hosts the contest the following year.

 **Spain:** Melody will be performing “Esa Diva” after winning Benidorm Fest



Eurovision – Controversies



Flag Policy Eurovision 2025 implemented a policy prohibiting performers from displaying Pride, Palestinian, or other non-national flags during official events.

Israel's Inclusion Following the ongoing Gaza conflict, several broadcasters, including Slovenia's RTVSLO and Finland's Yle, petitioned for Israel's exclusion from Eurovision 2025.



Language Discrimination? Malta's entry, "Kant," by Miriana Conte faced controversy when the European Broadcasting Union (EBU) requested the removal of the word "kant" due to its phonetic similarity to an English expletive.

Serving

(formerly Kant)

I got a secret you should know
Come a little close, I'll whisper low/slow
I got a secret you should know
(Shh, shh, shh, shh)

People say, "Don't be so loud
Watch the words comin' out your mouth
Hands/Legs crossed, don't dare stand out
Follow the crowd, follow the crowd"

Pull up, pull up, make 'em all bow down
Shut up, shut up, I'm a be real loud/proud
Get up, get up, I don't back down
Follow me now, follow me now

Only lovers, no enemies/friends
Feel it 'round me, queen energy
In my power, a higher me
Here's the secret remedy

Why must/should we let other people decide
When we could be havin' the time of our lives?
Let down your walls, come an' dance to my vibe
I do it all the time, yeah, I do it all the time

Serving kant
(La-la-la-la-la-la-la)
Do-re-mi-fa-s-s- serving kant
(La-la-la-la-la-la-la)
Do-re-mi-fa-s-s-servin'

Phrasal Verbs

I got a secret you should know
Come a little close, I'll whisper slow
I got a secret you should know
(Shh, shh, shh, shh)

People say, "Don't be so loud
Watch the words comin' out your
mouth
Hands crossed, don't dare stand out
Follow the crowd, follow the crowd"
Pull up, pull up, make 'em all bow down
Shut up, shut up, I'ma be real loud
Get up, get up, I don't back down
Follow me now, follow me now



03

**What Does it
Mean?**





1. [★]Do you
know this
song?

Type the answer in the chat as soon as you
recognise it





Every Breath You Take

One word is wrong in each verse of the song. Find the incorrect words and correct them.

