

# **Sing for your English Workshop**

QATESOL Milpera  
6<sup>th</sup> September 2014

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# Why song?

**Include the arts in the curriculum and improve your students' outcomes.**

**Song is good for teaching rhythm, connected speech and intonation.**

**Song enables the teacher to point out and work on difficult phonemes.**

**Songs stick in your head.**

**Songs carry culture. They teach us about culture and are an important part of most cultures.**

The emotion attached to a song make it easier to remember.

*Singing or chanting is pleasurable and interesting. It increases endorphins which make people relax and feel good.*

We can listen to and repeat a song many more times than a standard dialogue.

Using song in the ESL classroom brings several intelligences together at the same time and strengthens the learning process.

# Multiple Intelligences Theory by Howard Gardner

- Linguistic
- Logical, mathematical
- Naturalist
- Spatial
- Body – Kinaesthetic
- Musical
- Interpersonal
- Intrapersonal



Illustration by George Diamandis

Language teaching has used the written form as the model, when actually song is much closer to everyday speech!

Song is used extensively whilst teaching a first language to children.

Song reaches learners with left and right brain strengths.

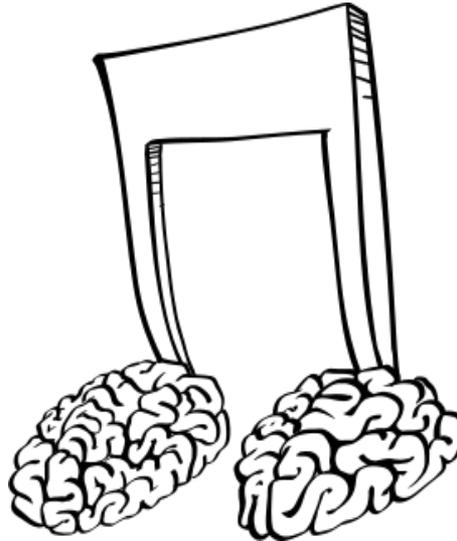
# The Brain

Music makes important connections between numerous parts of the brain

The left side

Logical

Interprets the sounds within words



The right side

Creative

Rhythms of speech  
(intonation & stress)

Illustration by Monstara

<http://openclipart.org/detail/19500/brain-notes-by-monstara>

## Emotions

The limbic system is in the middle of our brain

*And.....*

It's fun!

I listened, motionless and still;  
And, as I mounted up the hill,  
The music in my heart I bore,  
Long after it was heard no more.

William Wordsworth 1770–1850

Quoted from 'The Solitary Reaper'

# Carmel Davies and Sharon Duff



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