

Works of Music Every Teacher of English Should Know

This is a very personal collection of musical works that represent important aspects of English culture around the world. I have chosen popular songs and instrumental pieces that are culturally significant – songs people might refer to or quote from. Of course, this is not a complete and comprehensive list. If you miss a certain song or piece of music I haven't included, feel free to get in touch!

★	4'33"	John Cage	Four minutes and thirty-three seconds of silence
★	Abide With Me		Christian Hymn, sung at the F.A. Cup finals
★	Adeste Fidelis		Christmas carol: "Oh come, all ye faithful..."
★	After the Fire Is Gone	Loretta Lynn	Popular country song by Loretta Lynn
★	Ain't Misbehavin'	Fats Waller	Popular song by Thomas 'Fats' Waller
★	Ain't No Mountain High Enough	Diana Ross	One of the hits after she left the Supremes
★	Ain't That a Shame	Pat Boone (and others)	"Mr Nice Guy" Pat Boone's most famous song
★	Albert Herring	Benjamin Britten	Comic opera based on a short story by Guy de Maupassant
★	Alexander's Ragtime Band	Irving Berlin	The song that made Irving Berlin famous
★	All the Fun of the Farm	Noël Coward	Song from <i>Cavalcade</i> (1931)
★	All Things Bright and Beautiful		Famous religious song, sung especially by children
★	All You Need is Love	The Beatles	Lennon's song for <i>Our World</i> : "There's nothing you can do that can't be done..."
★	Amahl and the Night Visitor		First opera written for television (1951)
★	Amazing Grace		Famous gospel song
★	America		"Sweet country, 'tis of thee, / Sweet land of liberty, / Of thee I sing..."
★	America the Beautiful	Katharine Lee Bates (1893)	"O beautiful for spacious skies..."
★	American Pie	Don McLean	A ballad about the death of Buddy Holly
★	Anarchy in the UK	The Sex Pistols	A famous punk rock song
★	Animal Crackers	Shirley Temple	Sentimental song about animal crackers
★	Anything goes	Cole Porter	Title song of the musical comedy by Cole Porter
★	Appalachian Spring	Aaron Copland	Symphony that uses rhythms and tunes from Appalachian folk music
★	Aquarius		New Age peace song from the musical "Hair"
★	As Time Goes By	Dooley Wilson	The song from "Casablanca"
★	Ascending Lark, The	Ralph Vaughan Williams	Romance for violin and orchestra
★	Ash Grove, The		Welsh song about a beautiful girl buried under a group of ash trees
★	Away in a Manger		Christmas Carol sung during church services
★	Baa, Baa, Black Sheep		An old children's song which might or might not refer to a tax put on wool in 1275
★	Back in the USSR	The Beatles	"On the flight, the paper bag was on my knees..."

★	<i>Banana Boat Song</i>	Harry Belafonte	Banana shipping and more
★	<i>Basin Street Blues</i>	Louis Armstrong	New Orleans and all that jazz
★	<i>Battle Hymn of the Republic, The</i>	Julia Ward Howe	Civil War song for the North: "Glory, glory, hallelujah..."
★	<i>Beale Street Blues</i>	W. C. Handy	Memphis jazz song
★	<i>Bebop Professors</i>	Sonny Rollins	A bebop piece by sax player Sonny Rollins
★	<i>Begin the Beguine</i>	Cole Porter	Song inspired by a dance from Martinique
★	<i>Bewitched</i>	Lorenz Hart	"Bewitched, bothered and bewildered am I"
★	<i>Black Bottom Stomp</i>	Jelly Roll Morton	Jelly Roll Morton's most famous ragtime piece
★	<i>Blowing in the Wind</i>	Bob Dylan	"The answer my friend is blowing in the wind..."
★	<i>Blue Suede Shoes</i>	Carl Perkins	A famous rock 'n' roll song
★	<i>Blue Tail Fly</i>	Leadbelly (and others)	"Jimmy crack corn and I don't care..."
