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"Happy Birthday To You" in court case

17th June, 2013

http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1306/130617-happy_birthday_song.html

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THE ARTICLE

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1306/130617-happy_birthday_song.html

Everybody knows the song "Happy Birthday To You". It is the most popular and most often sung song in the English language. It is also now part of a legal case. A New York film company called Good Morning To You (GMTY) Productions has opened a lawsuit that says the song belongs in the public domain. This means anyone can use it because there is no copyright on it. However, the record label Warner Music says it owns the copyright to the tune. GMTY is making a documentary about the history of the song and had to pay Warner Music \$1,500 to use it. If it didn't pay, it could have got a penalty of \$150,000. The boss of GMTY was angry about this fee and took the case to a court in New York.

The melody of "Happy Birthday To You" comes from the song, "Good Morning to All". This was written in 1893 by two sisters from Kentucky, USA. They wrote it because they thought it would be easy for young children to sing. The words to "Happy Birthday To You" were added to the tune around a decade later. One of the most famous performances of the song was when Marilyn Monroe sang, "Happy Birthday, Mr. President" in a sexy voice to John F. Kennedy in 1962. GMTY says any copyright on the song ran out almost 100 years ago. The company wants Warner Music to return the millions of dollars it has collected for the song. Warner Music has so far stayed quiet and has not commented on the court case.

Sources: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/06/13/entertainment-us-usa-copyright-happybirt-idUSBRE95C19U20130613>
<http://www.usatoday.com/story/life/music/2013/06/14/happy-birthday-song/2423829/>
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Happy_Birthday_to_You

WARM-UPS

1. HAPPY BIRTHDAY SONG: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about Happy Birthday song. Change partners often and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, decide which of these topics or words from the article are most interesting and which are most boring.

Happy Birthday / popular / English language / legal case / public domain / documentary / melody / easy to sing / performances / sexy voice / copyright / millions of dollars

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

3. MOST OFTEN: What is the most often..... in your country? Complete this table and share what you wrote with your partner(s). Change partners often.

Most often...	What? / Who?	Why?	Is [it/he/she] the best?
sung song			
eaten food			
spoken phrase			
visited place			
praised person			
seen person			

4. COPYRIGHT: Students A **strongly** believe copyright is very, very, very important; Students B **strongly** believe it isn't. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

5. BIRTHDAYS: Rank these and share your rankings with your partner. Put the best things about birthdays at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- another year older
- birthday cake
- birthday wishes
- birthday cards
- birthday presents
- the "Happy Birthday" song
- feeling it's your special day
- birthday meal

6. SONG: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word 'song'. Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1306/130617-happy_birthday_song.html

1. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- a. "Happy Birthday To You" is the second-most often sung English song. T / F
- b. The song is now part of a court case about copyright. T / F
- c. A company called GMTY Productions owns the copyright to the song. T / F
- d. Companies have to pay \$1,500 to use the song. T / F
- e. The tune to "Happy Birthday To You" came from a different song. T / F
- f. The words to "Happy Birthday To You" were written in 1893. T / F
- g. A company said the copyright to the song ended around a century ago. T / F
- h. The company Warner Music made a statement about the court case. T / F

2. SYNONYM MATCH: Match the following synonyms from the article.

- | | |
|---------------|---------------------|
| 1. knows | a. lawsuit |
| 2. popular | b. gathered |
| 3. case | c. fine |
| 4. owns | d. is familiar with |
| 5. penalty | e. tune |
| 6. melody | f. finished |
| 7. added | g. common |
| 8. ran out | h. spoken about |
| 9. collected | i. possesses |
| 10. commented | j. attached |

3. PHRASE MATCH: (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. most often | a. the history of the song |
| 2. the song belongs | b. decade later |
| 3. making a documentary about | c. to a court |
| 4. The boss of GMTY was angry | d. so far stayed quiet |
| 5. took the case | e. "Happy Birthday To You" |
| 6. The melody of | f. about this fee |
| 7. it would be easy | g. out almost 100 years ago |
| 8. around a | h. sung song |
| 9. copyright on the song ran | i. for young children to sing |
| 10. Warner Music has | j. in the public domain |

