

Grade 6 English Language Arts Week of March 1 – March 5

Lesson 3: Young Artists for Haiti

25 years later, in 2010, 57 young Canadian artists recorded a version of “Wavin’ Flag” (originally used as a theme for FIFA World Cup Soccer) to help support relief efforts in Haiti, a country that was devastated by a massive earthquake. Have you heard of Justin Bieber? Drake? Nelly Furtado? Avril Lavigne? Michael Buble? The Canadian Tenors? These are only a few of the artists involved.

This group of young artists gathered around the same time as the 2010 Olympics in Vancouver and the song was recorded in Vancouver. The song was released on March 12, 2010, and by the end of April, it had already raised over one million dollars, with almost 200 000 copies sold on iTunes.

Here are some of the lyrics. Read them out loud to get the gist of the lyrics. While you are reading it, imagine you are in the aftermath of a massive earthquake in a very poor country. Here are a few vocabulary words that will help you to understand the lyrics:

- carnage - death
- wretched - very sad or unfortunate state

LYRICS:

<i>When I get older</i>	<i>So we strugglin'</i>
<i>I will be stronger</i>	<i>Fighting to eat</i>
<i>They'll call me</i>	<i>And we wonderin'</i>
<i>freedom</i>	<i>If we'll be free</i>
<i>Just like a wavin flag</i>	<i>We cannot wait for</i>
	<i>some faithful day</i>
<i>Out of the darkness</i>	<i>it's too far away so</i>
<i>in came the carnage</i>	<i>right now I'll say</i>
<i>threatening my very</i>	<i>When I get older</i>
<i>survival</i>	<i>I will be stronger</i>
<i>Fractured my streets</i>	<i>They'll call me</i>
<i>and broke all my</i>	<i>freedom</i>
<i>dreams</i>	<i>Just like a waving</i>
<i>now feels like defeat</i>	<i>flag</i>
<i>to wretched retreat</i>	

Where is Haiti? Haiti is part of an island that is between North and South America. It is south of Florida in the United States and it is east of Mexico.

Listen to the song. When you watch the video, please do not go to the donations link given at the end. The link is from 2010. Are you a Justin Bieber fan? The boy in the purple shirt near the end of the song is a younger Justin Bieber. If you listen to pop music, you may have heard of this famous Canadian singer and songwriter.

Think:

- **What is the theme of the song?**
- **What is the mood of the song?**



Young Artists for Haiti – Wavin’ Flag: <https://youtu.be/nB7L1BIDELc>

Complete the following activity.

Young Artists for Haiti – Wavin’ Flag

1. What is the theme of the song? (Remember, this is the critical message the author is trying to get you to understand.)

2. What is the mood of the song? (Describe the mood in one or two sentences.)
Why do you think this is the mood?