

LEARN ENGLISH WITH MUSIC

Flowers

Miley Cyrus

COMPLETE LEARNING WORKBOOK

Go beyond the song

Self-reliance, reflexive pronouns and precise language for recovery after a relationship.

20 verified learning cards / Level B1 / guided practice

SECTION 00

Your learning journey

Watch first, explore second, practise from memory and finish with the complete card library.

1 WATCH	Follow the official lyric video and synced cards.
2 EXPLORE	Study language, extended vocabulary, culture and sound.
3 PRACTISE	Complete the guided challenges without looking back.
4 REVIEW	Use the final 20-card library by category.

Three sources of value

Song language gives you patterns to reuse. **Extended vocabulary** helps you discuss the themes and music. **Context** helps you understand cultural references and form your own interpretation.

Official lyrics

[Open the official lyric video](#)

Listen, read and return to the workbook whenever you want to explore a language point in greater depth.

SECTION 01

Map the song

Track how grammar shifts agency back to the speaker through reflexive pronouns and active verbs.

STAGE	LEARNING LENS
Past relationship	Value and destruction coexist
Turning point	Memory interrupts grief
Chorus	Former couple activities become self-care
Return	Comparison confirms independence

Listening challenge

For each stage, write one word for the sound and one for the speaker's emotional position. Then explain which language choice helped create that impression.

SECTION 02

Language Lab

Move beyond the quick cards: compare structures, notice register and learn how to avoid common mistakes.

LANGUAGE POINT	GO DEEPER	USE IT WELL
good vs well	Good is usually an adjective; well is commonly an adverb or an adjective for health.	A good relationship; we handled it well.
passive voice	Be plus past participle foregrounds the affected thing rather than the agent.	The house was sold; the dream cannot be sold.
want to	Want takes a to-infinitive, while did carries past tense in negatives.	She didn't want to leave.
remember patterns	Remember doing recalls a memory; remember to do means not forget a duty.	I remember calling; remember to call.
double objects	Buy can take person plus thing or thing plus for plus person.	Buy me flowers; buy flowers for me.
reflexive pronouns	They refer back to the subject and cannot replace ordinary object pronouns freely.	I taught myself; she called me.
take someone dancing	This construction presents dancing as an activity; to a dance names an event.	They took us dancing after dinner.
remorse and regret	Remorse implies guilt; regret may concern any disappointing choice or outcome.	He regretted leaving but felt no remorse.

SECTION 03

Extended vocabulary: go beyond the lyrics

This bonus language expands what you can say about the narrative, emotion, performance and production.

bouquet	noun	A bunch of flowers arranged as a gift. <i>He arrived with a huge bouquet of roses for her graduation.</i>
self-esteem	noun	How much you value and respect yourself. <i>Learning a new skill did wonders for her self-esteem.</i>
breakup	noun	The end of a romantic relationship. <i>After the breakup he moved to a new city to start fresh.</i>
to move on	phrasal verb	To accept that something has ended and continue with your life. <i>It took her a year, but she finally moved on.</i>
to treat yourself	expression	To buy or do something special for yourself as a reward. <i>Exams are over - treat yourself to a nice dinner.</i>
independence	noun	The state of not depending on other people. <i>Living abroad taught him real independence.</i>
empowerment	noun	The feeling of gaining confidence and control over your own life. <i>The workshop was all about financial empowerment for young adults.</i>
ashes	noun	What remains after something burns; often used about things that were destroyed. <i>They rebuilt the company from the ashes of the old one.</i>
regret	noun / verb	Sadness about something you did or did not do. <i>My only regret is not travelling more when I was younger.</i>
to forgive	verb	To stop feeling angry with someone who hurt you. <i>She forgave him, but she never forgot.</i>
nostalgia	noun	A bittersweet longing for the past. <i>Hearing that old ringtone filled me with nostalgia.</i>
anthem	noun	A song that becomes the symbol of a feeling, group or movement. <i>That track became the unofficial anthem of the summer.</i>

SECTION 04

Idioms and expressive English

Use these additional expressions to discuss the song's situations and themes in natural English.