GAP FILL

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1306/130617-happy_birthday_song.html

Everybody knows the song "Happy Birthday To You". It is the most (1) _____ and most (2) _____ sung song in the English language. It is also now part of a legal (3) _____. A New York film company called Good Morning To You (GMTY) Productions has opened a lawsuit that says the song belongs in the (4) _____ domain. This means anyone can use it because there is no (5) _____ on it. However, the record label Warner Music says it (6) _____ the copyright to the tune. GMTY is making a (7) _____ about the history of the song and had to pay Warner Music \$1,500 to use it. If it didn't pay, it could have got a (8) _____ of \$150,000. The boss of GMTY was angry about this fee and took the case to a court in New York.

public
penalty
often
owns
popular
copyright
documentary
case

The (9) _____ of "Happy Birthday To You" comes from the song, "Good Morning to All". This was (10) _____ in 1893 by two sisters from Kentucky, USA. They wrote it because they thought it would be (11) _____ for young children to sing. The words to "Happy Birthday To You" were added to the tune around a (12) _____ later. One of the most (13) _____ performances of the song was when Marilyn Monroe sang, "Happy Birthday, Mr. President" in a sexy voice to John F. Kennedy in 1962. GMTY says any copyright on the song (14) _____ out almost 100 years ago. The company wants Warner Music to (15) _____ the millions of dollars it has collected for the song. Warner Music has so far stayed quiet and has not (16) _____ on the court case.

ran
famous
easy
melody
return
written
commented
decade

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1306/130617-happy_birthday_song.html

- 1) the most popular and most _____ in the English language
 - a. often song sung
 - b. often sing song
 - c. often sung sing
 - d. often sung song
- 2) It is also now part _____
 - a. of a legal case
 - b. for a legal case
 - c. from a legal case
 - d. to a legal case
- 3) a lawsuit that says the song belongs _____
 - a. in the publicly domain
 - b. in the publicity domain
 - c. in the public domain
 - d. in the publican domain
- 4) Warner Music says it owns the copyright _____
 - a. two the tune
 - b. two the tune
 - c. to the tune
 - d. chew the tune
- 5) The boss of GMTY was angry about this fee and took _____
 - a. the case to this court
 - b. the case to the court
 - c. the case to any court
 - d. the case to a court
- 6) They wrote it because they thought it would be easy for _____
 - a. young children to sing
 - b. young children to sang
 - c. young children to song
 - d. young children to sung
- 7) The words to "Happy Birthday To You" were added to the tune around _____
 - a. a decade late
 - b. a decade later
 - c. a decade latter
 - d. a decade latte
- 8) any copyright on the song ran out _____
 - a. all most 100 years ago
 - b. at most 100 years ago
 - c. a most 100 years ago
 - d. almost 100 years ago
- 9) The company wants Warner Music to return the millions of dollars _____
 - a. it has collecting
 - b. it has collected
 - c. it has collection
 - d. it has collects
- 10) Warner Music has so far stayed quiet and _____
 - a. has not yet commented
 - b. has not even commented
 - c. hasn't commented
 - d. has not commented

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LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1306/130617-happy_birthday_song.html

Everybody knows the song "Happy Birthday To You". It is the most popular and (1) _____ in the English language. It is also (2) _____. A New York film company called Good Morning To You (GMTY) Productions has opened a lawsuit that says the song (3) _____. This means anyone can use it because there is no copyright on it. However, the record label Warner Music says it (4) _____ tune. GMTY is making a documentary about the history of the song and had to pay Warner Music \$1,500 to use it. If it didn't pay, (5) _____ penalty of \$150,000. The boss of GMTY was angry about this fee (6) _____ court in New York.

