1. To introduce the song and create interest in the topic you can ask some of the following questions:

Do you get on well with your parents? Do you think they understand you? What do they mean to you?

2. Write the following 14 verbs on the board (do not write the numbers, these are the Key to the next exercise):

- Be 8
- Become 11
- Care 7
- Find 14
- Give 9
- Hold 10
- Know 6
- Like 4
- Miss 13
- Notice 5
- Say 1
- See 3
- Spend 2
- Think 12

Ask students to make a sentence using each verb in any form or tense (the activity can be oral and/or written according to the specific needs of the class).

3. Feedback, then play the song. Students listen for the verbs, numbering them in the order they hear them (if they appear more than once, refer to the first time).

4. Give each student a copy of the worksheet and ask them to fill in the gaps with the missing verbs according to their answers to activity 3 and context. They may have to change the form. Do not play the song at this stage.

5. Play the song again. Students check their answers in pairs or in groups. They should notice that some of the verb forms in the song are, in fact, incorrect.

6. Play the song again, and ask them to circle the incorrect forms. (Key: these are in Italics in the complete version of the song.) Note that the line "Unhappiness where's when I was young" is incorrect English!

7. Point out the pronunciation, commonly used in spoken English, of "Do you" as "D'you" in some lines.

8. Correct in open class, play the song again and sing together.

**GRAMMAR FOCUS ON PRESENT SIMPLE, PAST SIMPLE, PRESENT PERFECT**

Divide students into groups and ask them to find in the song (some of the possible keys are in bold):

- 3 forms of the verb "to be" in any form or tense: I was, it wasn't, I am
- 3 verbs in present simple, positive form: I say, people think, I miss
- 3 verbs in present simple, question form: do you see, do you like, do you notice
- 1 verb (3rd singular person) in present simple, question form: does anyone care?
- 1 regular verb in past simple, positive form: he liked / I liked
- 1 irregular verb in past simple, positive form: I spent (Note: "she hold" is incorrect but more suitable for the sound; the correct form is "she held")
- 1 verb in past simple, question form: did she hold?
- 2 verbs in past simple, negative form: you did not find me, we didn't give a damn
- 2 verbs in present perfect: I've spent, I've become

The group that finishes first wins.

**Follow up:** The students write a letter or a poem to their parents.

This worksheet is to be used for educational purposes only.

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FURTHER ACTIVITIES

- **Activity types**: Internet search, summarising, reporting historical events, geographical details, biographies and plots, listening, reading passages from books, watching films.

- **Level**: Intermediate/Upper-intermediate

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A) GEOGRAPHY: Tell students that The Cranberries were formed in Limerick in 1989.

- Ask students if they know where Limerick is exactly. They can use a map of Ireland.

  **Key**: south-west of Ireland, County Limerick, Province of Munster

- You can explain that Limerick is the third largest city in the Republic of Ireland, after Dublin and Cork. It is situated on the River Shannon, which spreads into an estuary shortly after Limerick. What do students know about the River Shannon?

  **Key**: It’s the longest river in Ireland and Britain, flowing into the Atlantic Ocean.

- **WEB SEARCH**: Students can search for further information about Limerick, summarise and report their findings. You can suggest websites such as [www.en.wikipedia.org](http://www.en.wikipedia.org) and [www.limerickcity.ie](http://www.limerickcity.ie). The following points can be considered:
  - geography
  - history
  - economy
  - arts

B) LITERATURE: Do students know who Frank McCourt is?

- You can explain he was an Irish writer (1930-2009), based in New York for much of his life. In his famous memoir *Angela’s Ashes* (1996) he tells the story of his childhood in Ireland. In particular, he describes life in Limerick during the 1930s and 1940s.

- **WEB SEARCH**: Students can search for further information about Frank McCourts and the plot of *Angela’s Ashes*, summarise and report it.

- Students can listen to Frank McCourt talking about *Angela’s Ashes* at [www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/specials/133_wbc_archive_new/page4.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/specials/133_wbc_archive_new/page4.shtml)

- You can divide students into groups. Choose some passages from the book and give each group a photocopy of a different passage. Students can read, summarise and report in open class. Passages describing life in Limerick are recommended.

C) MEDIA: You can show students the 1999 film *Angela’s Ashes*, based on Frank McCourt’s memoir, directed by Alan Parker and starring Emma Watson and Robert Carlyle.
Doo, doo, doo, doo, doo, doo, doo, doo …

Understand the things I _____
Don't turn away from me
’Cause I ________ half my life out there
You wouldn't disagree
____ you _____ me? _____ you _____?
____ you _____ me? _____ you _____ me standing there?
____ you _____? _____ you _____?
____ you _____ me? _____ you _____ me?
_____ anyone _____?

Unhappiness where's when I _____ young
And we ________ a damn
’Cause we ________ raised
To see life as fun and take it if we can

My mother, my mother she _____ me
She _____ me, when I _____ out there
My father, my father, he _____ me
Oh, he _____ me, _____ anyone _____?

Understand what I ________
It _____ my design
And people everywhere _____
Something better than I _____
But I _____ you, I _____
’Cause I _____ it, ’cause I _____ it
When I _____ out there
_____ you _____ this? _____ you _____?
You _____ me, you ______
_____ anyone _____?

Unhappiness where's when I _____ young
And we ________ a damn
’Cause we ________ raised
To see life as fun and take it if we can

My mother, my mother she _____ me
She _____ me, when I _____ out there
My father, my father, he _____ me, oh, he _____ me.
_____ anyone _____? (repeat 8 times)

Doo, doo, doo, doo, doo, doo, doo, doo …
Doo, doo, doo, doo, doo, doo, doo, doo …

Understand the things I say
Don’t turn away from me
’Cause I spent half my life out there (I’ve spent)
You wouldn’t disagree
Do you see me? do you see?
Do you like me? Do you like me standing there?
Do you notice? do you know?
Do you see me? do you see me?
Does anyone care?

Unhappiness where’s when I was young (was when I was young)
And we didn’t give a damn
’Cause we were raised
To see life as fun and take it if we can

My mother, my mother she hold me (she held me)
She hold me, when I was out there (she held me)
My father, my father, he like me (he liked me)
Oh, he like me, does anyone care? (he liked me)

Understand what I’ve become
It wasn’t my design
And people everywhere think
Something better than I am
But I miss you, I miss
’Cause I liked it, ‘cause I liked it
When I was out there
Do you know this? Do you know?
You did not find me, you did not find
Does anyone care?

Unhappiness where’s when I was young (was when I was young)
And we didn’t give a damn
’Cause we were raised
To see life as fun and take it if we can

My mother, my mother she hold me (she held me)
She hold me, when I was out there (she held me)
My father, my father, he like me, oh, he like me. (he liked me)

Does anyone care? (repeat 8 times)

Doo, doo, doo, doo, doo, doo, doo, doo …