

English Song
Activity
by the
Ruthless Teacher

## Are you lonesome tonight? by Elvis Presley



## Listen to the song and complete the lyrics:

Are you lonesome tonight?  Do you me tonight?  Are you sorry we drifted?  Does your memory to a brighter sunny day  When I kissed you and you sweetheart?  Do the chairs in your parlor seem empty and?  Do you at your doorstep and picture me there?  Is your heart filled with pain, I come back again?  Tell me are you lonesome tonight?	
Iif you're lonesome tonight  You know someone said that the world's a stage And each must play a parthad me playing in love you as my sweet heart. Act one was when we met, I loved you at first You read your line so cleverly and missed a cue Then came act two, you seemed to change and you acted And why I'll never Honey, you when you said you loved me And I had no cause toyou. But I'd rather go on hearing your Than go on living	
Is your heart filled with pain, I come back again? Tell me are you lonesome tonight?	



In the lyrics of the song a famous Shakespearean quotation is mentioned (in bold letters). Read the whole speech below or listen to it by Morgan Freeman <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x5hcaYEcApO">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x5hcaYEcApO</a>. Then answer the questions that follow:

Speech: "All the world's a stage" By William Shakespeare (from As You Like It)

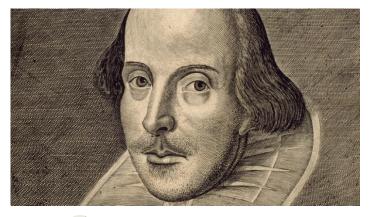
All the world's a stage,
And all the men and women merely players;
They have their exits and their entrances;
And one man in his time plays many parts,
His acts being seven ages. At first the infant,
Mewling and puking in the nurse's arms;
And then the whining school-boy, with his satchel



And shining morning face, creeping like snail Unwillingly to school. And then the lover, Sighing like furnace, with a woeful ballad Made to his mistress' eyebrow. Then a soldier, Full of strange oaths, and bearded like the pard, Jealous in honour, sudden and quick in quarrel, Seeking the bubble reputation Even in the cannon's mouth. And then the justice, In fair round belly with good capon lin'd, With eyes severe and beard of formal cut, Full of wise saws and modern instances; And so he plays his part. The sixth age shifts Into the lean and slipper'd pantaloon, With spectacles on nose and pouch on side; His youthful hose, well sav'd, a world too wide For his shrunk shank; and his big manly voice, Turning again toward childish treble, pipes And whistles in his sound. Last scene of all, That ends this strange eventful history, Is second childishness and mere oblivion; Sans teeth, sans eyes, sans taste, sans everything.

(sans=without)

- 1. How does the speech end? What can you understand from the last three lines? Express your opinion with justification.
- 2. The idea that "all the world is a stage and everybody is simply a player" dates back to the Roman era. What is your opinion on that concept?



## **Teacher's Copy-level C1-C2**

#### A Listen to the song and complete the lyrics:

Are you lonesome tonight?

Do you miss me tonight?

Are you sorry we drifted apart?

Does your memory stray to a brighter sunny day

When I kissed you and called you sweetheart?

Do the chairs in your parlor seem empty and <u>bare</u>?

Do you gaze at your doorstep and picture me there?

Is your heart filled with pain, shall I come back again?

Tell me dear, are you lonesome tonight?

I wonder if you're lonesome tonight

You know someone said that the world's a stage

And each must play a part.

Fate had me playing in love you as my sweet heart.

Act one was when we met, I loved you at first glance

You read your line so cleverly and never missed a cue

Then came act two, you seemed to change and you acted strange

And why I'll never know.

Honey, you lied when you said you loved me

And I had no cause to doubt you.

But I'd rather go on hearing your lies

Than go on living without you.

Now the stage is bare and I'm standing there

With emptiness all around

And if you won't come back to me

Then make them bring the curtain down.

Is your heart filled with pain, shall I come back again?

