Somebody To Love – Queen – Notes

- **Activity types**: gap fill, non standard English.
- **Grammar**: indefinite pronouns.
- **Note**: This was the first single off the 1976 album *A Day at the Races*, a song about faith, desperation and soul-searching; the singer questions both the lack of love experienced in his life, and the role and existence of God.

1) Elicit some indefinite pronouns from students (e.g. everybody / anybody / somebody / all / each / every / some / none / one). You can explain that indefinite pronouns do not substitute specific nouns but function themselves as nouns (*Everyone* is wondering if *any* is left.)

2) Give each student a copy of the worksheet, and ask them to complete the table (ex. A).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>POSITIVE</th>
<th>NEGATIVE</th>
<th>INTERROGATIVE</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PEOPLE</td>
<td>someone / somebody</td>
<td>no one / nobody / none</td>
<td>anyone / anybody</td>
<td>everyone / everybody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THINGS</td>
<td>something</td>
<td>nothing</td>
<td>anything</td>
<td>everything</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLACES</td>
<td>somewhere (some place)</td>
<td>nowhere (no place)</td>
<td>anywhere (any place)</td>
<td>everywhere (every place)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TIME</td>
<td>sometime / some day</td>
<td>never (no time)</td>
<td>anytime / any day</td>
<td>everytime / everyday</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3) Feedback, then ask them to complete exercise B.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. somewhere</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. no one / nobody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. anything</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. anything</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. someone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. sometime</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. everywhere</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. someone / somebody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. everybody / everyone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. no time</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4) Ask students to look at exercise 3 and give them one minute to write as many words as they can.

5) Look at the lyrics, and ask students to work in pairs to complete the gaps – do not play the song yet, as they should be able to complete some of this from context.

6) Play the song, students correct and complete the lyrics.

7) Point out that the words and phrases in **bold** are examples of non-standard colloquial English, reflecting how people really speak. Ask students to rewrite these in standard English. Note that the **Key** for this activity is on the final page of this worksheet.

8) Correct and sing together.
A. Indefinite Pronouns: complete the table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>POSITIVE</th>
<th>NEGATIVE</th>
<th>INTERROGATIVE</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PEOPLE</td>
<td>someone/somebody</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THINGS</td>
<td>nothing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLACES</td>
<td>anywhere</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TIME</td>
<td>everytime/everyday</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

B. Complete the sentences with words from the table.

1. I want to go ___________ peaceful and quiet on holiday.
2. There’s ___________ here. The house is empty.
3. See if you can find ___________ to eat. I’m hungry!
4. Have you done ___________ interesting today?
5. If you don’t know where the post office is, ask ___________.
6. You can visit us ___________ We’re always at home.
7. I can’t find my mobile. I’ve looked ___________!
8. Your mobile? Perhaps ___________ has stolen it.
9. It’s not fair! ___________ has got a computer except me!
10. The proverb “There’s ___________ like the present” means you shouldn’t leave until tomorrow the things you can do today.

C. Look at the following – how many can you write in one minute?

1. something blue
2. someone who works in an office
3. somewhere to go if you’re hungry
4. an insect you find everywhere
5. something everybody in your family hates
6. somebody everyone loves
7. somewhere nobody in your class has been
8. somewhere everyone in your class class has been today
9. someone famous for going somewhere
10. somewhere everyone in your class would like to go
11. somebody in your class who looks like someone famous
12. something everyone uses everyday

D. Complete the lyrics with indefinite pronouns.

Can _______ find me _______ to love?
(He works hard)
________, I try and I try and I try
But _______ wants to put me down
They say I'm goin' crazy
They say I got a lot of water in my brain
I got _______ left to believe
Yeah yeah yeah yeah

Oh Lord _______ _______
Can _______ find me _______ to love?

I work hard (he works hard)
________ of my life
I work till I ache in my bones
(He works hard)
Can _______ find me _______ to love?

Find me _______ to love
Can _______ find me _______ to love?

This worksheet is to be used for educational purposes only
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Worksheet written by Mike Kearns, Barcelona, Spain
Somebody To Love – Queen – Complete
(with standard English)

Can anybody find me somebody to love?
Each morning I get up I die a little
I can barely stand on my feet
(Take a look at yourself)
I take a look in the mirror and cry
Lord what you’re doing to me
I have spent all my years in believing you
But I just can’t get any relief, Lord!
Somebody, (somebody) somebody (somebody)
Can anybody find me somebody to love?

I work hard (he works hard) every day of my life
I work till my bones ache
At the end (at the end of the day)
I take home my hard earned pay all on my own
I get down on my knees
And I start to pray (praise the Lord)
Till the tears run down from my eyes
Lord, somebody (somebody) somebody (somebody)
Can anybody find me somebody to love?

(He works hard)
Every day (every day) I try and I try and I try
But everybody wants to put me down
They say I’m going crazy
They say I’ve got a lot of water in my brain
I’ve got no common sense
I’ve got nobody left to believe
Yeah - yeah yeah yeah

Oh Lord
Somebody, (somebody) somebody (somebody)
Can anybody find me somebody to love?

I’ve got no feel, I’ve got no rhythm
I just keep losing my beat
I’m OK, I’m all right (he’s all right)
I’m not going to face any defeat
I’ve just got to get out of this prison cell
Some day I’m going to be free, Lord!

Find me somebody to love
Can anybody find me somebody to love?