



California King Bed – Rihanna - Notes



- **Activity type:** listening, gap fill, ordering.
- **Vocabulary:** parts of the body.
- **Time:** 20 mins.
- **Level:** Elementary / Pre-Intermediate.
- **Note:** This was the fourth single from Rihanna's 2010 album *Loud*, chosen by fans in a poll on Rihanna's twitter page. One journalist described it as "a wrenching ballad about the waking death of a relationship, the stage of limbo before the final crash; it's so well-delivered, in fact, that it's hard to hear." The song was used in a 2011 advertising campaign for skin-care product Nivea.

- 1) Tell the students they have 30 seconds to write down as many parts of the body as they can. The winner is the one with the most.
- 2) Give each student a folded copy of the worksheet. Ask students to label the picture with the words. Feedback.
- 3) Tell students they will hear 10 of these words in the song. Can they predict any from their previous knowledge of the song?
- 4) Play the song. Students tick the words as they hear them and order the lines of the chorus. Do they hear any parts of the body not on the list? Feedback.
Key: The word lips are in the song, but not on the list.
Chorus:
In this California king bed
We're ten thousand miles apart
I've been California wishing on these stars
For your heart for me
My California king
- 5) Ask students to unfold the worksheet. They fill in the gaps with the missing words, based on their answers to the previous activity and context.
- 6) Check in pairs, then play the song again.
- 7) Vocabulary: ask students to find the words in the song for each of the pictures.
Key: A) *rose*
B) *dusk* (*stars* also possible)
C) *confused*
D) *distance*
E) *dawn*
F) *sheets*
- 8) Check in pairs, then sing the song together.



California King Bed – Rihanna



Label the picture with the parts of the body.

arm
cheek
chest
eye
finger
hair

head
leg
nose
palm
toe
wrist

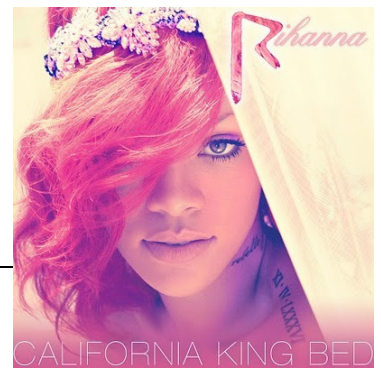


Listen to the song. Ten of the above words are used – tick them as you hear them (some may be in the plural). Reorder the lines of the chorus.

Chorus:

For your heart for me
My California king
We're ten thousand miles apart
I've been California wishing on these stars
In this California king bed
My California king

FOLD



Complete the lyrics.

_____ to _____
_____ to _____
_____ to _____

We were always just that close

_____ to _____
_____ to _____

Lips that felt just like the inside of a rose
So, how come when I reach out my _____
It feels like more than distance between us

Chorus

_____ to _____
_____ to _____

Side by side
You were sleeping next to me
_____ in _____

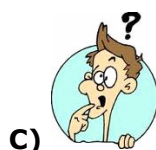
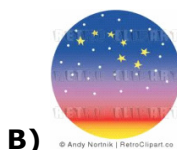
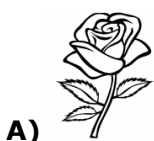
Dusk to dawn
With the curtains drawn
And a little last night on these sheets
So, how come when I reach out my _____
It seems like more than distance between us

Chorus

Just when I felt like giving up on us
You turned around and gave me one last touch
That made everything feel better
And even then my _____ got wetter
So confused wanna ask you if you love me
But I don't wanna seem so weak
Maybe I've been California dreaming

Chorus - My California king - **Chorus**

Read the lyrics and find the correct words for these pictures.





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Chest to chest
Nose to nose
Palm to palm
We were always just that close
Wrist to wrist
Toe to toe
Lips that felt just like the inside of a rose
So, how come when I reach out my fingers
It feels like more than distance between us

Chorus:

In this California king bed
We're ten thousand miles apart
I've been California wishing on these stars
For your heart for me
My California king

Eye to eye
Cheek to cheek
Side by side
You were sleeping next to me
Arm in arm
Dusk to dawn
With the curtains drawn
And a little last night on these sheets
So, how come when I reach out my fingers
It seems like more than distance between us

Repeat Chorus

Just when I felt like giving up on us
You turned around and gave me one last touch
That made everything feel better
And even then my eyes got wetter
So confused wanna ask you if you love me
But I don't wanna seem so weak
Maybe I've been California dreaming

Repeat Chorus

My California king

Repeat Chorus