1 Every breath you take
And every move you make
Every bond vou break
Every step you take
I'll be watching you



2 Every single day
And every word you say
Every game you play, every night you stay
I'll be watching you

3 Oh can't you see
You belong to me
How my poor heart aches
With every step you take

4 Every move you make
And every vow you break
Every smile you fake, every claim you stake
I'll be watchin' you

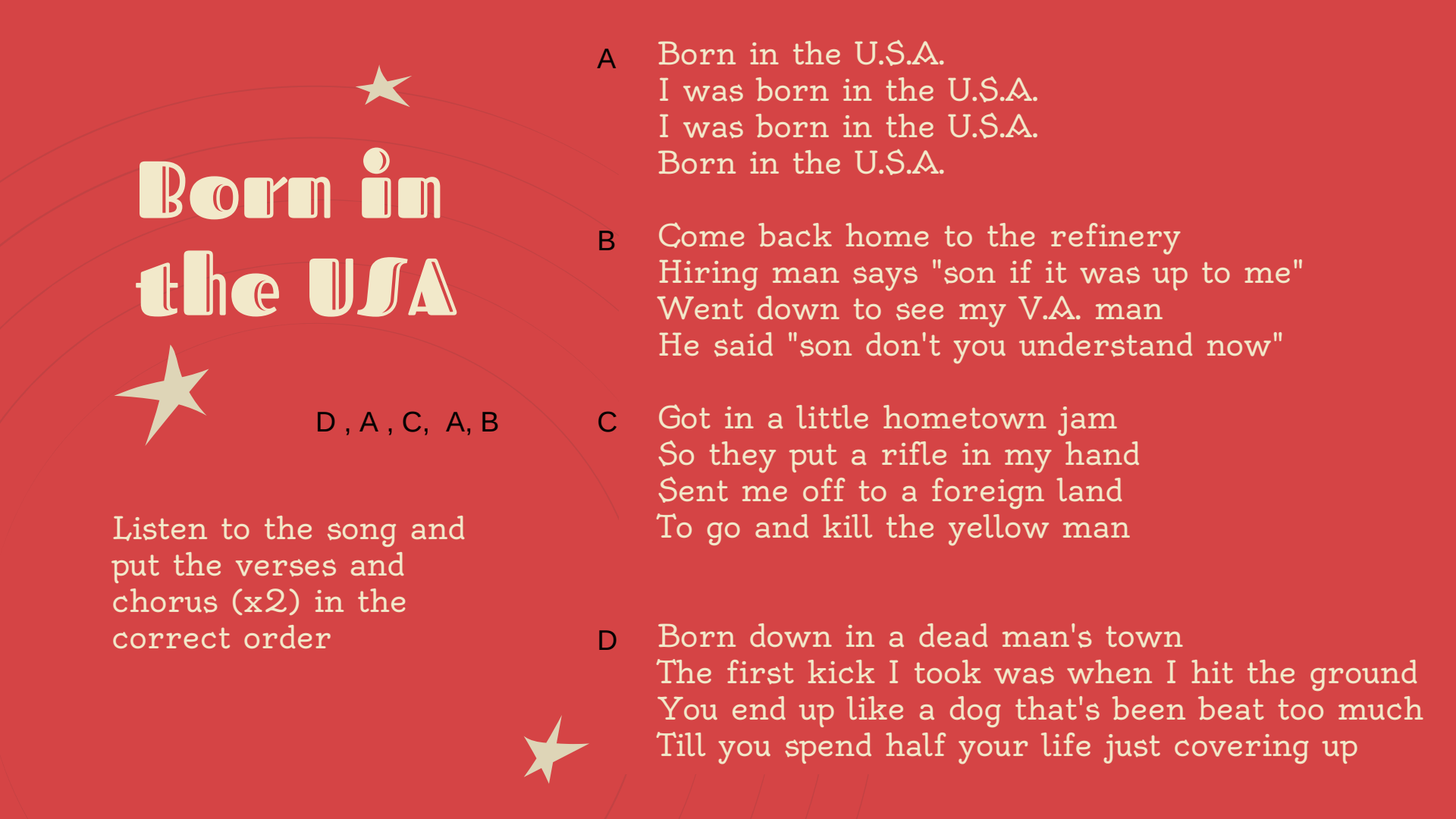
5 Since you've gone I've been lost without a trace
I dream at night, I can only see your face
I look around but it's you I can't replace
I feel so cold and I long for your embrace
I keep cryin', "Baby, baby, please"



2. [★]Do you know this song?

Type the answer in the chat as soon as you
recognise it

★ ★



Born in the USA

D , A , C, A, B

Listen to the song and
put the verses and
chorus (x2) in the
correct order

- A Born in the U.S.A.
I was born in the U.S.A.
I was born in the U.S.A.
Born in the U.S.A.
- B Come back home to the refinery
Hiring man says "son if it was up to me"
Went down to see my V.A. man
He said "son don't you understand now"
- C Got in a little hometown jam
So they put a rifle in my hand
Sent me off to a foreign land
To go and kill the yellow man
- D Born down in a dead man's town
The first kick I took was when I hit the ground
You end up like a dog that's been beat too much
Till you spend half your life just covering up



3. Do you know this song?

Type the answer in the chat as soon as you
recognise it



The ★ Sound of Silence ★

Listen to the song.
Identify the two lines in
the lyrics which do not
appear in the song.