★	<i>Blue Yodel No. 1</i>	Jimmie Rogers	One of the Blue Yodeler's hits
★	<i>Blueberry Hill</i>	Fats Domino	Fats Domino's greatest hit
★	<i>Bobby Shafto</i>		"Bobby Shafto's gone to sea...": An old children's song, maybe a campaign song once
★	<i>Bohemian Rhapsody</i>	Queen	Freddy Mercury's operatic rock ballad
★	<i>Born Free</i>	Andy Williams	Hit by jazz singer Andy Williams
★	<i>Born in the USA</i>	Bruce Springsteen	An iconic American rock song
★	<i>Boy Named Sue, A</i>	Johnny Cash	A young man named Sue finally meets his father and realizes why he has a girl's name
★	<i>Bridge over Troubled Water</i>	Simon and Garfunkel	Pop classic by Paul Simon
★	<i>Bright Eyed and Bushy Tailed</i>	Bob Merrill	The origin of the catch phrase "Bright Eyed and Bushy Tailed"
★	<i>Brother Can You Spare a Dime?</i>	Yip Harburg	Iconic song of Depression-era America
★	<i>Brothers in Arms</i>	Dire Straits	Dire Straits' most famous song
★	<i>Brown Sugar</i>	Mick Jagger / Keith Richards	Famous Rolling Stones song
★	<i>Burlington Bertie</i>	Harry B. Norris	A parody in song
★	<i>C'Mon Everybody</i>	Eddie Cochrane	One of Cochrane's rock 'n' roll hits
★	<i>California über Alles</i>	The Dead Kennedys	An iconic punk rock song
★	<i>Californication</i>	The Red Hot Chili Peppers	Probably RHCP's biggest hit
★	<i>Camptown Races</i>	Stephen Foster	"Oh dee doo dah day!"
★	<i>Can't Take My Eyes Off You</i>	Frankie Valli	Solo hit of the Four Seasons lead singer
★	<i>Candle in the Wind</i>	Elton John	The Lady Di song... (sung at Princess Diana's funeral)
★	<i>Candy Man</i>	Sammy Davis Jr.	Sammy Davis Junior's most famous song
★	<i>Casey Jones</i>		Railway engineer John Luther Jones (1864-1900) gets killed when he tries to save his passengers' lives
★	<i>Chattanooga Choo Choo</i>		Famous railway song about the city on the Tennessee River

★	<i>Child of Our Time, A</i>	Michael Tippett	An oratorio on Herschel Grynszpan, the Jewish student who tried to assassinate Ernst vom Rath
★	<i>Chirpy Chirpy Cheep Cheep</i>	Middle of the Road	A fine example of bubblegum music
★	<i>Clementine</i>		The miner's daughter: song from the California Gold Rush of 1849
★	<i>Cockaigne</i>	Edward Elgar	Concert overture: "In London Town"
★	<i>Colonel Bogey</i>	Kenneth Alford	Military march of 1914
★	<i>Coming Through the Rye</i>	Robert Burns	A famous Scottish song
★	<i>Common People</i>	Pulp	One of Jarvis Cocker's greatest hits
★	<i>Concord Sonata</i>	Charles Ives	Emerson, Hawthorne, the Alcotts, Thoreau...
★	<i>Continental Trailway Blues</i>	Steve Earl	Popular country song about Trailways
★	<i>Crazy</i>	Patsy Cline	One of Patsy Cline's most famous love ballads
★	<i>D'Ye Ken John Peel</i>	John Graves	A hunting song for John Peel
★	<i>Day In the Life, A</i>	The Beatles	"I read the news today..."
★	<i>Diamonds Are a Girl's Best Friends</i>	Marilyn Monroe	Song from "Gentlemen Prefer Blondes"
★	<i>Diamonds Are Forever</i>	Shirley Bassey	James Bond song
★	<i>Dido and Aeneas</i>	Henry Purcell	The first British opera (1689) with words by Nahum Tate
★	<i>Dirty Old Town</i>	The Pogues	Classic folk rock hit
★	<i>Dixie</i>	Daniel Emmett	Confederate Civil War song
★	<i>Do They Know It's Christmas?</i>	Bob Geldof / Band Aid	Band Aid song written to support the starving population of Ethiopia in 1984
★	<i>Do You Want To</i>	Franz Ferdinand	Best British group and rock act in 2005
★	<i>Doin' the Lambeth Walk</i>	Douglas Furber / Arthur Rose	Dance and song from the 30s
★	<i>Down by the Old Mill Stream</i>		A sentimental barbershop song written in 1910
★	<i>Down in the Valley</i>	Andy Griffith (and others)	An American folk song about a man who asks a woman if she loves him
★	<i>Downhearted Blues</i>	Bessie Smith	The Empress of Blues....
