



Come As You Are – Nirvana – Notes



- **Activity types:** Vocabulary (opposites), listening for specific words, gap fill.
- **Level:** Elementary/Pre-Intermediate
- **Language focus:** Grammar review
- **Notes:** This song by the American grunge band Nirvana, written by Kurt Cobain, was released as the second single from the band's second studio album *Nevermind* in 1992. *Memoria* is the Latin for memory.

1. **Activity 1.** Ask students to find the opposites alone or in pairs. They then listen to the song to check, before feeding back. How many of the twelve do they hear?
early – friend – go – soaked – take your time – young
Key: (at this stage any correct opposite is acceptable):
late – enemy – come – dry – hurry up – old
Eight of them are in the song.
2. Students unfold the page and complete the song (**Activity 2**) according to their answers to the previous activity and context.
3. Students check their answers in pairs or in groups, then correct in open class.
4. Play the song again and sing together!

Grammar Focus

You can use the song to review some basic grammar. Divide students into groups and ask them to find the following in the song - the group that finishes first wins:

- 2 subject pronouns: **I, you**
- 1 object pronoun: **you**
- 1 possessive adjective: **your**
- 1 possessive pronoun: **yours**
- 3 positive imperatives: **come, take, hurry**
- 1 negative imperative: **don't be**
- 2 forms of the verb "to be" in present simple: **are, is**
- 1 form of the verb "to be" in past simple: **were**
- 2 verbs in present simple, positive form: **want, swear**
- 1 verb in present simple, negative form: **don't have**

Complete Lyrics

Come as you are
 As you were
 As I want you to be
 As a friend
 As a friend
 As an old enemy

Come doused in mud,
 Soaked in bleach,
 As I want you to be.
 As a trend,
 As a friend,
 As an old memoria
 Memoria, memoria, memoria

Take your time
 Hurry up
 Choice is yours don't be late
 Take a rest
 As a friend
 As an old memoria
 Memoria, memoria, memoria

When I swear
 That I don't have a gun
 No, I don't have a gun
 No, I don't have a gun
 Memoria, memoria, memoria, memoria
 (I don't have a gun)

When I swear
 That I don't have a gun
 No, I don't have a gun (repeat 3 times)

Memoria, memoria

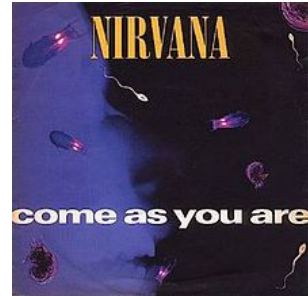


Come As You Are – Nirvana



Activity 1. What do you think the opposites of the following are? Listen to the song to find them.

- early _____
- friend _____
- go _____
- soaked _____
- take your time _____
- young _____



FOLD

Activity 2. Complete the song with the words from Activity 1.

_____ as you are
 As you were
 As I want you to be
 As a _____
 As a _____
 As an _____

 Choice is yours don't be _____
 Take a rest
 As a _____
 As an _____ memoria
 Memoria, memoria, memoria

_____ doused in mud,
 _____ in bleach,
 As I want you to be.
 As a trend,
 As a _____,
 As an _____ memoria
 Memoria, memoria, memoria

When I swear
 That I don't have a gun
 No, I don't have a gun
 No, I don't have a gun

Memoria, memoria, memoria, memoria
 (I don't have a gun)

When I swear
 That I don't have a gun
 No, I don't have a gun
 No, I don't have a gun
 No, I don't have a gun
 No, I don't have a gun

Memoria, memoria