Please Please Me – The Beatles – Notes

- **Activity types:** Vocabulary (opposites), listening for specific words, gap fill.
- **Level:** Pre-Intermediate
- **Language focus:** Colours used for emotions, Present Simple (all forms); Adverbs of frequency
- **Notes:** This song is the second single released by The Beatles in 1963, and became their first UK Number One on the 22nd February 1963. It is also the title track of their debut album.

1. Explain that colours are often associated with emotions – perhaps you can elicit some? Give each student a copy of the folded worksheet and ask them complete the first activity.
   **Key:**
   - blue – sadness;
   - green – envy;
   - red – anger / embarrassment;
   - yellow - cowardice

2. Ask students to work alone or in pairs to find the opposites in the second activity.
   **Key:** (at this stage any correct opposite is acceptable):
   - never → always
   - happy → blue
   - go → come
   - don’t → do
   - boy → girl
   - first → last
   - easy → hard
   - day → night
   - those → these

3. Play the song. Ask students to listen for the opposites from the previous activity, correcting if necessary, and numbering them in the order they hear them in any form. If they appear more than once, refer to the first time.
   **Key:** 1. last - 2. night - 3. these - 4. girl - 5. never - 6. come - 7. don’t - 8. do - 9. always - 10. hard - 11. blue

4. Tell students to unfold the page and to complete the lyrics based on their answers to the previous activity and context – do not play the song yet.

5. Play the song again. Students check their answers in pairs or in groups.

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

**Grammar Focus**
Students look for examples of the Present Simple in all forms.
**Key:** I know, you ...try, I please, You don’t need, Why do I ...have to...?, I don’t wanna..., you know, there’s, I do, It’s, why do you make...
Point out the use of ‘wanna’ for ‘want to’.

Students look for the adverbs of frequency in the song and note their position in the sentence. Are they before or after the verb?
**Key:**
- You never even try
- Why do I always have to ...?
- There’s always rain

This worksheet is to be used for educational purposes only
Activity © Tune into English 2013 – www.tuneintoenglish.com          Worksheet written by Prof. Mena Bianco, Naples
1. Match the colours to the emotions they are often associated with:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Colour</th>
<th>Emotion</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Blue</td>
<td>anger/embarrassment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green</td>
<td>cowardice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red</td>
<td>envy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yellow</td>
<td>sadness</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Find the opposites of these words:

- never
- happy
- go
- don’t
- boy
- first
- easy
- day
- those

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

I said ______ words to my ______
I know you ______ even try, ______
______ on (______ on)
______ on (______ on)
______ on (______ on)
______ on (______ on)

Please, please me, whoa yeah, like I please you

You ______ need me to show the way, love
Why ______ I ______ have to say “love”?
______ on (______ on)
______ on (______ on)
______ on (______ on)
______ on (______ on)

Please, please me, whoa yeah, like I please you

I ______ wanna sound complaining
But you know there’s ______ rain in my heart (in my heart)
I ______ all the pleasing with you,
It’s so ______ to reason with you
Whoa yeah, why ______ you make me ______?

I said ______ words to my ______
Why do I ______ even try, ______ ?
______ on (______ on)
______ on (______ on)
______ on (______ on)
______ on (______ on)

Please, please me, whoa yeah, like I please you
Whoa yeah, like I please you
Whoa yeah, like I please you
**Please Please Me – The Beatles - Complete**

Last night I said **these** words to my **girl**
I know you **never** even try, **girl**
**Come** on (**come** on)
**Come** on (**come** on)
**Come** on (**come** on)
**Come** on (**come** on)
Please, please me, whoa yeah, like I please you

You **don't** need me to show the way, love
Why **do I always** have to say “love”?
**Come** on (**come** on)
**Come** on (**come** on)
**Come** on (**come** on)
**Come** on (**come** on)
Please, please me, whoa yeah, like I please you

I **don't** wanna sound complaining
But you know there's **always** rain in my heart (in my heart)
I **do** all the pleasing with you,
It's so **hard** to reason with you
Whoa yeah, why **do you** make me **blue**?

Last night I said **these** words to my **girl**
Why do I **never** even try, **girl**?
**Come** on (**come** on)
**Come** on (**come** on)
**Come** on (**come** on)
**Come** on (**come** on)
Please, please me, whoa yeah, like I please you
Whoa yeah, like I please you
Whoa yeah, like I please you