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# ESL Monkeys

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## The Reason

**Submitted by:** english-4U.com  
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**Topic:** Vocabulary, Grammar, Group Work, Classroom Management, Mood and Emotions, Pop Culture, Music and Songs, Love & Relationships, One-to-One Tutoring  
**Level:** Intermediate,  
**Age:** Teens, Adults,  
**Skill:** Listening, Speaking, Reading Comprehension, Writing,

### Description:

Lesson plan from www.english-4u.com website based on song by Hoobastank - "The Reason".

### Objectives:

Apologizing, Expressing Regrets, I wish / If only with past tenses

### Duration:

45 minutes

### Materials:

Song by Hoobastank – "The Reason"

### Procedure:

# THE REASON

## TEACHER WORKSHEET

## BEFORE YOU LISTEN

### ACTIVITY 1 **PAIRS > WHOLE CLASS**

The Reason is a song which is at the same time - an apology. Look at the following phrases we use to apologise and put them in the appropriate category.

1. I'm very sorry.
2. I do apologise.
3. Sorry about that.
4. I'm sorry.
5. I really am very sorry.

weak apology ... (3)  
 normal apology ... (4)  
 strong apology ... (1)  
 stronger apology ... (2)  
 very strong apology ... (5)

## ACTIVITY 2 INDIVIDUALLY > PAIRS

Look at the lyrics of the song and put the verbs listed below in appropriate blanks.

You will have to use some of these verbs a few times.

have meant must need used want wish

### Hoobastank – The Reason

I'm not a perfect person  
 There's many things I ... (wish) I didn't do  
 But I continue learning  
 I never ... (meant) to do those things to you  
 And so I ... (have) to say before I go  
 That I just ... (want) you to know

I've found a reason for me  
 To change who I ... (used) to be  
 A reason to start over new  
 and the reason is you

I'm sorry that I hurt you  
 It's something I ... (must) live with everyday  
 And all the pain I put you through  
 I wish that I could take it all away  
 And be the one who catches all your tears  
 That's why I ... (want) you to hear

I've found a reason for me  
 To change who I ... (used) to be  
 A reason to start over new  
 and the reason is You [x4]

I'm not a perfect person  
 I never ... (meant) to do those things to you  
 And so I ... (have) to say before I go  
 That I just ... (want) you to know

I've found a reason for me  
 To change who I ... (used) to be  
 A reason to start over new  
 and the reason is you

I've found a reason to show  
 A side of me you didn't know  
 A reason for all that I do

And the reason is you

**NOTE:** Do not check if the students have correct answers at this point. The students will check their answers themselves in **ACTIVITY 3**.

## WHILE LISTENING

### ACTIVITY 3 INDIVIDUALLY

Listen and check if you were right.

## AFTER LISTENING

There's many things I wish I didn't do.

*I wish / if only can be used to express regrets.*

*When after these expressions we use past simple, we talk about the present.*

Examples:

I wish/If only I could fly. = I can't fly and I regret it.

I wish/If only had a lot of money. = I haven't got a lot of money and I regret it.

*When after these expressions we use past perfect, we talk about the past.*

Examples:

I wish/If only I hadn't said that. = I said that in the past and now I regret it.

I wish/If only hadn't hurt you. = I hurt you in the past and now I regret it.

### ACTIVITY 4

Express regrets about the situations presented below. Start sentences with I wish or If only

1. You have no job. ... **I wish I had a job.**
2. You did not go to university. ... **I wish I had gone to university.**
3. You did not report the theft to the police. ... **I wish I had reported the theft to the police.**
4. Your sister visits you very rarely. ... **I wish my sister visited me more often.**
5. Your team lost the match. ... **I wish my team hadn't lost the match.**
6. You went to bed late last night. ... **I wish I had gone to bed earlier.**
7. You smoke. ... **I wish I didn't smoke.**
8. You do sport very rarely . ... **I wish I did sport more often.**

### Useful Internet Resources:

Student worksheet, printable PDF version of this lesson and other free ESL lesson plans available on:

<http://www.english-4u.com/>