And in the naked light I saw
Ten thousand people, maybe more
People talking without speaking
People hearing without listening
~~People looking without seeing~~
People writing songs that voices never share
No one dared
Disturb the sound of silence

"Fools" said I, "You do not know
Silence like a cancer grows
~~And in your heart it always shows~~
Hear my words that I might teach you
Take my arms that I might reach you"
But my words like silent raindrops fell
And echoed in the wells of silence

04

Music Idioms



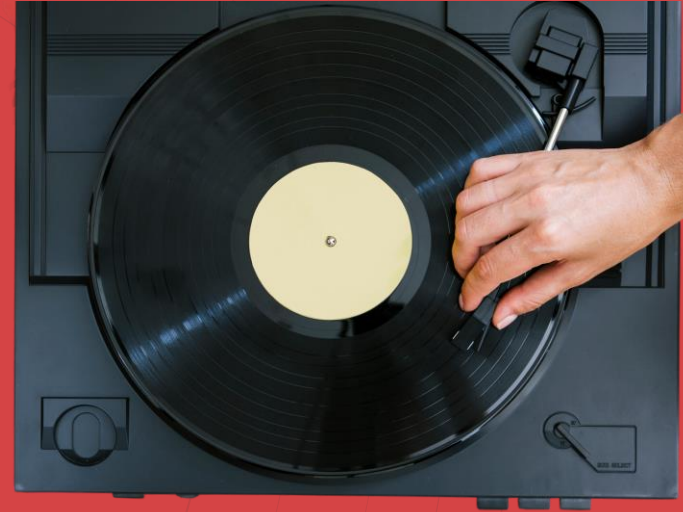
Music Idioms



To be a broken record

Saying the same thing over and over again

E.g. She's a broken record, always talking about how much she hates her job.



Music Idioms



To play it by ear

To improvise rather than plan

E.g. We haven't made any plans for the weekend. Let's just play it by ear.



Music Idioms



To blow your own trumpet

Brag (speak very positively) about your own achievements.

E.g. He's always blowing his own trumpet about what a great dancer he is.



Music Idioms



Fine tuning

Making tweaks (small adjustments) improve something

E.g. She spent hours fine-tuning her speech for the presentation.



Music Idioms



Jazz something up

Make something more interesting or exciting

E.g. He wore a bright tie to jazz up his plain suit.



Music Idioms



Not miss a beat

Continue smoothly without hesitation or interruption.

E.g. She tripped on stage but didn't miss a beat and kept singing.



Music Idioms



Off-key

inappropriate

E.g. His joke about the accident felt off-key and upset some people.



Music Idioms



Out of tune with

Not in agreement; disconnected.

E.g. The company's policies are out of tune with the needs of modern workers.



Music Idioms



Make a song and dance about something

Make a big deal out of something that
isn't that important

E.g. She made a song and a dance out
of losing her keys.



Music Idioms



To change one's tune

Change one's opinion or attitude

E.g. Some fans were criticizing the coach, but now they've changed their tune after last night's victory.



05

Further
Study



★ ★

**Spotify,
Apple Music
etc**



Look for play lists like “Songs to learn English”



Super Simple Songs - Canciones infantiles en Inglés •

@SuperSimpleSongs · 44,3 M de suscriptores · 839 vídeos

Canciones para niños en Inglés. ...más

supersimple.com/app y 10 enlaces más

Suscribirse

Super Simple Songs

www.youtube.com/@SuperSimpleSongs

[More Lyrics](#)

[View All](#)

What's My Name?

Rihanna, Drake

12 years | 20846 plays
[Alessandro.159](#)



The Heart Wants What It W...

Selena Gomez

9 years | 55202 plays
[cmmbar](#)



Superwoman

Alicia Keys

11 years | 13649 plays
[yurymartins](#)



The Best

Tina Turner

11 years | 31871 plays
[javidpolo](#)



All Of Me

John Legend

11 years | 815165 plays
[Kush0999](#)



My All

Mariah Carey

12 years | 10253 plays
[javidpolo](#)



Beautiful Love

Justin Bieber, Free Fire

1 year | 2140 plays
[anonymous](#)