★	<i>Drake's Drum</i>	Henry Newbolt	A patriotic song about Francis Drake's drum
★	<i>Dream of Gerontius</i>	Edward Elgar	A choral piece (text: Cardinal Newman)
★	<i>Earth Song</i>	Michael Jackson	One of Jackson's classic songs. Alternatives: Billie Jean, Beat it, Black or White...
★	<i>Eight Days A Week</i>	The Beatles	Liverpudlian for hard work
★	<i>Einstein on the Beach</i>	Philipp Glass	An experimental opera by Philipp Glass
★	<i>Eleanor Rigby</i>	The Beatles	"her face that she keeps in a jar by the door"
★	<i>Electrification of the Soviet Union, The</i>	Nigel Osborne	Opera about a young poet
★	<i>End, The</i>	The Doors	"This is the end / My only friend, the end"
★	<i>Epitaph</i>	Charles Mingus	Classic jazz recording
★	<i>Eternal Father, Strong I Save</i>	William Whiting	The official hymn of the U.S. Navy
★	<i>Evergreen</i>	Barbra Streisand	Song from "A Star Is Born"

★	<i>Everybody Loves Somebody</i>	Dean Martin	Classic hit by Dean Martin
★	<i>Fear of a Black Planet</i>	Public Enemy	Aggressive hit by one of the first great rap groups
★	<i>Ferry Across the Mersey</i>	Gerry and the Pacemakers	Nostalgic Liverpoolian pop song
★	<i>Fields of Gold</i>	Sting	Great song by Sting
★	<i>Fight for your Right</i>	Beastie Boys	"Do you like parties? Yeah!"
★	<i>Fings Ain't Wot They Used T'Be</i>	Lionel Bart	Title song of a musical about the gamblers and prostitutes of London
★	<i>Firestarter</i>	The Prodigy	A number one hit in Britain
★	<i>Flower of Scotland</i>	The Corries	Unofficial Scottish anthem, especially at football matches
★	<i>Fool on the Hill, The</i>	Beatles	"But the fool on the hill / Sees the sun going down..."
★	<i>For He's a Jolly Good Fellow</i>		A song of praise for someone who has done something noteworthy
★	<i>Four Saints and Three Acts</i>	Virgil Thomson / Gertrude Stein	Vanguard opera, set in Spain
★	<i>Four Walls</i>	Jim Reeves	One of Gentleman Jim's classic country hits
★	<i>Frankie und Johnny</i>		An old US ballad about a woman called Alice Pry who is hanged for murder
★	<i>Fred Karno's Army</i>		Well-known army chorus
★	<i>Galloping Major, The</i>	G. H. Bastow	Popular song from 1906
★	<i>Girl from Ipanema, The</i>	Stan Getz	Great jazz song
★	<i>Give Peace a Chance</i>	John Lennon	"All we are saying is give peace a chance..."
★	<i>Gloriana</i>	Benjamin Britten	An opera about the relationship between Elizabeth I and the Earl of Essex
★	<i>God Bless America</i>	Irving Berlin	Unofficial anthem of the U.S.
★	<i>God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen</i>		A Christmas carol
★	<i>God Save the Queen</i>		The UK's national anthem
★	<i>God Save the Queen</i>	Sex Pistols	Punk rock song banned by the BBC
★	<i>Goldfinger</i>	Shirley Bassey	James Bond song
★	<i>Gondoliers, The</i>	Gilbert and Sullivan	A comic opera set in Venice
★	<i>Good Vibrations</i>	The Beach Boys	A classic Beach Boys song
★	<i>Great Balls of Fire</i>	Jerry Lee Lewis	Classic Rock 'n' Roll song
★	<i>Green Grow the Rushes</i>		British children's song
★	<i>Greensleeves</i>	Henry VIII.	Famous tune by Henry VIII.
★	<i>Gypsy Woman</i>	Curtis Mayfield and The Impressions	Romantic pop song about gypsies
★	<i>Hail To the Chief</i>	James Sanderson / Sir Walter Scott	A march for welcoming the U.S. President
★	<i>Hallelujah Chorus, The</i>	George Frederick Handel	Well-known chorus from Handel's "Messiah" (1743)
★	<i>Happiness Is a Warm Gun</i>	The Beatles	An ironic and ambiguous Beatles song
★	<i>Hard Rain's Gonna Fall, A</i>	Bob Dylan	"Oh, where have you been my blue-eyed son?"

★	<i>Hark! The Herald Angels Sing</i>		A Christmas carol
★	<i>Headbreak Hotel</i>	Elvis Presley	The King's first great hit
★	<i>Heart of Oak</i>	David Garrick	"Heart of oak are our ships / Heart of oak are our men..."