to buy yourself flowers	extension	To give yourself the care and attention you would expect from a partner. <i>Nobody remembered her birthday, so she bought herself flowers and booked a spa day.</i>
to take yourself dancing	extension	The pattern take + reflexive pronoun + activity: to do an enjoyable activity alone, by choice. <i>He takes himself to the cinema every Friday and loves it.</i>
to stand on your own two feet	extension	To be independent and support yourself without help. <i>At some point every adult has to stand on their own two feet.</i>
to watch something burn	extension	To see something you built be destroyed, often feeling powerless. <i>Investors watched their savings burn in the crash.</i>
an old flame	extension	A person you loved in the past. <i>She bumped into an old flame at the reunion and it was very awkward.</i>
to burn bridges	extension	To damage a relationship so badly that it cannot be repaired. <i>Don't burn bridges when you quit - you may need that reference.</i>
to start over	extension	To begin again from zero. <i>The fire destroyed the workshop, so they had to start over.</i>

Make the language yours

Complete the exercises later in the workbook to check meaning, structure and register.

SECTION 05

Pronunciation as performance

A sung voice is not a neutral accent sample. Listen for concrete features, then compare theatrical delivery with everyday speech.

The American flap T	Between vowels, American speakers turn /t/ into a quick, soft D-like tap. Words like 'started', 'better' or 'water' sound like 'starded', 'bedder', 'wader'. Train your ear to recognise it - it is everywhere in American pop.
The weak 'to'	In natural speech 'to' almost always weakens to a soft 'tuh'. Pronouncing every 'to' with a full vowel is a classic learner giveaway; let the small words shrink.
wanna / didn't wanna	'Want to' fuses into 'wanna' in casual American English. You will hear it constantly in songs; in formal writing, always keep 'want to'.
Consonant-to-vowel linking	American singers glue a final consonant to the next vowel: 'built a' becomes 'buil-ta'. Linking is why native speech feels faster than it really is.

Three-pass shadowing

1. Tap only the stressed beats.
2. Reproduce the phrase slowly and clearly.
3. Contrast a natural spoken version with the musical performance.

SECTION 06

Context and creative choices

Discover the cultural and creative decisions that shaped the song, then listen again with this context in mind.

Released on 12 January 2023 as the lead single from her eighth album *Endless Summer Vacation*, *Flowers* turned into the biggest hit of Miley Cyrus' career almost overnight. It debuted at number one on the *Billboard* Hot 100 and stayed there for eight weeks, topping charts in dozens of countries at the same time.

The streaming numbers were historic. *Flowers* became the fastest song ever to reach one billion streams on Spotify - just 112 days - and broke the platform's one-week streaming record twice in its first month. By December, Spotify had crowned it the most-streamed song of 2023.

The industry recognition arrived a year later: at the 2024 Grammy Awards, *Flowers* won Record of the Year and Best Pop Solo Performance - remarkably, the first Grammy wins of Cyrus' two-decade career.

Part of the song's fascination is the conversation fans heard inside it. Many listeners read it as an 'answer song' that flips the romantic promises of Bruno Mars' 2012 ballad *When I Was Your Man* into acts of self-care - where one song regrets not buying flowers, the other buys them for herself. Cyrus never confirmed every theory, but the self-love reading placed *Flowers* in a long pop tradition of independence anthems, from Gloria Gaynor's *I Will Survive* onwards.

For English learners, it is a gift: clear American diction, mid-tempo delivery, and everyday vocabulary about relationships, resilience and treating yourself well.

SECTION 07

Practice zone

Complete every activity without looking back, then use the answer key to correct your work independently.

A. Complete

1. She speaks English _____. (good/well)
2. I bought _____ flowers. (myself/me)
3. Remember _____ the door. (to lock/locking)
4. The house was _____. (sell/sold)

B. Choose

5. Past memory: remember meeting/remember to meet.
6. Deep guilt: remorse/regret.
7. Correct: buy flowers to me/buy me flowers.
8. Correct: I taught myself/I taught me.

C. Correct

9. She didn't wanted to leave.
10. I can love me better.
11. They took us to dancing.
12. The car cannot sold.

SECTION 08

Answer key

Check each answer and return to the Language Lab when a form or distinction is still unclear.