Son Of A Preacher Man

Sarah Connor

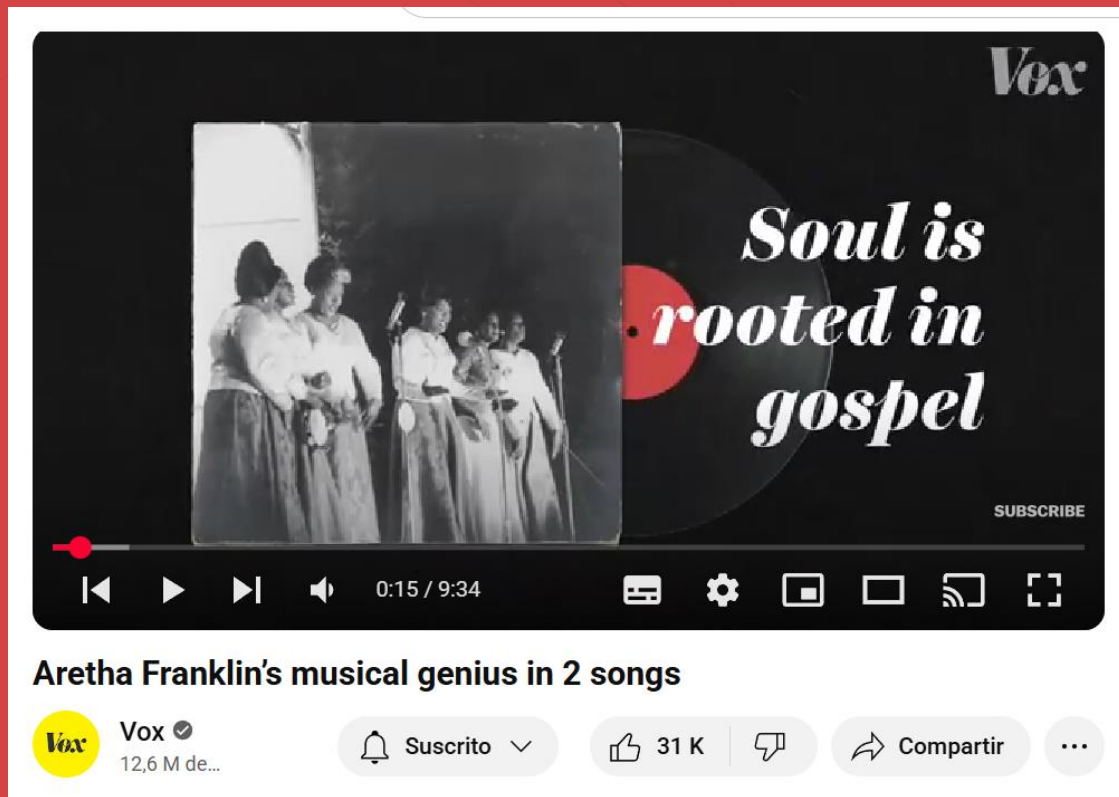
11 years | 1929 plays
[lucino411](#)



Lyrics Training

www.lyricstraining.com

Earworm Vox Videos



The image shows a YouTube video player interface. The video title is "Soul is rooted in gospel" in a large, white, serif font. The video thumbnail shows a black and white photograph of four women in traditional African attire. The Vox logo is in the top right corner. The video player controls are visible at the bottom, including a progress bar, play/pause button, volume icon, and a timestamp of 0:15 / 9:34. Below the video player, the video title "Aretha Franklin's musical genius in 2 songs" is displayed. The channel name "Vox" is shown with a verified badge and a subscriber count of 12,6 M de... The video has 31 K likes and a "Compartir" (Share) button. The background of the entire image is red with concentric circles and three yellow stars.

Vox

*Soul is
rooted in
gospel*

SUBSCRIBE

0:15 / 9:34

Aretha Franklin's musical genius in 2 songs

Vox ✓
12,6 M de...

Suscrito

31 K

Compartir



BBC Learning English



www.bbc.co.uk/learningenglish/features/my-song-my-home

THANKS

★ Do you have any question?

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