★	<i>Helter-Skelter</i>	The Beatles	Presumably the first hard rock song ever
★	<i>Hen Wlad Y Nhadau</i>	Evan James	Welsh national anthem
★	<i>Here Comes the Bride</i>	Richard Wagner	Wedding song (from: Lohengrin)
★	<i>Here We Go</i>		Football chant
★	<i>Hev Yew Gotta Lought Boy</i>	Allan Smethurst	One hit wonder from Norfolk
★	<i>Hey Jude</i>	The Beatles	Long Beatles song with orchestral backing
★	<i>Hit the Road Jack</i>	Ray Charles	"Hit the road, Jack!"
★	<i>Holly and the Ivy, The</i>		A Christmas carol
★	<i>Home on the Range</i>		American traditional: "Home on the range..."
★	<i>Home Sweet Home</i>	Sir Henry Rowley Bishop / J. H. Payne	"There's no place like home..."
★	<i>Honky Tonk Angels</i>	Kitty Wells	The Queen of Country Music
★	<i>Hotel California</i>	The Eagles	Song about the lifestyle of southern California
★	<i>Hound Dog</i>	Elvis Presley	A song written for Willie Mag "Big Mama" Thornton but popularized by Elvis the Pelvis
★	<i>House of the Rising Song</i>	Alan Price	"There is a house in New Orleans..."
★	<i>How Deep Is your Love</i>	The Bee Gees	An evergreen by the Bee Gees
★	<i>Hugh the Drover</i>	Ralph Vaughan Williams	An opera set in a small Cotswold town
★	<i>Hush-a-bye Baby</i>		Popular old lullaby (AE: Rock-a-bye Baby)
★	<i>I Am a Walrus</i>	The Beatles	An experimental pop song by the Fab Four
★	<i>I Can't Dance</i>	Genesis	Another great video clip – by Genesis
★	<i>I Don't Like Mondays</i>	The Boomtown Rats	A song about a school shooting
★	<i>I Will Always Love You</i>	Whitney Houston	A love ballad
★	<i>I'd Do Anything for Love</i>	Meat Loaf	Award-winning pop song
★	<i>I'm a Believer</i>	The Monkees	The Monkees' greatest hit
★	<i>I'm Just Wild About Harry</i>	Eubie Blake (and others)	Truman's campaign song
★	<i>I've Got Sixpence</i>	Desmond Cox	Popular War Time tune
★	<i>If I Had a Hammer</i>	Pete Seeger	The father of the American folk revival...
★	<i>If It Makes You Happy</i>	Sheryl Crow	Sheryl Crow's greatest hit
★	<i>If You Were the Only Girl In the World</i>	George Robey	Music hall hit from 1916
★	<i>Imagine</i>	John Lennon	"Imagine there's no heaven..."
★	<i>In My Life</i>	John Lennon	An experimental song by the Beatles
★	<i>In the Bleak Midwinter</i>		A Christmas carol

★	<i>In the Midnight Hour</i>	Wilson Pickett	One of Picket's classic hits
★	<i>It Don't Mean a Thing If It Ain't Got That Swing</i>	Duke Ellington	A big band hit by the Duke
★	<i>It Had to Be You</i>	Harry Connick Jr.	Connick's most famous song
★	<i>It's A Long Way to Tipperary</i>		Music hall classic, popular in WWI
★	<i>Jerusalem</i>	William Blake	Hymn, traditionally sung at the Last Night of the Proms, by Women's Institutes and in churches
★	<i>Jingle Bells</i>		A popular Christmas song
★	<i>John Henry</i>		A song for the working class: "I'd die with the hammer in my hand"
★	<i>Jolene</i>	Dolly Parton	Dolly Parton's greatest hit
★	<i>Jumpin' Jack Flash</i>	The Rolling Stones	"But it's alright, I'm a Jumpin' Jack Flash..."
★	<i>Keep the Home Fires Burning</i>	Ivor Novello	Popular WWI tune
★	<i>Knees Up Mother Brown</i>	Gert and Daisy	Song to a dance that came up on Armistice Day 1918
★	<i>Knot Garden, The</i>	Michael Tippett	Opera with references to Shakespeare
★	<i>Kumbayah</i>		Gullah spiritual
★	<i>Lacrimae</i>	John Dowland	"Flow my tears..."
