

I SING AND I PRAY

for adult and teen learners



We Sing and We...

This exercise is designed to help a group of adult learners process a short text (poem or prayer) in a communal way. While the exercise builds on themes in "I Sing and I Pray," it is not necessary to have listened to the episode to engage in the activity.

1. Choose a text that can invite discussion and/or one that you are already studying.
2. Next, discuss the text to explore meaning, context, details, and themes.
3. Ask each learner to choose a song that they enjoy which, specifically, has lyrics that they like. The song's lyrics could be directly related to the ideas in the poem/prayer or they could be completely unrelated.
4. Then have the learners choose between five and ten lines from the poem/prayer. This can be a random choice or it can be based on interest.
5. Ask them to choose the same number of lines of lyrics from their selected song.
6. Allow up to fifteen minutes for the learners to put all of the selected lines from both the prayer/poem and the song lyrics together to form a new text.
7. Invite the learners to share their new texts with each other, reading them aloud.
8. Give the learners a few minutes to re-read the text to themselves and to write down any sentiments, feelings, or reflections they experience in connection with what they are reading. They should be encouraged to write these down as phrases or full sentences.
9. Now, divide the room into trios (if numbers don't allow for this fully, it is fine to have a group of four in the mix).
10. Ask each group to collaborate on creating a new text (poem or prayer) that incorporates:
 - a) At least three lines from the original poem/prayer
 - b) At least one line from each of the songs they have chosen
 - c) At least two lines or phrases from each of their personal reflections

This will likely take between 15 and 25 minutes.

11. Invite the groups to share their creations with each other.