

JOHN LENNON, ONE OF THE MOST INFLUENTIAL ARTISTS OF ALL TIMES ALL OVER THE WORLD

▶ **Axe : langages artistiques**

Niveau A2 / A2+

- ▶
- ▶ **Problématique : La musique engagée a-t-elle le pouvoir de changer le monde ?**
- ▶
- ▶ John Lennon est sans doute l'un des artistes les plus influents dans le monde. Peut-on attribuer cette influence à son œuvre uniquement ?

1. DISCOVER THE THEME OF OUR SEQUENCE

Who is this man? Have a guess...
say what you know or ask questions

....

(carte mentale au tableau)



2. WHO WAS JOHN LENNON ?

- ▶ About John LENNON:
- ▶ <https://johnlennonpeace.weebly.com/index.html>
- ▶ Summary in class :

- ▶ J. Lennon's Biography :
- ▶ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dFODIOTbgVc>
- ▶ Homework : take notes from the video

JOHN LENNON'S BIOGRAPHY

▶ was born in.....



▶ died in



3. JOHN LENNON, AN ARTIST, A SINGER....

Why is he considered as a hero? Answer :



Let's study a protest song : « Imagine » from and by J. Lennon

- ▶ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VOgFZfRVaww>
- ▶ What kind of song is it? Answer :
- ▶ What can be the impact of this kind of protest song on the public opinion. Answer : _____

Imagine there's no heaven
It's easy if you try
No hell below us
Above us only sky
Imagine all the people living for today

Imagine there's no countries
It isn't hard to do
Nothing to kill or die for
And no religion too
Imagine all the people living life in peace...

You may say I'm a dreamer
But I'm not the only one
I hope some day you'll join us
And the world will be as one

Imagine no possessions
I wonder if you can
No need for greed or hunger
A brotherhood of man
Imagine all the people
sharing all the world,

You may say I'm a dreamer
But I'm not the only one
I hope some day you'll join us
And the world will be as one

4. A BIT OF HISTORY : The Cold War Era

taken from : <http://www.american-historama.org/1945-1989-cold-war-era.htm>

This article relates to the dates covered from 1945-1990: Cold War Era and the Space Race. The spread of Communism sparked the Cold War and the country watched as the McCarthy Witch hunts took place. The fight against Communism saw the country become involved in the Korean War, the Vietnam War and the Cuban Missile Crisis. Americans were concerned about the Russians launching Sputnik and the Space race began. NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) was established and America landed the first man on the moon.

The issue of Civil Rights was also dominant with the fight for equal rights for Black Americans and for women. The nation was rocked by the assassination of Malcolm X, Martin Luther King, John F. Kennedy and Robert Kennedy. The leaders of the country who were elected president during the turbulent Cold War Era, and helped to make United States History, were Harry S. Truman, D. D. Eisenhower, John F. Kennedy, Lyndon B. Johnson, Richard Nixon, Gerald Ford, Jimmy Carter and Ronald Reagan.

(Analyse docs 5 et 6 : faire des liens entre le contexte historique et l'engagement de l'artiste.)

Some more History : THE VIETNAM WAR

taken from : <http://www.american-historama.org/1945-1989-cold-war-era/vietnam-war.htm>



Definition and Summary of the Vietnam War

Summary and Definition: The Vietnam War (November 1, 1955 – April 30, 1975) was America's longest war and was fought in Southeast Asia. The twenty year conflict was fought between the Communist government of North Vietnam, who were supported by the Chinese, and the armies of South Vietnam, who were supported by the United States of America. The North Vietnamese sought the reunification of the two countries under Communism. The United States, in line with their policy of Containment during the Cold War, were determined to prevent Communist aggression and provided the South Vietnam government with considerable aid and support. The US finally sent in troops to fight as well and the prolonged Vietnam War escalated in 1965. The Vietnam War resulted in victory for the Communists when American troops were withdrawn in 1973 enabling South Vietnam to be completely taken over by communist forces in 1975.



Vietnam War Presidents

There were four US presidents who served in office during the Vietnam War: Dwight D. Eisenhower, John F. Kennedy, Lyndon B. Johnson and Richard Nixon

[1945-1993: Cold War Era](#)

[US American History](#)

[Vietnam War Timeline](#)

5. Some more protest songs (50 songs)

The greatest songs about debate, protest, struggle and fighting the power: from John Lennon to Green Day, The Clash to The Cranberries.

- ▶ <https://www.radiox.co.uk/features/x-lists/best-protest-songs/>
- ▶ In a few lines, identify the main idea and say whether the song had an impact on the public opinion or not.
- ▶ Le rapporteur du groupe prend la parole devant le groupe classe pour la mise en commun.
- ▶
- ▶ Summary in class :

6. JOHN LENNON, UN ARTISTE ENGAGÉ DANS SA VIE DE TOUS LES JOURS

- ▶ <https://johnlennonpeace.weebly.com/the-john-lennon-peace-movement.html>
- ▶ se demander si ce sont les œuvres des artistes qui ont le pouvoir d'influencer l'opinion ou si ce sont les artistes eux-mêmes.
- ▶ Summary in class :

- ▶ Avons-nous bien réfléchi et tout trouvé? Cf ci-dessous : (mettre l'écriture en noir.)

Answer :
personne **très médiatisée** et donc ses **opinions, ses actions** pour la paix (bed-ins) étaient **très largement diffusées**. Son **engagement personnel** y est également pour beaucoup. Il ne suffit donc pas seulement d'une chanson pour changer le monde....

The John Lennon Peace Movement



"If everybody demanded peace instead of another television set, then there'd be peace"

-John Lennon


John Lennon will be known for the many things that he did with the Beatles, but something that he will also be remembered for is his ideas about peace. John took a very active role in trying to persuade people to protest against the Vietnam War, by doing many different things. He usually worked with his wife, Yoko Ono. Together they peacefully protested against the Vietnam War and asked the world for peace.

The most famous things that John Lennon did, to ask for peace, was host bed-ins. Bed-ins are when a person will stay in their room for a certain number of days to protest against something. John and Yoko did bed-ins in Montreal and Amsterdam. They stayed in their rooms and recorded "Give Peace a Chance" in Montreal, which became a very famous anti-war song. Another famous anti-war song that John

Lennon wrote is called "Imagine".

Now you might be wondering, did the peace movement work? Yes it did work. One example of the effect that it had was when half a million people gathered on the second Vietnam Moratorium Day. They all started singing "Give Peace a Chance" as loud as they could. John Lennon was very surprised but happy at the same time. John Lennon was very famous, so there was a lot of media coverage on everything he did, so many people saw what he was trying to do.

John Lennon taught us to stand up for what we believe in and dream big. He protested for peace, and many people listened. This is why John Lennon will be remembered as a peace activist. His legendary ideas will be remembered forever as long as we all shall live.

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- ▶ **PROJET : Participe à la création d'un musée virtuel international sur les chanteurs / chanteuses engagé(e)s.**

 - ▶ **A2 : Choisis un chanteur ou une chanteuse engagé(e) pour une cause. Cette personne peut ne pas être anglophone.**
 - 1) **Rédige sa biographie (A2) et explique en quoi cette personne est engagée et mérite donc pleinement sa place dans le musée (A2+). (Ne pas jeter le texte que tu auras composé !)**
 - 2) **Enregistre-toi en format MP3.**
 - 3) **Choisis une photo de ton artiste et une de ses chansons pour le musée virtuel.**
 - 4) **Le tout sera sur une clé usb que tu apporteras en classe.**