

How Alanis is

Introduction

- **Level:** B2
- **Skills:** Listening
- **Topics:** Grammar
- **Merging subjects:** Music education

The enigma

- **Keywords**

adjectives describing people

- **Toolbox**

handouts, speakers

- **Description of the enigma**

The song can be found here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CUjIY_XxF1g

One of the students or a fellow teacher can be the non-player. They will tell the students that they are going to listen to a song by Alanis Morissette – Hand in my pocket. In order to add suspense, the teacher could hide the pieces of information around the room for the students to find. To provide some introduction, the non-player can tell the students a few things about the singer:

Alanis Morissette is a Canadian-American singer, songwriter, musician, and actress. Morissette was born June 1, 1974 at Riverside Hospital in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada to teacher Georgia Mary Ann and high-school principal and French teacher Alan Richard Morissette. She has two brothers: older brother Chad is a business entrepreneur, and twin brother (12 minutes older) Wade is a musician. Her father is of French and Irish descent and her mother has Hungarian and Jewish ancestry. Her parents were teachers in a military school and due to their work often had to move. Between the ages of three and six she lived with her parents in Lahr (Black Forest), Germany.



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They must listen carefully, and they must write down all the adjectives they hear. The teacher decides how many times the song should be played. The number of the adjectives will be the code they need to solve the enigma. As a follow up, the adjectives could be discussed and explained if necessary.

Hints

If the students find it difficult to find the adjectives, the teacher can provide the gapped lyrics and the students would have to write the adjectives on the dotted lines.

Solution

1. Broke
2. Happy
3. Poor
4. Kind
5. Short
6. Healthy
7. High
8. Grounded
9. Sane

10. Overwhelmed
11. Lost
12. Hopeful
13. Sober
14. Young
15. Underpaid
16. Tired
17. Restless
18. Free

19. Focused
20. Green
21. Wise
22. Hard
23. Friendly
24. Sad
25. Brave
26. Pretty

The enigma code is: 26

More information

Possible restrictions

Students with Dysgraphia may encounter some problems.

References

✓ <https://blog.abaenglish.com/learn-adjectives-through-a-song-by-alanis-morissette/> - accessed on 1st of July, 2021