The melody of "Happy Birthday To You" (7) _____, "Good Morning to All". This was written in 1893 by two sisters from Kentucky, USA. They wrote it because they (8) _____ for young children to sing. The words to "Happy Birthday To You" were added to the tune (9) _____. One of the most famous (10) _____ song was when Marilyn Monroe sang, "Happy Birthday, Mr. President" in a sexy voice to John F. Kennedy in 1962. GMTY says any copyright on the song (11) _____ years ago. The company wants Warner Music to return the millions of dollars it has collected for the song. Warner Music (12) _____ and has not commented on the court case.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1306/130617-happy_birthday_song.html

1. Who knows the song "Happy Birthday"?

2. Where does GMTY say the song belongs?

3. Which company says it owns the copyright to the song?

4. How much does it cost to use the song?

5. Where will the court case happen?

6. When was the song "Good Morning to All" written?

7. When were the words to "Happy Birthday To You" written?

8. Who sang "Happy Birthday To You" in a sexy voice?

9. How much money has Warner Music collected from the song?

10. What did Warner Music say about the court case?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1306/130617-happy_birthday_song.html

1. Who knows the song "Happy Birthday"?
 - a) people who celebrate birthdays
 - b) everyone
 - c) people in English-speaking countries
 - d) 5 billion people
2. Where does GMTY say the song belongs?
 - a) at birthday parties
 - b) in history
 - c) in the trash can
 - d) in the public domain
3. Which company says it owns the copyright to the song?
 - a) Warner Music
 - b) Apple
 - c) GMTY
 - d) Sony
4. How much does it cost to use the song?
 - a) nothing
 - b) \$1.50
 - c) \$1,500
 - d) \$150,000
5. Where will the court case happen?
 - a) Paris
 - b) New York
 - c) Tokyo
 - d) Kentucky
6. When was the song "Good Morning to All" written?
 - a) 1893
 - b) 1983
 - c) 1938
 - d) 1398
7. When were the words to "Happy Birthday To You" written?
 - a) 1962
 - b) January 1st 1923
 - c) around 1903
 - d) 50 years ago
8. Who sang "Happy Birthday To You" in a sexy voice?
 - a) Marilyn Monroe
 - b) John F. Kennedy
 - c) Lady Gaga
 - d) Warner Bros.
9. How much money has Warner Music collected from the song?
 - a) millions of dollars
 - b) \$1,500
 - c) \$342,781,200.95
 - d) billions of dollars
10. What did Warner Music say about the court case?
 - a) it was a waste of time
 - b) it would win
 - c) it would sue GMTY
 - d) nothing

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ROLE PLAY

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1306/130617-happy_birthday_song.html

Role A – Warner Music

The copyright to "Happy Birthday To You" belongs to you. Anyone who uses the song to make money must pay you \$1,500. You have documents to show you own the song. Anyone who uses your song without paying must get a penalty of \$150,000. You will keep the copyright forever.

Role B – GMTY

You think it's crazy that Warner Music thinks it owns the copyright to "Happy Birthday To You". Tell the others three reasons why. You want back the \$1,500 you paid Warner. Tell Warner they stole the money from you. Also tell them "Happy Birthday To You" belongs to the whole world.

Role C – Copyright lawyer

You think Warner Music owns the copyright to "Happy Birthday To You" – they have the documents that say so. You understand "Happy Birthday To You" is a very popular song but the law is the law. People must pay to use the song. Try to ask Warner to put the song in the public domain.

Role D – Happy Birthday Music

You are a new company called Happy Birthday Music. You will make thousands of records using the words and tune to "Happy Birthday To You". You will never pay to use it. You think the song is part of history and cannot be copyrighted. Tell Warner it is being greedy and the world will hate them.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1306/130617-happy_birthday_song.html

1. WORD SEARCH: Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'happy' and 'birthday'.

happy	birthday
--------------	-----------------

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS: Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

3. GAP FILL: In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

4. VOCABULARY: Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

5. TEST EACH OTHER: Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• often• now• opened• anyone• history• 150,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1893• decade• famous• 100• millions• far
---	---

HAPPY BIRTHDAY SONG SURVEY

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1306/130617-happy_birthday_song.html

Write five GOOD questions about the Happy Birthday song in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

"HAPPY BIRTHDAY" SONG DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

- a) What did you think when you read the headline?
- b) What springs to mind when you hear the word 'birthday'?
- c) What do you think of the song "Happy Birthday To You"?
- d) Is it better to sing it in English or your own language?
- e) What do you think of Warner Music saying it owns the song?
- f) Should the song "Happy Birthday To You" be in the public domain?
- g) Are there other songs you sing for birthdays?
- h) Who do you think will win the court case (and why)?
- i) What will be in the documentary about the song "Happy Birthday"?
- j) Should companies have to pay Warner Music \$1,500 to use the song?

