

Song 15: The Time Is Now

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ACTIVITY MENU

PRE-LISTENING

Vocabulary Activation

Picture Description

Missing Words

LISTENING

“The Time is Now”

“The Time is Now” Song Adaptation

POST-LISTENING

Group Knot Activity

Human Knot Discussion

Poster Production/Bus Role Play

Demonstrations

The Time Is Now: Lyrics

by Travis Haddix

(4:41)

- 1 If there was a time
 Our society needs fairer weather
 It's now. Oh, right now.
 If there was a time,
 We should get our act together
 It's now. Oh, right now.
- 7 I used to say I don't need nobody but me,
 But today with that statement I disagree.
 If there was a time we need love,
 It's now.
- 11 If there ever was a time,
 We should help each other
 It's now. Oh, right now.
 If there ever was a time,
 We should behave as brothers,
 It's now. Oh, right now.
 All for one man, and one for all,
 Together we stand, but divided we fall.
 If there ever was a time, we need love
 It's now.
- 21 If there ever was a time,
 We should be friends,
 It's now. Oh, right now.
 If there ever was a time,
 This violence should end,
 It's now. Oh, right now.
 People are fighting, all over this world,
 Men and women are dying, boys and girls.
 If there ever was a time,
 Oh, we need love, oh, it's right now.
 Oh, right now.

Purpose: Activate the vocabulary, promote community values, introduce blues music, have fun.

Students: Access

Level: Multi-level

Time: 1+ hours

Materials:

- Pencils and blank paper for writing
- Computer for playing YouTube video (Activity 1)
- Cards with missing song lyrics (Activity 3)
- Copies of the appendices found at the end of this document

Pre-listening Activities: Choose one or two of the activities below

Activity 1

Vocabulary Activation

Purpose: To prepare students for the listening by activating vocabulary

Level: All

Time: 4-5 minutes

Preparation and Materials: Divide students into groups of 4-5. Pass out blank paper and pencils to the groups as needed.

Instructions: Students will watch a video of a tornado destroying everything around it and will answer the following questions:

- What was the video about? What happened in the video?
- What are some consequences of the disaster?

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CAhWV1WwV08&feature=player_detailpage

Activity 2

Picture Description

Purpose: To prepare students for the listening by activating vocabulary and generating interest

Level: All

Time: 4-5 minutes

Preparation and Materials: Divide students into groups of 4-5. Pass out blank paper and pencils to the groups as needed. During group discussion, direct the students toward the concepts defined by the key words: dying, violence, fighting, fairer weather, love, need, world, etc.

Instructions: Instruct the students to look at the picture (**Appendix 1**) and answer the following questions:

- What do you see?
- How would you describe the relationship between the two people?
- How can you connect the picture to the video?

Activity 3

Missing Words

Purpose: To generate interest and activate background knowledge about the topic

Level: All

Time: 4-5 minutes

Preparation and Materials: Cards of different colors for each group. On these cards place the song lyrics with the missing words found in **Appendix 2**

Instructions: Give each team a colored card with the words of the song “The Time Is Now” on it (**Appendix 2**).

Ask the teams the following questions:

- What do you think are the missing words and word combinations?
- Can you decide on the missing words as a team and write down your answers?

Listening: Activities: Choose one of the listening activities below

Activity 4

“The Time is Now”

Purpose: To practice listening skills and vocabulary related to the song

Level: All

Time: 4-5 minutes

Preparation and Materials: Cards of different colors for each group. On these cards place the song lyrics with the missing words found in **Appendix 2**

Instructions: Play the song “The Time is Now,” and ask the students to listen to the lyrics (words) to identify the missing words and word combinations on their cards. (**Appendix 3** has the missing word combinations: *needs fairer weather, get our act together, help each other, behave as brothers, we need love, be friend, violence should end*)

Tell them that they will need to listen closely to the words of the song and will work together as a team to write the correct answers to the missing words on their cards.

Now, ask each team the following questions:

- What missing words and word combinations did you correctly guess before you listened to the song?
- What missing words and word combinations did you write down after you listened to the song?