★	<i>Land of Hope and Glory</i>	Edward Elgar	The song sung at the Last Night of the Proms and at Empire Day celebrations
★	<i>Layla</i>	Eric Clapton	Love song by Derek and the Dominoes
★	<i>Let It Be</i>	The Beatles	"When I find myself in times of trouble, Mother Mary comes to me..."
★	<i>Let's Get It On</i>	Marvin Gaye	A rather sexy soul song
★	<i>Liberty Bonds March</i>	John Philip Sousa	A march to raise money for the U.S. Army
★	<i>Lift Every Voice and Sing</i>	James Weldon Johnson	African-American National Anthem, written in 1900 for Lincoln's birthday celebrations
★	<i>Lighthouse, The</i>	Peter Maxwell Davies	An opera about a lighthouse (1979)
★	<i>Lilliburlero</i>	Henry Purcell	Signature tune of the BBC World Service
★	<i>Living in America</i>	James Brown	A soul hit by James Brown
★	<i>Loch Lomond</i>		Traditional Scottish song
★	<i>London Bridge Is Falling Down</i>		Children's song
★	<i>London Calling</i>	The Clash	Punk culture and London's traditions
★	<i>Londonderry Air</i>		Traditional tune of Northern Ireland
★	<i>Look for the Silver Lining</i>	Jerome Kern	One of Jerome Kern's greatest hits (1920)
★	<i>Lose Yourself</i>	Eminem	An iconic Eminem song
★	<i>Losing My Religion</i>	R.E.M.	A great R.E.M. song
★	<i>Lovely Rita</i>	The Beatles	A song about a meter maid
★	<i>Lucy In the Sky With Diamonds</i>	The Beatles	Beatles song which is said to allude to LSD – and which gave Australopithecus Lucy her name
★	<i>Lullaby of Birdland</i>	George Shearing	Jazz song named after a New York club

★	<i>Mad Dogs and Englishmen</i>	Noel Coward	A song about British stubbornness
★	<i>Mademoiselle from Armenteer</i>		First World War song
★	<i>Maggie Mae</i>	The Beatles	Originally a sailors song about a Liverpool prostitute
★	<i>Marching Through Georgia</i>		Civil War Song
★	<i>Mary Had a Little Lamb</i>		Children's song
★	<i>Mary, Mary, Quite Contrary</i>		Nursery rhyme
★	<i>Maxwell's Silver Hammer</i>	The Beatles	Comic Beatles song about a homicidal maniac
★	<i>Me and My Bobby McGee</i>	Kris Kristofferson	"Freedom is just another word for nothing left to lose"
★	<i>Men Behind the Wire, The</i>	Paddy McGuian	IRA song calling for support
★	<i>Midsummer Marriage</i>	Michael Tippett	Mystical opera about the wedding of Mark and Jennifer
★	<i>Mikado, The</i>	Gilbert and Sullivan	Opera with a Japanese setting
★	<i>Mona Lisa</i>	Nat King Cole	A song about Mona Lisa's famous smile
★	<i>Moon River</i>	Harry Mancini	Song from "Breakfast at Tiffany's"
★	<i>Move On Up a Little Higher</i>	Mahalia Jackson	Great gospel song
★	<i>Mr Tambourine Man</i>	Bob Dylan	"Hey! Mr Tambourine Man, play a song for me..."
★	<i>Mr Wonderful</i>	Sarah Vaughan	Great jazz song by Sarah Vaughan
★	<i>Mrs Robinson</i>	Simon and Garfunkel	One of the hits from "The Graduate"
★	<i>Mull of Kintyre</i>	Paul McCartney	Paul McCartney's greatest hit
★	<i>Music for the Royal Fireworks</i>	George Frederick Handel	Music for ceremonies held on the Thames for King George I.
★	<i>My Favorite Things</i>	Julie Andrews	"Raindrops on roses and whiskers on kittens..."
★	<i>My Generation</i>	The Who	"People try to put us d-down..."
★	<i>My Old Dutch</i>	Albert Chevalier	An old cockney love song
★	<i>My Old Kentucky Home</i>	Stephen Foster	Popular U.S. song
★	<i>My Way</i>	Paul Anka	"And more, much more than this, I did it my way..."
