



Brighton In The Rain – Robert Campbell – Notes



- **Activity type:** gap fill, questions, conversation.
- **Grammar:** Present Perfect, never, always
- **Note:** This song was written for the Upper-Intermediate level of the 1992 Cambridge English Course (CUP), by Swan and Walter. Written by Robert Campbell and Jonathan Dykes, it is considered one of the better examples of a song specially written for ELT. You can hear a gapped sing-along version on the singer's website (<http://www.robertcampbell.info/brighton-in-the-rain>) and there is a lyric video on www.tuneintoenglish.com.
- The author of this worksheet (and lyric video) has an excellent youtube channel with the aim of allowing teachers to drill basic grammar in interesting and realistic ways. You can see this at <http://www.youtube.com/user/InteractiveGrammar>

- 1) Check that the students know where Brighton is. Ask them to find it on a map.
- 2) Check that the students know the words "foreign" and "abroad".
- 3) Explain to the students that they are going to listen to a song about a man who has never been abroad. He spends every summer in Brighton in the rain. And he dreams of travelling abroad, of meeting foreign people, of eating foreign food, etc.
- 4) Play the song.
- 5) You might want to write this on the board (probably the most difficult sentences in the song):
I've never *had* to find my way in a country I don't know
I've always *known* just where I am and where I'll never go
- 6) Give each student a copy of the worksheet and ask them to do exercise 1 (they might need a dictionary or list of irregular verbs).
- 7) Play the song again and get students to check their work.
- 8) Ask a few individual students around the class "Tell me one thing you have in common with this man". (For example, "I've never been to Athens".)
- 9) a) Ask a few individual students around the class "Tell me a difference between you and this man. (For example "I have been to Athens".)
b) Ask follow-up questions (or get students to ask follow-up questions) using the Past Simple. For example: Where... ?, When... ?, Who... with?, Did you like it? etc.
- 10) Get the students to ask each other "Have you ever... ?" questions based on the song.
- 11) Play the song a final time, students sing along. (See notes above for link to gapped version).



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be (7)	drink	drive	eat	have
hear	kiss	know	learn	read
sail	see	spend	study	watch

1. Complete the song using the *Past Participle* of the verbs above.
2. Listen and check your answers.

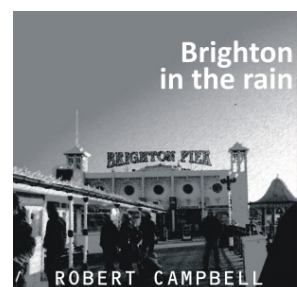
I've never _____ to Athens and I've never _____ to Rome
 I've only _____ the pyramids in picture books at home
 I've never _____ across the sea or _____ inside a plane
 I've always _____ my holidays in Brighton in the rain

I've never _____ foreign food or _____ in a foreign bar
 I've never _____ a foreign girl or _____ a foreign car
 I've never _____ to find my way in a country I don't know
 I've always _____ just where I am and where I'll never go

I've _____ travel books by writers who have _____ to Pakistan
 I've _____ people telling stories of adventures in Iran
 I've _____ TV documentaries about China and Brazil
 But I've never _____ abroad myself, it's making me feel ill

I've _____ several languages like Hindi and Malay
 I've _____ lots of useful sentences I've never _____ able to say
 The furthest place I've ever _____ was to the Isle of Man
 And that was full of tourists from Jamaica and Japan

3. Tell the class one thing you have in common with this man.
4. Tell the class a difference between you and this man.
5. Ask another student a question to see if his/her experience is the same or different to this man's experience.





Brighton In The Rain – Robert Campbell – Complete



I've never been to Athens and I've never been to Rome,
I've only seen the Pyramids in picture books at home,
I've never sailed across the sea or been inside a plane,
I've always spent my holidays in Brighton in the rain.

I've never eaten foreign food or drunk in a foreign bar,
I've never kissed a foreign girl or driven a foreign car,
I've never had to find my way in a country I don't know,
I've always known just where I am and where I'll never go.

I've read travel books by writers who have been to Pakistan,
I've heard people telling stories of adventures in Iran,
I've watched TV documentaries about China and Brazil,
But I've never been abroad myself; it's making me feel ill.

I've studied several languages like Hindi and Malay,
I've learned lots of useful sentences I've never been able to say,
The furthest place I've ever been was to the Isle of Man
And that was full of tourists from Jamaica and Japan.