



## UNIT 4: Learning to fly

### Listening Comprehension

C/B pp. 56-57

 Student Worksheet (C1)

### Interpreting a Song: *Blackbird*

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#### PART A – Reading & Interpretation

Read the quote by Paul McCartney about the meaning of the song.

“I had in mind a black woman, rather than a bird... Let me encourage you to keep trying, to keep your faith, there is hope.”

#### Questions

1. What does the blackbird symbolise?

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2. Why might the songwriter have chosen a bird as a symbol?

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3. How does the song relate to the Civil Rights Movement?

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#### PART B – Listening Task

Listen to the song **Blackbird**.

Write words or phrases that express **positive ideas** and **negative ideas**.

Positive ideas	Negative ideas

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#### PART C – Understanding the Lyrics

Answer the questions.

1. What might “**broken wings**” symbolise?

- A. Physical injury
  - B. Loss of freedom or power
  - C. Migration
  - D. Natural behaviour
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2. What does “**learn to fly**” most likely represent?

- A. Escaping danger
  - B. Travelling abroad
  - C. Gaining freedom and confidence
  - D. Learning about birds
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3. What does “**dead of night**” symbolise?

- A. Darkness and difficulty
  - B. Midnight celebrations
  - C. Peaceful sleep
  - D. Morning light
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#### **PART D – Creative Task**

Choose **one** task.

##### Task 1 – Rewrite a line

Original:

Take these broken wings and learn to fly

Your version:

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##### Task 2 – Replace a repeated line

Original:

You were only waiting for this moment to arise

Your version:

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### Task 3 – Write a new verse

Add two new lines continuing the message of hope.

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### 2. Listening Comprehension Quiz

Listen to **Blackbird** and answer the questions.

1. What does the blackbird do in the first line?
  - A. Flies over the city
  - B. Sings in the night
  - C. Builds a nest
  - D. Leaves the forest
2. What are the blackbird's wings described as?
  - A. Strong
  - B. Golden
  - C. Broken
  - D. Invisible
3. What is the blackbird encouraged to do?
  - A. Sleep
  - B. Learn to fly
  - C. Leave the forest
  - D. Sing louder
4. What phrase expresses the idea of freedom?
  - A. Dead of night
  - B. Sunken eyes
  - C. Moment to be free
  - D. Broken wings
5. What repeated action does the blackbird take?
  - A. Singing
  - B. Flying
  - C. Sleeping
  - D. Watching

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### 3. Gap-Fill Lyrics Activity

Complete the lyrics with the missing words.

#### **Word Bank**

fly • night • wings • free • arise • light • eyes


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Blackbird singing in the dead of \_\_\_\_\_ (1)  
Take these broken \_\_\_\_\_ (2) and learn to \_\_\_\_\_ (3)  
All your life  
You were only waiting for this moment to \_\_\_\_\_ (4)

Blackbird singing in the dead of night  
Take these sunken \_\_\_\_\_ (5) and learn to see  
All your life  
You were only waiting for this moment to be \_\_\_\_\_ (6)

Blackbird, fly  
Into the \_\_\_\_\_ (7) of the dark black night

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 4. Multiple Choice Test (C1)

Choose the correct answer.

1. The blackbird in the song symbolises:
  - A. Nature
  - B. A struggling person seeking freedom
  - C. A traveller
  - D. A musician
2. The main theme of the song is:
  - A. Migration
  - B. Love
  - C. Hope and freedom
  - D. Adventure
3. The phrase “**learn to fly**” metaphorically means:
  - A. Study aviation
  - B. Gain independence
  - C. Move to another country
  - D. Escape danger
4. Why does the songwriter use symbolism?
  - A. To hide the meaning completely
  - B. To make the message universal
  - C. To simplify the lyrics
  - D. To describe birds accurately
5. Which historical context influenced the song?
  - A. Industrial Revolution
  - B. Cold War
  - C. Civil Rights Movement
  - D. World War I