★	<i>Nightingale Sang in Berkeley Square, A</i>	Frank Sinatra (and others)	A song about Berkeley Square in west central London
★	<i>Nixon in China</i>	John Adams	A political opera
★	<i>No Woman No Cry</i>	Bob Marley	Iconic Reggae song
★	<i>Norwegian Wood</i>	The Beatles	Folk-influenced Beatles song, first appearance of a sitar in a pop song
★	<i>Nowhere Man</i>	The Beatles	"He's a real nowhere man..."
★	<i>O Little Town of Betlehem</i>		Popular Christmas carol
★	<i>Octopus's Garden</i>	The Beatles	"I'd like to be under the sea..."
★	<i>Oh! Susanna</i>	Stephen Foster	Well-known U.S. song written in 1848
★	<i>Oklahoma</i>	Richard Rogers / Oscar Hammerstein	Title song of the musical <i>Oklahoma</i> and Oklahoma's state song

★	<i>Old Folks at Home</i>	Stephen Foster	State song of Florida, written in 1851
★	<i>Old MacDonald Had a Farm</i>		An old children's song
★	<i>Old Man River</i>	Paul Robeson	"Ol' man river, dat ol' man river..." (from <i>Showboat</i>)
★	<i>Old Soldiers Never Die</i>	J. Foley	"Old soldiers never die, they just fade away..."
★	<i>On Hearing the First Cuckoo in Spring</i>	Delius, Frederick	Orchestral piece influenced by Grieg
★	<i>On Ilkley Moor Baht 'At</i>		Popular Yorkshire Folk Song
★	<i>On Top of Old Smoky</i>		Traditional U.S. song
★	<i>Once in Royal David's City</i>		Christian hymn about the birth of Christ
★	<i>One Bad Apple</i>	The Osmonds	One of The Osmonds' hits
★	<i>Only You</i>	The Platters	There's one doo-wop song you should know...
★	<i>Onward Christian hymn</i>		Popular church hymn that used to be often sung at British schools
★	<i>Oops! ... I Did It Again</i>	Britney Spears	Britney's first hit
★	<i>Over There</i>	George Cohan	Song popular during WWII: "The Yanks are coming..."
★	<i>Pack Up Your Troubles in Your Old Kit-Bag</i>	George Asaf	World War One chorus
★	<i>Paperback Writer</i>	The Beatles	Beatles song about an ambitious young author
★	<i>Peggy Sue</i>	Buddy Holly	The day the music died...
★	<i>Pennies from Heaven</i>	Bing Crosby	Theme song of the movie
★	<i>Penny Lane</i>	The Beatles	A Liverpoolian classic
★	<i>Perfect Day, A</i>	Lou Reed	A perfect song for perfect days
★	<i>Peter Grimes</i>	Benjamin Britten	Opera about a fisherman
★	<i>Pine Top's Boogie- Woogie</i>	"Pine Top" Smith	One of the songs that made boogie-woogie popular in 1928
★	<i>Police Man's Lot Is Not a Happy One, A</i>	Gilbert and Sullivan	Song from comical opera "The Pirates of Penzance"
★	<i>Pomp and Circumstance</i>	Edward Elgar	Five marches by Edward Elgar
★	<i>Porgy and Bess</i>	George Gershwin	America's first folk opera
★	<i>Praise the Lord and Pass the Ammunition</i>	Frank Loesser	Popular U.S. song during WWII
★	<i>Pretty Woman</i>	Roy Orbison	Old pop ballad
★	<i>Raindrops Keep Fallin' on My Head</i>	Burt Bacharach	A rainy song
★	<i>Rawhide</i>	Frankie Laine	Supposedly one of the worst cowboy film songs ever
★	<i>Red Flag, The</i>	James Connell	The official anthem of the Labour Party
★	<i>Red River Valley</i>		Traditional U.S. song
★	<i>Respect</i>	Aretha Franklin	Aretha's most famous song
★	<i>Rhapsody in Blue</i>	George Gershwin	Famous work for piano and orchestra
★	<i>Rock Around the Clock</i>	Bill Haley	One of the first rock 'n' roll songs
★	<i>Rock Island</i>	Leadbelly	Blues song set in New York

★	<i>Rollin' Stone</i>	Muddy Waters	Famous blues song
★	<i>Rosie the Riveter</i>		A World War II song about Rose Monroe
★	<i>Route 66</i>	Bobby Troup	A song about the famous highway
★	<i>Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer</i>	Gene Autry	Christmas song about a very special reindeer
★	<i>Rule, Britannia!</i>	Thomas Arne	"Britannia, rule the waves!"
