



WATCH & LEARN: ARTS & LIFESTYLE

MUSIC HISTORY: THE BEATLES

REMEMBERING JOHN LENNON (2:54 min)

VIDEO Script & Vocabulary (page 1 of 2/v28777)

INTERMEDIATE (B1 - B2) AND ABOVE

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

Starting Off

December 8th, 2020 marked the 40th anniversary of one of the greatest tragedies in the music world: The day that John Lennon was shot and killed.

- 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:

TV News Reporter:

Today **marks** one of the darkest days in music. It was 40 years ago today when John Lennon was shot and killed on the **Upper West Side**.

TV News Reporter: In a tweet, his widow, Yoko

Ono, noted that more than one million and four hundred thousand people in this country have been killed by guns since her husband died in 1980. Above a picture of the glasses that Lennon wore on the night that he was killed. CBS 2's Michael George has more now on Lennon's **legacy**.

Michael George, CBS News Reporter: Fans of John Lennon came together at the memorial in Central Park known as Strawberry Fields.

Lennon Fan: One of the greatest artists, philosophers, humanitarians...

George: Some of these fans were also right here on that tragic night 40 years ago when the Beatles legend was **gunned down** outside his apartment at the age of 40.

Lennon Fan: Came here at night with a big crowd of people and sang songs and cried. Very sad day I'll never forget.

Charles Rosenay: I was, you know, driving along the road and a song came on and I just, pow! It just hit me and, and the **tears** started flowing.

George: Charles Rosenay is a Beatles expert who published a magazine about the band. He says Lennon was one of the most influential musicians of all time, but his death **transcended** music.

Rosenay: What we lost that night was not the killing of one rock star, what we lost is somebody who, till today, would have probably given us great insight.

Video Script continued on next page...



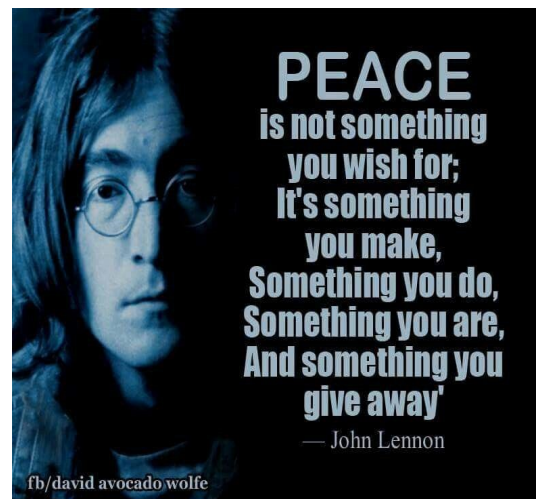
Discussion Questions:

- ◊ Was the music of the John Lennon and the Beatles important to you growing up?
- ◊ Why do you think John Lennon is so singularly remembered and glorified?
- ◊ Can you think of some other musical artists who died at a very young age and the legacy they left behind?

Vocabulary:

- **mark** - commemorate
- **Upper West Side** - Like the Upper East Side opposite Central Park, the Upper West Side is an affluent, primarily residential area with many of its residents working in commercial areas in Midtown and Lower Manhattan. The area is considered one of Manhattan's cultural and intellectual hubs with Columbia University and Barnard College located just to the north of the neighborhood, the American Museum of Natural History located near its center and the Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts located at the south end.
- **legacy** - something left or handed down by a predecessor
- **fan** - a person who has a strong interest in or admiration for a particular person or thing
- **gunned down** - shot dead by a gun
- **tears** - liquid produced by glands in the eyes when one cries
- **transcend** - be or go beyond the range or limits of (a field of activity or conceptual sphere)

Vocabulary continued on next page...





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Video Script continued...

George: Lennon's **widow**, Yoko Ono, marked the day tweeting that his death was a **hollowing** experience and that she and his sons still miss him. And former Beatle, Paul McCartney, tweeted: A sad, sad day, but remembering my friend John with the great joy he brought to the world. And even 40 years later, John Lennon's legacy lives on. Fans like Mike Egan say his music and his message of peace are **timeless**.

Mike Egan: Just a legend taken too soon and it's just really amazing that we have this place to keep remembering him by.

George: Still inspiring millions a generation after he left us. In New York, Michael George, CBS news.

TV News Reporter: And the only other surviving Beatle, Ringo Starr, wrote in a tweet: Tuesday 8th of December 1980, we all had to say goodbye to John. Peace and Love John. I'm asking every music radio station in the world sometime today play **Strawberry Fields** Forever. Peace and Love.

TV News Reporter: Wow! I mean everyone remembers where they were. At that point I was a sophomore in high school on Long Island and we talked about it and learned about it and what a loss, right, that was just felt so **far and wide**

TV News Reporter: And you see the documentaries, you know, that are available now in the **footage** and it just brings you right back, right back.

TV News Reporter: I know. Right here **in our own backyard** too.

TV News Reporter: Definitely just a few avenues away...streets away.

Vocabulary continued...

- **widow** - a woman who has lost her spouse by death and has not married again
- **hollowing** - creating a painful void or emptiness in one's life and soul
- **timeless** - not affected by the passage of time or changes in fashion
- **Strawberry Fields** - a 2.5-acre landscaped section in New York City's Central Park, designed by the landscape architect Bruce Kelly, that is dedicated to the memory of former Beatles member John Lennon. It is named after the Beatles' song "Strawberry Fields Forever", written by Lennon. The song itself is named for the former Strawberry Field children's home in Liverpool, England, located near Lennon's childhood home.
- **far and wide** - everywhere and many places; over a large area
- **footage** - part of a cinema or television film recording a particular event
- **in our own backyard** - very near to where someone lives

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 the box below.
- 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.

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

