



My Sweet Lord – George Harrison - Notes



- **Activity types:** vocabulary, predicting, listening for specific words.
- **Level:** Elementary / Pre-Intermediate
- **Note:** This was Harrison's first single as a solo artist, and it was his biggest hit. The song is about the Eastern religions he was studying. The lyrics contain references to the Hare Krishna faith, with some of their mantra written into the lyrics. Harrison said he was pointing out that "Hallelujah and Hare Krishna are quite the same thing."
In the Martin Scorsese documentary *The Material World*, Harrison explains: "First, it's simple. The thing about a mantra, you see... mantras are, well, they call it a mystical sound vibration encased in a syllable. It has this power within it. It's just hypnotic."
- (www.songfacts.com)
In 1976 Harrison was sued for plagiarism – you and your students can read more about this at <http://performingsongwriter.com/george-harrison-my-sweet-lord/>

- 1) Play the song My Sweet Lord. Ask students to count the number of times they hear the word Lord. This is quite difficult! (**Key:** 40, up to the final fade)
- 2) Ask them if they know who the singer is and in what the language the chant or mantra is.
- 3) Give each student a copy of the worksheet and ask to read the sentences about George Harrison and to label the pictures.
Key: Krishna – sitar – meditation – India – George & Ravi.
- 4) Ask them to guess which verbs go in which gap. In some gaps more than one verb is possible, but others can be guessed through context.
Key: see complete lyrics
- 5) Point out that the mantra is the Hare Krishna or Maha mantra, along with an ancient prayer.
- 6) Play the song, students check and correct the previous activity, and sing along.

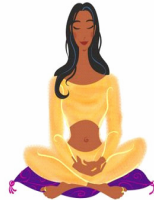


My Sweet Lord – George Harrison



Read the following, then label the pictures:

George Harrison was the lead guitarist in The Beatles. People called him 'The Quiet Beatle'. He was interested in Indian culture and became friends with Ravi Shankar, an Indian musician. In 1966 he went to India to study the sitar, a musical instrument. In 1968 The Beatles went to India to study meditation. My Sweet Lord is a song by George Harrison. It mentions the Hindu God, Krishna.



K_____ S_____ M_____ I_____ G_____ & R_____

Complete the lyrics with the correct form of the following verbs:

know - show - be - see - won't - take - go

My sweet lord
Hm, my lord
Hm, my lord

I really want to _____ you
Really want to _____ with you
Really want to _____ you lord
But it _____ so long, my lord

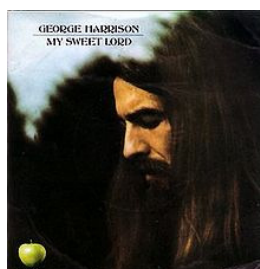
My sweet lord
Hm, my lord
Hm, my lord

I really want to _____ you
Really want to _____ with you
Really want to _____ you lord
That it _____ take long, my lord (hallelujah)

My sweet lord (hallelujah)
Hm, my lord (hallelujah)
My sweet lord (hallelujah)

I really want to _____ you
Really want to _____ you
Really want to _____ you, lord
Really want to _____ you, lord
But it _____ so long, my lord (hallelujah)

My sweet lord (hallelujah)
Hm, my lord (hallelujah)
My, my, my lord (hallelujah)



I really want to _____ you (hallelujah)
Really want to _____ with you (hallelujah)
Really want to _____ you lord (aaah)
That it _____ take long, my lord (hallelujah)

Hmm (hallelujah)
My sweet lord (hallelujah)
My, my, lord (hallelujah)

Hm, my lord (hare krishna)
My, my, my lord (hare krishna)
Oh hm, my sweet lord (krishna, krishna)
Oh-uuh-uh (hare hare)

Now, I really want to _____ you (hare rama)
Really want to _____ with you (hare rama)
Really want to _____ you lord (aaah)
But it _____ so long, my lord (hallelujah)

My oh lord (hallelujah)
My, my, my lord (hare krishna)
My sweet lord (hare krishna)
My sweet lord (krishna krishna)
My lord (hare hare)
Hm, hm (Gurur Brahma)
Hm, hm (Gurur Vishnu)
Hm, hm (Gurur Devo)
Hm, hm (Maheshwara)
My sweet lord (Gurur Sakshaat)
My sweet lord (Parabrahma)
My, my, my lord (Tasmayi Shree)
My, my, my, my lord (Guruve Namah)
My sweet lord (Hare Rama)
(hare krishna)
My sweet lord (hare krishna)
My sweet lord (krishna krishna)



My Sweet Lord – George Harrison – Complete



My sweet lord
Hm, my lord
Hm, my lord

I really want to **see** you
Really want to **be** with you
Really want to **see** you lord
But it **takes** so long, my lord

My sweet lord
Hm, my lord
Hm, my lord

I really want to **know** you
Really want to **go** with you
Really want to **show** you lord
That it **won't** take long, my lord
(hallelujah)

My sweet lord (hallelujah)
Hm, my lord (hallelujah)
My sweet lord (hallelujah)

I really want to **see** you
Really want to **see** you
Really want to **see** you, lord
Really want to **see** you, lord
But it takes so long, my lord
(hallelujah)

My sweet lord (hallelujah)
Hm, my lord (hallelujah)
My, my, my lord (hallelujah)

I really want to **know** you (hallelujah)
Really want to **go** with you (hallelujah)
Really want to **show** you lord (aaah)
That it **won't** take long, my lord
(hallelujah)

Hmm (hallelujah)
My sweet lord (hallelujah)
My, my, lord (hallelujah)

Hm, my lord (hare krishna)
My, my, my lord (hare krishna)
Oh hm, my sweet lord (krishna,
krishna)
Oh-uuh-uh (hare hare)

Now, I really want to **see** you (hare
rama)
Really want to **be** with you (hare rama)
Really want to **see** you lord (aaah)
But it **takes** so long, my lord
(hallelujah)

My oh lord (hallelujah)
My, my, my lord (hare krishna)
My sweet lord (hare krishna)
My sweet lord (krishna krishna)
My lord (hare hare)
Hm, hm (Gurur Brahma)
Hm, hm (Gurur Vishnu)
Hm, hm (Gurur Devo)
Hm, hm (Maheshwara)
My sweet lord (Gurur Sakshaat)
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My, my, my lord (Tasmayi Shree)
My, my, my, my lord (Guruve Namah)
My sweet lord (Hare Rama)
(hare krishna)
My sweet lord (hare krishna)
My sweet lord (krishna krishna)