★	<i>Sailing</i>	Rod Stewart	Romantic love ballad
★	<i>Satisfaction</i>	Rolling Stones	A song about satisfaction – in any regard
★	<i>Scotland the Brave</i>	Cliff Hanley	A football song an unofficial national anthem of Scotland
★	<i>See What the Boys in the Back Room Will Have</i>	Marlene Dietrich	Origin of the catch phrase "backroom boys"
★	<i>See You Later Alligator</i>	Bill Haley and the Comets	Hit song in the 1950s
★	<i>Shenandoah</i>		Traditional U.S. folk song
★	<i>Shining Star</i>	Earth, Wind & Fire	Makes you feel good – and won a Grammy award
★	<i>Shortin' Bread</i>		African American children's song
★	<i>Shropshire Lad, A</i>		Poem by AE Housman set to music
★	<i>Sing a Song of Sixpence</i>		Old children's rhyme
★	<i>Singing in the Rain</i>	Gene Kelly	"I'm singing in the rain..."
★	<i>Sky Boat Song</i>		Bonnie Prince Chairlie and Flora Macdonald
★	<i>Smells Like Teen Spirit</i>	Nirvana	Kurt Cobain's greatest hit
★	<i>Smile</i>	Charlie Chaplin	A song that makes you, well, ... smile
★	<i>Smoke Gets in Your Eyes</i>	Jerome Kern	One of Jerome Kern's greatest hits (1933)
★	<i>Somewhere Over the Rainbow</i>	Judy Garland	Little Dorothy's song from "The Wizard of Oz"
★	<i>Space Oddity</i>	David Bowie	Title song of Bowie's first album
★	<i>Stairway to Heaven</i>	Led Zeppelin	The ultimate rock song
★	<i>Stand By Your Man</i>	Tammy Wynette	Best-known song of Tammy Wynette
★	<i>Stompin' at the Savoy</i>	Benny Goodman	A hit of the King of Swing
★	<i>Strange Fruit</i>	Billie Holiday	"Black bodies swinging in the southern breeze..."
★	<i>Strangers In the Night</i>	Frank Sinatra	Old Blue Eyes' most famous hit
★	<i>Strawberry Fields Forever</i>	The Beatles	A psychedelic Beatles song
★	<i>Streets of Philadelphia</i>	Bruce Springsteen	Song from "Philadelphia", the first movie about AIDS
★	<i>Stupid Cupid</i>	Neil Sedaka	Sedaka's first hit
★	<i>Summer Holiday</i>	Cliff Richard	Great rock 'n' roll hit
★	<i>Summertime Blues</i>	Eddie Cochran	A famous Rock 'n' Roll hit
★	<i>Supercalifragilistic-expialidocious</i>	July Andrews	The song from "Mary Poppins"
★	<i>Suzanne</i>	Leonard Cohen	"I touched her perfect body with my mind"

★	<i>Swanee</i>	George Gershwin	Musical song popularized by Al Jolson
★	<i>Sweet Dreams</i>	Eurythmics	"Everybody is looking for something..."
★	<i>Swing Low, Sweet Chariot</i>		US spiritual, often sung by supporters of the national rugby team of Britain
★	<i>Sympathy for the Devil</i>	The Rolling Stones	"Please allow me to introduce myself..."
★	<i>Tears in Heaven</i>	Eric Clapton	A sad ballad dedicated to Clapton's daughter
★	<i>Tears of a Clown, The</i>	Smokey Robinson	Pop hit by Smokey Robinson and the Miracles
★	<i>Ten Green Bottles</i>		Traditional children's song
★	<i>The Last Time I Saw Paris</i>	Jerome Kern	Award-winning song from <i>Lady Be Good</i> (1947)
★	<i>The Stars and Stripes Forever</i>	John Philip Sousa	A traditional military march
★	<i>The Trumpet Voluntary</i>	Henry Wood	A popular piece of music for the trumpet
★	<i>The Twelve Days of Christmas</i>		Famous Christmas song
★	<i>The Whale</i>	Thomas Tavener	An unusual piece of orchestral music
★	<i>There Is a Green Hill Far Away</i>		Well-known Christian hymn traditionally sung at Easter
★	<i>There's No Business Like Show Business</i>	Irving Berlin	Famous song about entertainment; from <i>Annie Get Your Gun</i>
★	<i>This Charming Man</i>	The Smiths	One of The Smiths' hits
★	<i>This Land Is Your Land</i>	Woody Guthrie	Great American folk song
★	<i>This Ole House</i>	Stuart Hamblen	Country-influenced song, sung by Rosemary Clooney
★	<i>Three O'Clock Blues</i>	BB King	A great blues hit by BB King
★	<i>Tide Is High, The</i>	Blondie	"I'm not the kind of girl..."
