



WATCH & LEARN: ARTS & LIFESTYLE

ART: MUSIC: U2's BIRTHDAY SONG

FOR NELSON MANDELA (2:53 min)

VIDEO Script & Vocabulary (page 1 of 1/v27420)

Starting Off

U2's Bono and The Edge sing Happy Birthday to Nelson Mandela for his 90th birthday (July 18th, 2008). Nelson Mandela fought for social justice for 67 years. We're asking you to start with 67 minutes.

- 1 Read the **Video Script** below. The words in **bold** are defined in the **Vocabulary** section. Look up any new words in a dictionary.
- 2 Go to the **Your Turn** section at the end of this document. Practice using new words and expressions from the video script to prepare for your next class.
- 3 Look at the **Discussion Questions** and prepare your responses for the next class.

Video Script:

Bono: Alright everybody in Hyde Park we'd like to suggest that we make this man's birthday a public holiday. And so we are going to sing a song with that in mind. What do you think The Edge?



The Edge: Absolutely. Hope you like our new direction.

Bono: You know it **doesn't make much sense**. There **ought** to be a **law against** anyone who **takes offense** at a day in your celebration. Cause we all know in our minds that there ought to be a time that we could **set aside** to show just how much we love you. And I'm sure you will agree, it couldn't fit more perfectly than to have the world party on the day ya came to be!

Happy Birthday to ya! Happy Birthday to ya! Happy Birthday!
Happy Birthday to ya! Happy Birthday to ya! Happy Birthday!

Well I never understood how a man who fights for good could not have a day that would be set aside for your recognition. Because it never should be just because some cannot see the dream as clear as he and that they should – and it's become an **illusion**. And yes you **left a mark** on every heart here in Hyde Park. You are the brightest star – happy birthday **Madiba**!

Happy Birthday to ya! Happy Birthday to ya! Happy Birthday!
Happy Birthday to ya! Happy Birthday to ya! Happy Birthday!

Why has there never been a holiday where peace is celebrated all through the world?

Happy Birthday to ya! Happy Birthday to ya! Happy Birthday!
Happy Birthday to ya! Happy Birthday to ya! Happy Birthday!

From U2 to you too.

PRE-INTERMEDIATE (A2 - B1) AND ABOVE

- ◊ Read the script and note new vocabulary
- ◊ Write three sentences using new vocabulary
- ◊ Prepare for the discussion questions

Discussion Questions:

- ◊ What do you think of the Happy Birthday song? Do you think it could use some improvement?
- ◊ Describe some of the most memorable birthday celebrations in your life. Where were you and what did you do?
- ◊ Mandela Day, celebrated globally each year on July 18th, was established by the UN in November of 2009. Who are the historical figures whose birthdays are annually recognized in your country?

Vocabulary:

- **it doesn't make much sense** - it isn't logical or sensible
- **ought** - should
- **a law against** - prohibition; something that is illegal
- **take offense** - to feel insulted
- **set aside** - separate and reserve for a special purpose
- **illusion** - false idea or belief
- **leave a mark** - do something that is very important or meaningful and thusly make a very strong impression on people
- **Madiba** - The clan name in South Africa represents a person's ancestry. The meaning is deeper than a surname and is used as a sign of respect and affection. The origin of Madiba comes from a chief who ruled in the 18th century. South Africans commonly referred to him as Madiba rather than Nelson Mandela which was an English name given by an early school teacher and thus more reflective of the colonial rule of South Africa rather than the deeper cultural heritage.

Your Turn! Using new vocabulary is the best way to learn and remember it.

- 1 Choose three words or expressions from the video that are new to you and write a sentence using each one in your notebook.
- 2 Try to use them in a context that is familiar to you to help you retain them.
- 3 Please ask for feedback on your sentences in the next lesson.