Tell me dear, are you lonesome tonight?

### B In the lyrics of the song a famous Shakespearean quotation is mentioned (in bold letters). Read the whole speech below (or listen to it by Morgan Freeman on Youtube) and answer the questions that follow:

Speech: "All the world's a stage" By William Shakespeare (from As You Like It)

All the world's a stage,

And all the men and women merely players; They have their exits and their entrances;

And one man in his time plays many parts,

His acts being seven ages. At first the infant,

Mewling and puking in the nurse's arms;

And then the whining school-boy, with his satchel

And shining morning face, creeping like snail Unwillingly to school. And then the lover, Sighing like furnace, with a woeful ballad Made to his mistress' eyebrow. Then a soldier, Full of strange oaths, and bearded like the pard, Jealous in honour, sudden and quick in quarrel, Seeking the bubble reputation Even in the cannon's mouth. And then the justice, In fair round belly with good capon lin'd, With eyes severe and beard of formal cut, Full of wise saws and modern instances: And so he plays his part. The sixth age shifts Into the lean and slipper'd pantaloon, With spectacles on nose and pouch on side; His youthful hose, well sav'd, a world too wide For his shrunk shank; and his big manly voice, Turning again toward childish treble, pipes And whistles in his sound. Last scene of all, That ends this strange eventful history, Is second childishness and mere oblivion; Sans teeth, sans eyes, sans taste, sans everything. (sans=without)

# 1. How does the speech end? What can you understand from the last three lines? Express your opinion with justification.

In the soliloquy, Jaques says that the lives of men pass through different stages, much as a play passes from one act to the next. In fact Jaques identifies seven stages in the life of man. The first stage he says is infancy, and the last stage is a return to infancy, bringing man's life full circle. Jaques calls the seventh stage the "second childishness." He says that just as a new born baby begins life toothless, blind, and with no understanding of the world, so too the elderly man ends life toothless, blind, and with no understanding of the world.

# 2. The idea that "all the world is a stage and everybody is simply a player" dates back to the Roman era. What is your opinion on that concept?

Students' own answers here.

<u>Elvis Aaron Presley</u>(1935 – 1977), known mononymously as Elvis, was an American singer and actor. Known as the "King of Rock and Roll", he is regarded as one of the most significant cultural figures of the 20th century. Presley's energized interpretations of songs and sexually provocative performance style, combined with a singularly potent mix of influences across color lines during a transformative era in race relations, brought both great success and initial controversy. **(source Wikipedia)** 

### **Song credits (from wikipedia)**

"Are You Lonesome Tonight?" is a song written by Roy Turk and Lou Handman in 1926. It was recorded several times in 1927. In 1950, the Blue Barron Orchestra version reached the top twenty on *Billboard's* Pop Singles chart. In April 1960, after Elvis Presley's two-year service in the United States Army, he recorded the song at the suggestion of manager Colonel Tom Parker.

**image credits (from flickr):** Elvis Presley na Casa Branca at 23, 1958 flickr-Rossano aka Bud Care

William Shakespeare (1564 – 1616) was an English playwright, poet and actor. He is widely regarded as the greatest writer in the English language and the world's pre-eminent dramatist. He is often called England's national poet and the "Bard of Avon" (or simply "the Bard"). His extant works, including collaborations, consist of some 39 plays, 154 sonnets, three long narrative poems and a few other verses, some of uncertain authorship. His plays have been translated into every major living language and are performed more often than those of any other playwright. Shakespeare remains arguably the most influential writer in the English language, and his works continue to be studied and reinterpreted.

**image credits :** First Folio of William Shakespeare's plays (cropped)

### More about Shakespeare and his work

https://www.britannica.com/biography/William-Shakespeare

https://shakespeare.mit.edu/

https://www.rsc.org.uk/shakespeares-life-and-times

https://www.sparknotes.com/shakespeare/?scr=1



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