

On Bended Knee by Boyz II Men



Section A: Warm Up

In small groups, answer the following questions.

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- In your culture, what do people do when they apologize to someone?
- When you make a mistake, how do you try to 'make up for it'?
- When things change, can things ever go back to being the way they were?
- Are there some things that can never be forgiven?

Section B: Vocabulary Recognition

Think about the following words. Discuss with your partner what you understand about them.

lose our way / drivin' me insane / come back to me / So many nights I dream of you / face reality / It seems like eternity / swallow my pride / I don't believe our love's terminal

Section C: Bring me up to Speed

Use the words in the box to complete this paragraph. The first one has been done

originally recruited various arose opposed compilation
success founded

The group, (1) originally known as Unique Attraction, was (2) _____ in 1986 at the Philadelphia High School for Creative and Performing Arts (CAPA) in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. There, friends Nathan Morris and Marc Nelson had put together several (3) _____ R&B singing groups, all of which fell through. Eventually, they (4) _____ tenors Wanya Morris and Shawn Stockman and bass Michael McCary. Riding high on the (5) _____ of the most successful act ever on the label, Motown issued The Remix Collection, a (6) _____ of remixes of various Boyz II Men songs. The group itself had (7) _____ the release of the collection, and as a result friction (8) _____ between the label and the group. Boyz II Men set up their record label Stonecreek to be distributed by Epic Records, not Motown. As a result, tensions were high when it came time to release the next Boyz II Men album.

Section D: Cloze Listening

Listen to the song and fill in the missing words

Darlin' I can't (1) _____
Where did we lose our way
Girl it's (2) _____ me insane
And I know I just need one more
chance
To (3) _____ my love to you
If you come back to me
I'll (4) _____
That I'll never let you go

Can we go back to the days our love
was (5) _____
Can you tell me how a perfect love
goes (6) _____
Can somebody tell me how to get
things (7) _____
The way they use to be
Oh God give me a (8) _____
I'm down on bended knee
I'll never walk again until you come
back to me
I'm (9) _____ on bended
knee

So many nights I (10) _____
of you
Holding my pillow tight
I know I don't need to be alone
When I open up my eyes
To face (11) _____
Every moment without you
It seems like eternity
I'm begging you, (12) _____
you come back to me
Can we go back to the days our love
was strong
Can you tell me how a
(13) _____ love goes wrong
Can somebody tell me how to get
things back
The way they use to be
Oh God give me a
(14) _____

I'm down on bended knee
I'll never walk again until you come
back to me
I'm down on (15) _____ knee

Gonna (16) _____ my pride
Say I'm sorry
Stop pointing fingers the blame is on
me

I want a (17) _____ life
And I want it with you
If you feel the same
Don't ever let it go
You gotta believe in the
(18) _____ of love
It can heal all things
We won't hurt any more
No I don't believe our love's
(19) _____
I'm down on my knees begging you
please
Come home

Can we go back to the days our love
was strong
Can you tell me how a perfect
(20) _____ goes wrong
Can somebody tell me how to get
things back
The way they use to be
Oh God give me a
(21) _____
I'm down on bended knee
I'll never walk again until you come
back to me
I'm down on bended knee

Wanna build a new life
Just you and me
Gonna make you my wife
(22) _____ a family

Section E: Questions

In small groups, answer the following questions.

1. What does the title of the song suggest? (On Bended Knee)
2. What do these words mean to you?

Responsibility . Mistake . Blame . Regret

3. Do you agree or disagree with the following quotes?
 - “Your birth is a mistake you'll spend your whole life trying to correct.”
 - “A man's errors are his portals of discovery.”
 - “Experience is the name every one gives to their mistakes.”
 - “Do not brood over your past mistakes and failures as this will only fill your mind with grief, regret and depression. Do not repeat them in the future.”
 - “Success seems to be connected with action. Successful people keep moving. They make mistakes, but they don't quit.”
 - “Anyone who has never made a mistake has never tried anything new.”
 - “Never interrupt your enemy when he is making a mistake.”