



## Calico – Wheels Fargo and the Nightingale - Notes



- **Activity types:** rhyming words, vocabulary, line dancing.
- **Level:** Pre-Intermediate / Intermediate
- **Notes:** Calico is an old mining town in California, which was restored in the 1950's and is now a historical landmark. It was proclaimed California's Silver Rush Ghost Town in 2005 - <http://cms.sbcounty.gov/parks/Parks/CalicoGhostTown.aspx>.  
Wheels Fargo and the Nightingale are an Italian rockabilly band.  
The author of this worksheet dances with the group Mad Boots. You can see a video of them dancing to this song on [www.tuneintoenglish.com](http://www.tuneintoenglish.com).

- 1) Ask students if they know what line dancing is. Discuss.
- 2) Give each student a copy of the folded worksheet and ask them to work in pairs to complete the description.
- 3) Feedback.
 

**Key:**

|           |          |
|-----------|----------|
| 1. are    | 6. leads |
| 2. stands | 7. are   |
| 3. does   | 8. are   |
| 4. face   | 9. come  |
| 5. are    | 10. are  |
- 4) Do they know what the goldrush was? Tell them they are going to listen to a song about that time, when tens of thousands of miners moved to California to dig for gold and silver, in the 1880's.
- 5) Before listening, ask them to match the rhymes. Ask them also the following questions:
  - a) Is the song about the north, south, east or west? (west)
  - b) What is Calico? (a town)
  - c) Which year is mentioned in the song? (1881)
- 6) Ask students to unfold the worksheet and to complete the gaps with the words from the previous activity. They should be able to do this without listening again, based on context and their previous listening.
 

**Key:** See complete lyrics.
- 7) Feedback, then sing the song together.

### Complete lyrics:

Calico, you are my beautiful far ghost town  
My boots are missing the crackling **sound**  
Of your western **ground**

Calico, I feel like living the old frontier  
Go back in time and you are oh-so near  
It's completely real

#### **Chorus:**

You will see by the old **saloon**  
Miners shining at the **moon**  
There's a town in the **west** where the ghosts  
can **rest**  
It's my long gone Calico

Calico, the school on Monday on Sunday church  
You are my dream, you're the end of **search**  
Like wild eagles **perch**

Calico, the giant stone letters spell your name  
Calico mountains are still the **same**  
Like in an old **frame**

#### **Repeat chorus**

Long gone Calico  
Eighteen eighty one  
You're old west come true  
Let me through

Calico, like Kenny Rogers I sing of **you**  
Your patchwork hills celebrate my view  
Calico I love you **too**



# Calico – Wheels Fargo and the Nightingale



Complete the text about line dancing with the correct form of the verb.

to be - to lead - to face - to do - to stand - to come

Line dances 1\_\_\_\_\_ dances where everyone 2\_\_\_\_\_ in one or more lines, and 3\_\_\_\_\_ the same steps at the same time. Sometimes all the dancers 4\_\_\_\_\_ the same direction. Sometimes there 5\_\_\_\_\_ two lines of dancers facing each other. Sometimes a leader 6\_\_\_\_\_ the whole line of dancers around the dance floor! Some folk dances 7\_\_\_\_\_ line dances. There 8\_\_\_\_\_ also line dances that are not folk dances. They 9\_\_\_\_\_ from a certain time period (like the Charleston or the cha cha), or 10\_\_\_\_\_ connected to a certain song or type of music (like country western line dances).



Match the rhyming words, then listen to the song and number them in the order they appear.

saloon  
sound  
too


west  
ground  
perch

moon  
search  
same


rest  
frame  
you

FOLD

Look at the pictures in the song. Can you guess what they are? Listen and check.


Calico, you are my beautiful far 1  town



My 2  are missing the crackling \_\_\_\_\_  
Of your western \_\_\_\_\_

Calico, I feel like living the old frontier





Go back in 3  and you are oh-so near  
It's completely real

### Chorus:

You will see by the old \_\_\_\_\_



4  shining at the \_\_\_\_\_  
There's a town in the **west** where the ghosts  
can \_\_\_\_\_  
It's my long gone Calico


Calico, the 5  on Monday on Sunday church  
You are my dream, you're the end of \_\_\_\_\_



Like wild 6 \_\_\_\_\_

Calico, the giant stone letters spell your name



Calico 7  are still the \_\_\_\_\_  
Like in an old \_\_\_\_\_

### Repeat chorus

Long gone Calico  
Eighteen eighty one  
You're old west come true  
Let me through

Calico, like Kenny Rogers I sing of \_\_\_\_\_  
Your patchwork hills celebrate my view



Calico I 8  you \_\_\_\_\_