Come As You Are – Nirvana – Notes

- **Activity types:** Vocabulary (opposites), listening for specific words, gap fill.
- **Level:** Elementary/Pre-Intermediate
- **Language focus:** Grammar review
- **Notes:** This song by the American grunge band Nirvana, written by Kurt Cobain, was released as the second single from the band's second studio album *Nevermind* in 1992. *Memoria* is the Latin for memory.

1. **Activity 1.** Ask students to find the opposites alone or in pairs. They then listen to the song to check, before feeding back. How many of the twelve do they hear?
   
   **early** – **friend** – **go** – **soaked** – **take your time** – **young**
   
   **Key:** (at this stage any correct opposite is acceptable):
   
   **late** – **enemy** – **come** – **dry** – **hurry up** – **old**
   
   Eight of them are in the song.

2. Students unfold the page and complete the song *(Activity 2)* according to their answers to the previous activity and context.

3. Students check their answers in pairs or in groups, then correct in open class.

4. Play the song again and sing together!

**Grammar Focus**

You can use the song to review some basic grammar. Divide students into groups and ask them to find the following in the song - the group that finishes first wins:

- 2 subject pronouns: *I, you*
- 1 object pronoun: *you*
- 1 possessive adjective: *your*
- 1 possessive pronoun: *yours*
- 3 positive imperatives: *come, take, hurry*
- 1 negative imperative: *don't be*
- 2 forms of the verb "to be" in present simple: *are, is*
- 1 form of the verb "to be" in past simple: *were*
- 2 verbs in present simple, positive form: *want, swear*
- 1 verb in present simple, negative form: *don't have*

**Complete Lyrics**

| Come as you are | Come doused in mud, |
| As you were | Soaked in bleach, |
| As I want you to be | As I want you to be. |
| As a friend | As a trend, |
| As a friend | As a friend, |
| As an old enemy | As an old memoria |
| Memoria, memoria, memoria |

| Take your time | When I swear |
| Hurry up | That I don't have a gun |
| Choice is yours don't be late | No, I don't have a gun |
| Take a rest | No, I don't have a gun |
| As a friend | Memoria, memoria, memoria, memoria |
| As an old memoria | (I don't have a gun) |
| Memoria, memoria, memoria |

| When I swear |
| That I don't have a gun |
| No, I don't have a gun (repeat 3 times) |
| Memoria, memoria |
Come As You Are – Nirvana

Activity 1. What do you think the opposites of the following are? Listen to the song to find them.

- early
- friend
- go
- soaked
- take your time
- young

Activity 2. Complete the song with the words from Activity 1.

_______ as you are
As you were
As I want you to be
As a ________
As a ________
As an ________ ________

Choice is yours don't be ________
Take a rest
As a ________
As an ________ memoria
Memoria, memoria, memoria

_______ doused in mud,
_______ in bleach,
As I want you to be.
As a trend,
As an ________ memoria
Memoria, memoria, memoria

When I swear
That I don't have a gun
No, I don't have a gun
No, I don't have a gun

Memoria, memoria, memoria, memoria
(I don't have a gun)

When I swear
That I don't have a gun
No, I don't have a gun
No, I don't have a gun
No, I don't have a gun

Memoria, memoria