Activity 5

“The Time is Now” Song Adaptation

Purpose: To practice listening skills and vocabulary related to the song

Level: All

Time: 4-5 minutes

Preparation and Materials: Draw a large circle on a flip chart or chalkboard, and then draw a ring of smaller circles around the large circle. In the large circle, write the words “a better society.”

Instructions: Instruct the students to remain in their teams for Activity 5. Tell the students that they will use the missing words and word combinations that they wrote down from the song “The Time Is Now” for this activity.

Ask the teams to write down the answer to the following question:

- What nouns could they substitute for the words and word combinations they wrote down?

Note: The nouns should express the same idea as the missing word combinations.

Examples: *good weather* replaces *needs fairer weather*; *care* replaces *help each other*; *brotherhood* replaces *behave as brothers*; *love* replaces *we need love*; *friendship* replaces *be friends*; *peace* replaces *violence should end*

Call on each team to share the nouns they chose to replace the missing words and word combinations from the song. As the students share their words, write the nouns in the smaller circles around “a better society.”

Ask the students to discuss these questions:

- What values do these nouns represent?
- How do these values contribute to “a better society?”

Post-listening Activities: Choose one or two of the activities below

Activity 6

Group Knot Activity

Purpose: Team building, problem solving skills, and communication

Level: All **Time:** 15-30 minutes, depending on the size and speed of the group

Preparation and Materials: Play the game “Group Knot” (**Appendix 4**).

Instructions: Instruct the students to remain in their teams for Activity 5.

Note: If the group is really big, split it up into smaller groups of 10-12 (ideal number for this activity). If there are too many people in each group it is extremely difficult to manage the human knot activity.

Activity 7

Human Knot Discussion

Purpose: Team building, problem solving skills and communication

Level: All **Time:** 15-30 minutes, depending on the size of the group

Preparation and Materials: Read the instructions for the game “Group Knot” (**Appendix 4**).

Instructions: Give the students the instructions found in Appendix 4.

Ask the students to discuss the following questions:

- What skills did they need to successfully perform the task of making a human knot?
(Agility, strength, flexibility, coordination, problem solving, listening, etc.)
- What values did they demonstrate to successfully make the human knot as a group?
(Cooperation, compromise, respect, friendship, tolerance, humor, etc.)
- What did they like about doing this activity?
- What did they learn about themselves when doing this activity?

Activity 8

Poster Production/Bus Role Play

Purpose: Team building, problem solving skills and communication

Level: All **Time:** 30

Preparation and Materials: Prepare pictures from a variety of magazines, markers, and flipchart paper. Divide students based on their English level.

Instructions: Instructions for this activity are slightly different for each group.

Group 1: Lower English level

Activity: Draw a poster that illustrates the topic "A Better Society."

- Assign the students to smaller groups.
- Each group will work together to draw a poster that illustrates "A Better Society."
- They will use pictures from the magazines for ideas, and will use markers to draw their ideas of what a better society looks like on flipchart paper.
- Ask them to discuss as a group what values they want to show on their poster. (This will help them prepare for Activity 9)

Group 2: Higher English level

Activity: Role-play "Trapped in a Bus" scenario.

Preparation and Materials: Description of roles on pieces of paper. (**Appendix 5**)
Divide the students into 5 teams. Give each team a piece of paper that describes the role they are to play.

Read the following instructions to the teams:

- 5 different people got trapped inside a bus and have to work together to get out of the bus.
- As a team, you need to read your assigned role and discuss how to play the role of the person you represent.
- Each team member should practice demonstrating the role to the team.
- Select one team member to play that person.

Activity 9

Demonstrations

Purpose: Team building, problem solving skills and communication

Level: All **Time:** 30

Preparation and Materials: None

Instructions: Instructions for this activity are slightly different for each group.

Poster Groups:

Ask all the poster groups to come together as one large group.

Call on each group to present their poster.

