

*Have fun while learning*



# ALTERNATIVE GRAMMAR ACTIVITIES

# The stranger song by *Leonard Cohen*

## Present Simple-Present Continuous B2



### Listen to the song and complete the lyrics

It's ..... that all the men you knew were dealers  
who said they were through with dealing  
Every time you gave them .....  
I know that kind of man  
It's ..... to hold the hand of anyone  
who is reaching for the sky just to surrender

And ..... sweeping up the jokers that he left behind  
you find he did not leave you very much not even .....  
Like any dealer he was ..... for the card that is so high and wild  
he'll never ..... to deal another  
He was just some Joseph looking for a manger

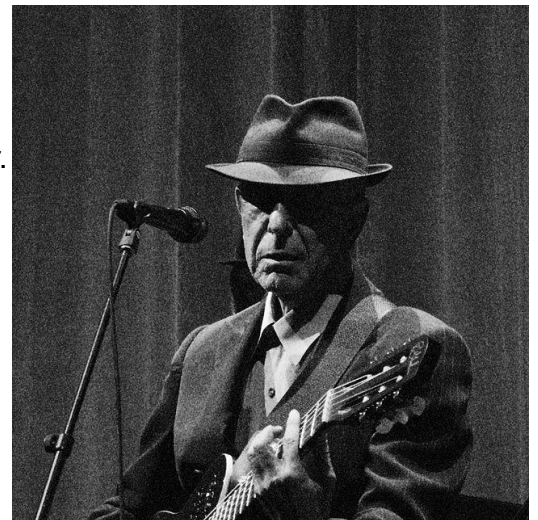
And then ..... on your window sill  
he'll say one day you caused his .....  
to weaken with your love and warmth and shelter  
And then taking from his wallet  
an old ..... of trains, he'll say  
I told you when I came I was a stranger

But ..... another stranger seems  
to want you to ..... his dreams  
as though they were the burden of some other  
O you've seen that man .....  
his golden arm dispatching cards  
but now it's ..... from the elbows to the finger  
And he wants to trade the game he plays for shelter  
Yes he wants to trade the game he ..... for shelter.

Ah you ..... to see another tired man  
..... down his hand  
like he was giving up the holy game of .....  
And while he talks his ..... to sleep  
you notice there's a highway  
that is ..... up like smoke above his shoulder  
It is curling just like smoke above his shoulder.  
and suddenly you feel a little .....

You ..... him to come in sit down  
but something makes you turn around  
The door is open you can't ..... your shelter  
You try the handle of the road  
It opens do not be .....  
It's you my love, you who are the stranger

Well, I've been ..... I was sure  
we'd meet between the trains we're waiting for



I think it's time to ..... another  
Please understand, I never had a secret chart  
to get me to the ..... of this  
or any other matter  
When he ..... like this  
you don't know what he's after  
When he ..... like this,  
you don't know what he's after.

Let's meet ..... if you choose  
upon the shore, beneath the .....  
that they are building on some endless river  
Then he ..... the platform  
for the sleeping car that's warm  
You ....., he's only advertising one more shelter  
And it comes to you, he ..... was a stranger  
And you say OK the bridge or someplace .....

And leaning on your window sill  
I told you when I came I was a stranger.



**Did you like the song? Why/why not? Read the lyrics as a poem and write a paragraph summarising the themes of the song and expressing your ideas and feelings about it:**

# The stranger song by *Leonard Cohen*

## Present Simple-Present Continuous B2 Teacher's



### Listen to the song and complete the lyrics

It's true that all the men you knew were dealers  
who said they were through with dealing  
Every time you gave them shelter  
I know that kind of man  
It's hard to hold the hand of anyone  
who is reaching for the sky just to surrender

And then sweeping up the jokers that he left behind  
you find he did not leave you very much not even laughter  
Like any dealer he was watching for the card that is so high and wild  
he'll never need to deal another  
He was just some Joseph looking for a manger

And then leaning on your window sill  
he'll say one day you caused his will  
to weaken with your love and warmth and shelter  
And then taking from his wallet  
an old schedule of trains, he'll say  
I told you when I came I was a stranger

But now another stranger seems  
to want you to ignore his dreams  
as though they were the burden of some other  
O you've seen that man before  
his golden arm dispatching cards  
but now it's rusted from the elbows to the finger  
And he wants to trade the game he plays for shelter  
Yes he wants to trade the game he knows for shelter.

Ah you hate to see another tired man  
lay down his hand  
like he was giving up the holy game of poker  
And while he talks his dreams to sleep  
you notice there's a highway  
that is curling up like smoke above his shoulder  
It is curling just like smoke above his shoulder.  
and suddenly you feel a little older

You tell him to come in sit down  
but something makes you turn around  
The door is open you can't close your shelter  
You try the handle of the road  
It opens do not be afraid  
It's you my love, you who are the stranger

Well, I've been waiting. I was sure  
we'd meet between the trains we're waiting for



I think it's time to board another  
Please understand, I never had a secret chart  
to get me to the heart of this  
or any other matter  
When he talks like this  
you don't know what he's after  
When he speaks like this,  
you don't know what he's after.

Let's meet tomorrow if you choose  
upon the shore, beneath the bridge  
that they are building on some endless river  
Then he leaves the platform  
for the sleeping car that's warm  
You realize, he's only advertising one more shelter  
And it comes to you, he never was a stranger  
And you say OK the bridge or someplace later

And leaning on your window sill  
I told you when I came I was a stranger.



**Did you like the song? Why/why not? Read the lyrics as a poem and write a paragraph summarising the themes of the song and expressing your ideas and feelings about it:**





[Leonard Norman Cohen](#) (September 21, 1934 – November 7, 2016) was a Canadian singer-songwriter, poet, and novelist. Themes commonly explored throughout his work include faith and mortality, isolation and depression, betrayal and redemption, social and political conflict, and sexual and romantic love, desire, regret, and loss. He was inducted into the [Canadian Music Hall of Fame](#), the [Canadian Songwriters Hall of Fame](#), and the [Rock and Roll Hall of Fame](#). He was invested as a [Companion of the Order of Canada](#), the nation's highest civilian honour. In 2011, he received one of the [Prince of Asturias Awards](#) for literature and the ninth [Glenn Gould Prize](#). Cohen pursued a career as a poet and novelist during the 1950s and early 1960s, and did not begin a music career until 1966. **(information from Wikipedia)**

**songs of Leonard Cohen:**

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Songs\\_of\\_Leonard\\_Cohen](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Songs_of_Leonard_Cohen)

**The lyrics and the music of this song were written by Cohen himself in 1967. Have a look at his website:**

<https://www.leonardcohenfiles.com/strdraft.html>

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