1. 1. well
2. 2. myself
3. 3. to lock
4. 4. sold
5. 5. remember meeting
6. 6. remorse
7. 7. buy me flowers
8. 8. I taught myself
9. 9. She didn't want to leave
10. 10. I can love myself better
11. 11. They took us dancing
12. 12. The car cannot be sold

Review again

Cover the answers and repeat the activities after a few days. A delayed second attempt is a better test of learning than immediate rereading.

SECTION 09

Complete 20-card library

Use this compact summary for quick revision or return to the video cue when you want to hear a point again.

Vocabulary / 4 cards

VOCABULARY / VIDEO 1:00

Take someone dancing

Take someone dancing means accompany them to dance as an activity. Compare take someone to a dance, which names an event or place.

VOCABULARY / VIDEO 1:24

Cherry-red compounds

Colour compounds such as cherry-red and sky-blue use a familiar object to specify a shade. They are normally hyphenated before a noun.

VOCABULARY / VIDEO 1:30

Remorse, regret and forgiveness

Remorse is deep guilt for wrongdoing; regret is sadness about an outcome; forgive means stop holding the offence against someone.

VOCABULARY / VIDEO 2:48

Forgive does not require forgetting

The later narrative distinguishes releasing resentment from erasing memory. Forgive takes a person or action as its object; forget focuses on memory.

Grammar / 11 cards

GRAMMAR / VIDEO 0:08

Be good vs do well

Be good describes a state or quality; do well describes successful performance. We were good evaluates the relationship, not an action.

GRAMMAR / VIDEO 0:16

Cannot be sold: passive voice

Be + past participle forms the passive. The focus is the thing that cannot be sold, while the seller is irrelevant or unstated.

GRAMMAR / VIDEO 0:22

Built and watched: past narrative

Coordinated past-simple verbs move the story forward. Build a home is constructive; watch it burn creates a deliberate emotional contrast.

GRAMMAR / VIDEO 0:28

Didn't want to + verb

Want is followed by a to-infinitive: did not want to leave. The past auxiliary did carries the tense, so want remains in the base form.

GRAMMAR / VIDEO 0:40

Remember + clause

Remember can take a noun, an -ing form for memories, or a clause. Here remembering triggers a change in the speaker's response.

GRAMMAR / VIDEO 0:44

Buy someone something

Buy can take two objects: buy myself flowers. The alternative is buy flowers for myself, not buy flowers to myself.

GRAMMAR / VIDEO 0:48

Write in the sand

Use in when marks or words are formed within a material such as sand. Write on the sand usually treats the surface more literally.

GRAMMAR / VIDEO 0:52

Talk to myself

A reflexive pronoun refers back to the subject: I talk to myself. Talk by myself would mean talk while alone, a different idea.

GRAMMAR / VIDEO 0:58

Things you don't understand

The defining clause identifies which things. The object relative pronoun that is optional: things (that) you do not understand.

GRAMMAR / VIDEO 1:08

Better than: comparative form

Better is the irregular comparative of good or well and is followed by than when the comparison is stated.

GRAMMAR / VIDEO 2:00

Reflexive pronouns keep agency with the speaker

In the returning chorus, each reflexive form points back to the subject. The grammar repeatedly makes the speaker both the person acting and the person receiving care.

Idioms / 1 cards

IDIOM / VIDEO 1:06

Hold my own hand

The line adapts the physical image of holding someone's hand into self-support. It is creative wordplay, not a fixed everyday idiom.

Culture / 2 cards

CULTURE / VIDEO 0:10

Gold as value imagery

Gold commonly symbolises value, success or something precious. The next contrast shows that something valuable can still end.

CULTURE / VIDEO 3:14

The final refrain completes the self-reliance arc

The closing repetition no longer sounds like a new discovery. It functions as confirmation that the activities once associated with a partner can be performed independently.

Pronunciation / 2 cards

PHONETICS / VIDEO 0:12

Kinda: recognise, do not overuse

Kinda represents kind of in informal speech. It softens a description, but standard writing normally keeps the full form.

PHONETICS / VIDEO 2:25

Comparative stress in better than

Listen for the stronger stress on better and the reduced pronunciation of than. Function words are often weaker than the comparison's key adjective.

Keep learning

[Return to the synched learning experience.](#)