



All Of Me – John Legend – Notes



- **Activity types:** Listening for specific words, gap fill
- **Level:** Elementary (with final Intermediate/Upper-Intermediate activity)
- **Language focus:** Present Participle *-ing* form, different uses of *-ing* form
- **Notes:** This is a song by the American singer-songwriter John Legend from his fourth studio album *Love in the Future* (2013). The album was nominated for Best R&B album at the 2014 Grammy Awards and the single "All Of Me" became a huge success peaking at #1 on both the iTunes charts and Billboard Hot 100, remaining on the charts for over a year. The song is a ballad dedicated to his wife and was performed at the 56th Annual Grammy Awards. (based on Wikipedia)

1. Elicit a list of verbs from students, and ask them how to form the present participle (*-ing* form). Ensure the list also includes irregular spellings (e.g. **write – writing, run – running, lie – lying**)

2. **Activity 1.** Ask students to write the *-ing* form of the verbs.

KEY: beating – beginning – breathing – crying – drawing – going – kicking – kidding – ringing – risking – showing – singing – spinning – winning

3. Play the song. Ask students to listen for the verbs from the previous activity and numbering them in the order they hear them.

KEY: 1. drawing - 2. kicking - 3. spinning - 4. kidding - 5. going - 6. breathing - 7. beginning – 8. winning – 9. crying – 10. beating – 11. singing – 12. ringing – 13. showing – 14. risking

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

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 [Intermediate and higher students] - Point out that, in the song, the *-ing* form is used:

1. in the continuous forms of tenses: present continuous, present perfect continuous, future continuous, future perfect continuous and past perfect continuous.
2. as a noun (gerund) – this can be used when it is the subject of a sentence, e.g. Smoking is bad for you. Cooking with friends is fun. Playing computer games for more than 3 hours a day can affect your eyes etc.
3. after some expressions such as *it's no use, can't help, what about, how about...?*
4. in a subordinate clause when the subject is the same as the main clause such as *I listen to music before going to bed (= before I go to bed)*

Ask students to find examples in the song.

Key: 1. I'm winning, I'm breathing, etc. 2. my beginning, no kidding 3. I can't stop singing, 4. you've got my head spinning



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Activity 1. Write the *-ing* form of the following verbs:

- | | | | |
|-----------|-------|--------|-------|
| • beat | _____ | • kid | _____ |
| • begin | _____ | • ring | _____ |
| • breathe | _____ | • risk | _____ |
| • cry | _____ | • show | _____ |
| • draw | _____ | • sing | _____ |
| • go | _____ | • spin | _____ |
| • kick | _____ | • win | _____ |

FOLD

Activity 2. Complete the song with the verbs from Activity

What would I do without your smart mouth?
 _____ me in, and you _____ me out
 You've got my head _____, no _____, I can't pin you down
 What's _____ on in that beautiful mind
 I'm on your magical mystery ride
 And I'm so dizzy, don't know what hit me, but I'll be alright

My head's under water
 But I'm _____ fine
 You're crazy and I'm out of my mind

Chorus:

**'Cause all of me
 Loves all of you
 Love your curves and all your edges
 All your perfect imperfections
 Give your all to me
 I'll give my all to you
 You're my end and my _____
 Even when I lose I'm _____
 'Cause I give you all of me
 And you give me all of you, oh oh**



How many times do I have to tell you?
 Even when you're _____ you're beautiful too
 The world is _____ you down, I'm around through every mood
 You're my downfall, you're my muse
 My worst distraction, my rhythm and blues
 I can't stop _____, it's _____, in my head for you

My head's under water
 But I'm _____ fine
 You're crazy and I'm out of my mind

Repeat chorus

Give me all of you
 Cards on the table, we're both _____ hearts
 _____ it all, though it's hard

Repeat chorus

I give you all of me
 And you give me all of you, ohoh



All Of Me – John Legend – Complete



What would I do without your smart mouth?
Drawing me in, and you *kicking* me out
You've got my head *spinning*, no *kidding*, I can't pin you down
What's *going* on in that beautiful mind
I'm on your magical mystery ride
And I'm so dizzy, don't know what hit me, but I'll be alright

My head's under water
But I'm *breathing* fine
You're crazy and I'm out of my mind

Chorus:

**'Cause all of me
Loves all of you
Love your curves and all your edges
All your perfect imperfections
Give your all to me
I'll give my all to you
You're my end and my *beginning*
Even when I lose I'm *winning*
'Cause I give you all of me
And you give me all of you, oh oh**

How many times do I have to tell you?
Even when you're *crying* you're beautiful too
The world is *beating* you down, I'm around through every mood
You're my downfall, you're my muse
My worst distraction, my rhythm and blues
I can't stop *singing*, it's *ringing*, in my head for you

My head's under water
But I'm *breathing* fine
You're crazy and I'm out of my mind

Repeat chorus

Give me all of you
Cards on the table, we're both *showing* hearts
Risking it all, though it's hard

Repeat chorus

I give you all of me
And you give me all of you, ohoh