Ask each group to answer the following questions:

- What values did they chose to emphasize and illustrate in “A Better Society?”
- What problems did they chose to focused on
- What solutions did they think of, etc. for “A Better Society?”

Role-play Teams

- Team members from each of the 5 teams act out the scene of working together to get out of the bus.

After the role-play scene is finished, ask the student to discuss the following questions:

- What values did they chose to emphasize in their role?
- What problems did they highlight in their role?
- What solutions did they come up with to get out of the bus?

Appendix 1



**Together we stand, but
divided we fall.**

Appendix 2

The Time Is Now by Travis Haddix

If there was a time

Our society _____.

Oh, right now. If there was a time,

We should _____.

Oh, right now.

I used to say I don't need nobody but me,

But today with that statement I disagree.

If there was a time _____,

It's now.

If there ever was a time,

We should _____.

It's now. Oh, right now.

If there ever was a time,

We should _____,

It's now. Oh, right now.

All for one man, and one for all,

Together we stand, but divided we fall.

If there ever was a time, _____.

It's now.

If there ever was a time,

We should _____,

It's now. Oh, right now.

If there ever was a time,

This _____,

It's now. Oh, right now.

People are fighting, all over this world,

Men and women are dying, boys and girls.

If there ever was a time,

Oh, we need love, oh, it's right now.

Oh, right

Appendix 3

The Time Is Now by Travis Haddix

If there was a time
Our society *needs fairer weather* It's now.
Oh, right now.
If there was a time,
We should *get our act together* It's now.
Oh, right now.

I used to say I don't need nobody but me,
But today with that statement I disagree.
If there was a time *we need love*,
It's now.
If there ever was a time,
We should *help each other*
It's now. Oh, right now.

If there ever was a time,
We should *behave as brothers*,
It's now. Oh, right now.
All for one man, and one for all,
Together we stand, but divided we fall.
If there ever was a time, *we need love*
It's now.
If there ever was a time,
We should *be friends*,
It's now. Oh, right now.

If there ever was a time,
This *violence should end*,
It's now. Oh, right now.
People are fighting, all over this world,
Men and women are dying, boys and girls.
If there ever was a time,
Oh, we need love, oh, it's right now.
Oh, right

Appendix 4

Human Knot Instructions

- Arrange group members in a circle, standing shoulder to shoulder.
- Tell everyone to put their right hand up in the air, and then grab the hand of someone across the circle from them.
- Everyone then puts their left hand up in the air and grabs the hand of a different person.

(Check to make sure that everyone is holding the hands of two different people and that they are not holding hands with someone directly next to them.)

- Tell group members to untangle themselves to make a circle without breaking the chain of hands.

(If group members break the chain they need to start over.)

Source: teachertech.rice.edu/Participants/.../knot.html

Appendix 5

The Bus Driver

You are working extra hours because your replacement did not show up on time for work. Working late is making you miss your child's sporting event, and has made you very unhappy and cranky with the passengers.

You are in a hurry to finish the route and nearly drive right past Passenger #2, who has arrived late at the bus stop.

Passenger #1

You are a young, healthy teenager sitting near the front of the bus. When elderly Passenger #4 gets on the bus, you do not offer him/her your seat.

When Passenger #4 passes you, he/she steps on your foot.

Passenger #2

You are walking to the bus stop when you see the bus coming. You begin to run so that you will not miss the bus, but the bus driver does not slow down or wait for you. You chase after the bus and finally the driver stops to let you on.

You are angry at the bus driver for not waiting for you.

Passenger #3

You are a businessperson on your way to a job interview.

When Passenger #4 passes you, he/she spills a drink on you, leaving a large stain on your pants. You are angry and concerned about going to your interview with messy clothes.

Passenger #4

You are an elderly man/woman who walks with a cane. You get on the bus after Passenger #2.

When you get on the bus, the closest seat is taken by Passenger #1, who does not offer it to you. You accidentally step on Passenger #1's foot as you try to pass. This makes you trip, and you spill your drink on Passenger #3, who becomes angry with you.