★	<i>Tie Me Kangaroo Down</i>	Rolf Harris	An Australian classic
★	<i>Tim Finnegan</i>		Irish ballad about a drunkard
★	<i>Times They Are A-Changing, The</i>	Bob Dylan	Iconic folk song by Bob Dylan
★	<i>Touch of Grey</i>	The Grateful Dead	For all those who have never been deadheads...
★	<i>Twist, The</i>	Chubby Checker	"Let's twist again, like we did last summer!"
★	<i>Underneath the Arches</i>	Bud Flanagan	"Underneath the arches..."
★	<i>Unforgettable</i>	Nat King Cole / Natalie Cole	A duet that bridges the gap between the living and the dead
★	<i>Universal Soldier</i>	Donovan	Peace song by Donovan
★	<i>Village Romeo and Juliet, A</i>	Frederick Delius	An opera after a narrative by Gottfried Keller
★	<i>Wake Me Up Before You Go-Go</i>	Wham!	Popular hit by George Michael and the gang
★	<i>Walk On the Wild Side</i>	Lou Reed	An ode to Andy Warhol and his followers
★	<i>War Requiem</i>	Benjamin Britten	Ant-war chorus combining nine poems by Wilfred Owen and the words of the Latin mass
★	<i>Water Music</i>	George Frederick Handel	Music for ceremonies at the court of King George I.
★	<i>Waterloo Sunset</i>	The Kinks	A song about loneliness and isolation
★	<i>We Shall Not Be Moved</i>		A union and civil rights song

★	<i>We Shall Overcome</i>	Joan Baez (and others)	Protest song from the Civil Rights Movement
★	<i>We'll Meet Again</i>	Vera Lynn	Wartime song of the Forces' Sweetheart
★	<i>Wee Deoch An Doris, A</i>	Harry Lauder	Funny Scottish song in moderate Scots
★	<i>What a Wonderful World</i>	Louis Armstrong	Satchmo's greatest hit
★	<i>Whatever Will Be</i>	Doris Day	"Que sera, sera..."
★	<i>When the Moon Comes over the Mountain</i>	Kate Smith	Kate Smith's radio theme song
★	<i>When the Saints Go Marching in</i>	Louis Armstrong (and others)	The best known Dixieland song...
★	<i>Where Have All the Flowers Gone?</i>	Pete Seeger	Anti-war song
★	<i>While Shepherds Watch Their Flocks at Night</i>		Popular carol sung around Christmas
★	<i>White Christmas</i>	Bing Crosby	"I'm dreaming of a white Christmas..."
★	<i>White Cliffs of Dover, The</i>	Vera Lynn	Patriotic World War Two song
★	<i>Who Killed Cock Robin?</i>		An old English nursery rhyme
★	<i>Widdicombe Fair</i>		A popular old English song about a horse fair
★	<i>Wish You Were Here</i>	Pink Floyd	Great song by Pink Floyd
★	<i>With a Little Help from my Friends</i>	Joe Cocker / The Beatles	Cocker's legendary interpretation at Woodstock
★	<i>Wonderful World</i>	Sam Cooke	A famous soul ballad: "Don't Know Much About History"; alternative: You Send Me
★	<i>Wonderwall</i>	Oasis	Popular rock song by Oasis
★	<i>Yankee Doodle</i>		Old song from the War of Independence
★	<i>Yellow Submarine</i>	The Beatles	"We all live in a yellow submarine..."
★	<i>Yeomen of the Guard, The</i>	Gilbert and Sullivan	Opera about a prisoner in the Tower of London
★	<i>Yes, We Have No Bananas</i>	Frank Silver / Irving Cohen	Successful song from the Twenties
★	<i>Yesterday</i>	The Beatles	"Yesterday all my troubles seemed so far away..."
★	<i>You Are the Sunshine of my Life</i>	Stevie Wonder	Stevie Wonder's first hit
★	<i>You're the One That I Want</i>		Olivia Newton John and John Travolta in "Grease"...
★	<i>Young, Gifted, And Black</i>	Nina Simone	Black Pride anthem
★	<i>Your Cheatin' Heart</i>	Hank Williams	A classic country song