



What a Wonderful World



Quite simply wonderful....



Task 1

Your friend is doing a project for his / her Music lesson at school. Listen to a music show producer talking about a song entitled “What a Wonderful World” and help your friend complete his / her notes:



- The song “What a Wonderful World was by Louis Armstrong.
- The lyrics of the song talk about
- The message of the song is that there is always
- The song was written in
- A lot of people against the Vietnam war at the time.
- The song did not become from the start.
- Armstrong was criticised for being
- His reply was “see what a wonderful world it would be if only we’d”



The song “What a Wonderful World” was written by George David Weiss, produced by Bob Thiele, and **performed by the well-known American trumpeter and jazz singer Louis Armstrong**. The lyrics of the song talk about **the beautiful things in the world**, such as the colours of the rainbow. The message the song carries is that the wonders of nature and friendship are important and that **there is always hope despite despair**.

“What a Wonderful World” was written in **1967** at a time when there **were a lot of protests** in the USA about the Vietnam war, racial injustice, women’s rights and environmental destruction. Therefore, the song **was not very popular at first** and a lot of people criticised Louis Armstrong saying that he was **too optimistic** in a world full of problems, violence and inequality. Such a cruel world was not wonderful at all.

His reply was “Seems to me it isn’t the world that’s so bad, but what we are doing to it, and all I am saying is see what a wonderful world it would be if only we’d **give it a chance**. Love....that’s the secret!”



Task 2

What daily scenes would make someone feel the world is a wonderful place?

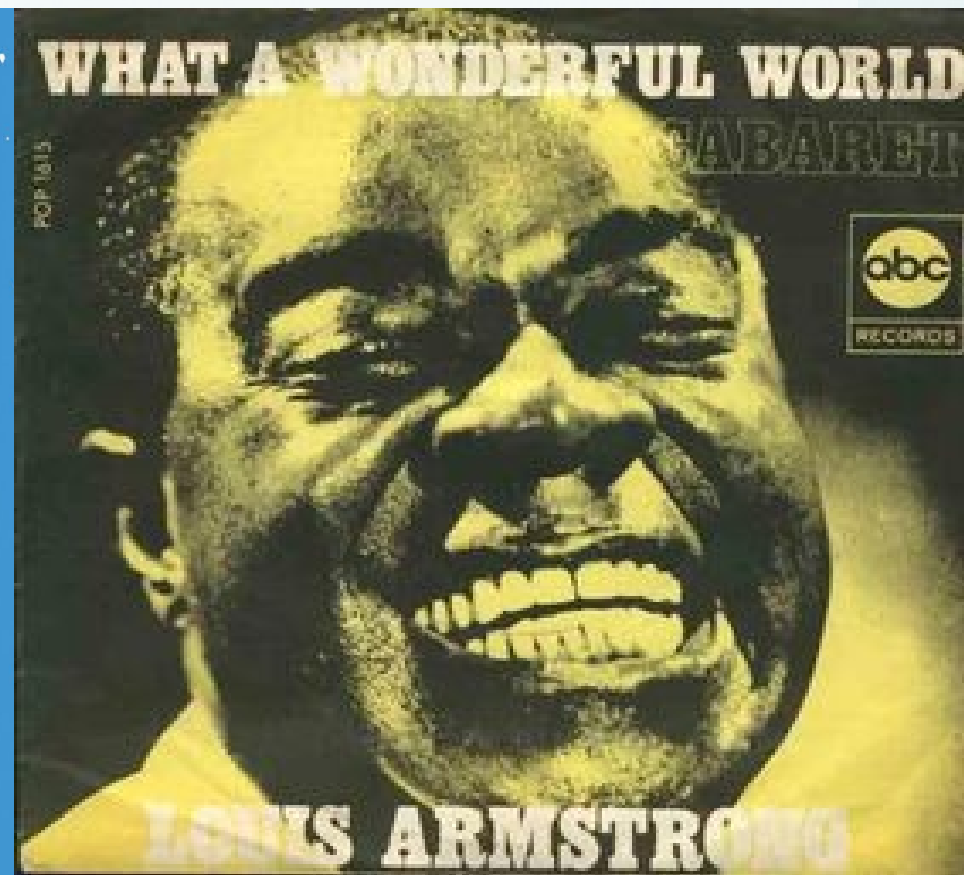
Write down two more things like the example that you think are happy events.

eg. Walking along the beach in summer



Task 3

Listen to the song and complete the missing words:



Task 4



Write down the things that make the world wonderful for the singer. Do you agree with the singer?



Task 5

Try to add a verse to the song or write a poem with the title
“What a Wonderful World”

Perhaps you will find the haiku form interesting. Here is an
example of a haiku poem:

Glorious blue sky
On a cold autumnal day
Lightening my mood



Haiku is a Japanese poetic form which follows **three rules**. Can you fill in the missing words in the rules?

1. There are _____ more than 17 syllables.
2. Haiku is _____ of only three lines.
3. Typically, every first line of Haiku has 5 _____, the second line has 7 syllables and the _____ has 5 syllables.



Pressed against my shoulder
Under the Cherry Blossoms
Whose petals will fall



This is a great Haiku written by American poet Ezra Pound which, however, does not follow the 5 -7- 5 rule.

“In a Station of the Metro”

*The apparition of these faces in the crowd;
Petals on a wet, black bough.*



Write your poem about our wonderful world