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"HAPPY BIRTHDAY" SONG DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

- a) Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
- b) What do you think of music and copyright?
- c) Why is the song "Happy Birthday To You" so easy to sing?
- d) What do you know about Marilyn Monroe singing "Happy Birthday"?
- e) How do you feel when people sing a song for your birthday?
- f) When is the best time on someone's birthday to sing "Happy Birthday"?
- g) Should there be copyright on songs over 100 years old?
- h) Should Warner Music return the money it has collected for the song?
- i) Why do you think Warner Music is staying quiet?
- j) What questions would you like to ask Warner Music?

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

MULTIPLE CHOICE - LANGUAGE

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1306/130617-happy_birthday_song.html

Everybody knows the song "Happy Birthday To You". It is the most popular and most often (1) _____ song in the English language. It is also now part of a legal case. A New York film company called Good Morning To You (GMTY) Productions has opened a lawsuit that says the song (2) _____ in the public domain. This means anyone can use it because there is no (3) _____ on it. However, the record label Warner Music says it (4) _____ the copyright to the tune. GMTY is (5) _____ a documentary about the history of the song and had to pay Warner Music \$1,500 to use it. If it didn't pay, it could have got a penalty of \$150,000. The boss of GMTY was angry about this (6) _____ and took the case to a court in New York.

The melody of "Happy Birthday To You" (7) _____ from the song, "Good Morning to All". This was (8) _____ in 1893 by two sisters from Kentucky, USA. They wrote it because they thought it would be easy for young children to sing. The words to "Happy Birthday To You" were (9) _____ to the tune around a decade later. One of the most famous performances of the song was when Marilyn Monroe sang, "Happy Birthday, Mr. President" in a sexy (10) _____ to John F. Kennedy in 1962. GMTY says any copyright on the song ran (11) _____ almost 100 years ago. The company wants Warner Music to return the millions of dollars it has collected for the song. Warner Music has so far stayed quiet and has not commented (12) _____ the court case.

Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|----------------|---------------|---------------|------------|
| 1. | (a) sung | (b) singing | (c) singed | (d) sang |
| 2. | (a) owns | (b) has | (c) belongs | (d) sings |
| 3. | (a) tune | (b) legal | (c) copyright | (d) public |
| 4. | (a) downs | (b) downloads | (c) gowns | (d) owns |
| 5. | (a) making | (b) made | (c) maker | (d) makers |
| 6. | (a) tee | (b) fee | (c) wee | (d) nee |
| 7. | (a) arrives | (b) leaves | (c) goes | (d) comes |
| 8. | (a) writing | (b) written | (c) wrote | (d) writes |
| 9. | (a) additional | (b) addition | (c) added | (d) adding |
| 10. | (a) speech | (b) voice | (c) singing | (d) melody |
| 11. | (a) in | (b) up | (c) over | (d) out |
| 12. | (a) as | (b) on | (c) up | (d) at |

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SPELLING

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1306/130617-happy_birthday_song.html

Paragraph 1

1. the most lurppao
2. the English angagleu
3. the song lesbgon in the public domain
4. it owns the rtoihycgp
5. making a yudecontram
6. a tanypel of \$150,000

Paragraph 2

7. The dmlyoe of "Happy Birthday To You"
8. This was niwtter in 1893
9. around a adecde later
10. famous frrsponecmea
11. return the lnlsiiom of dollars
12. has not ocdnmeetm on the court case

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1306/130617-happy_birthday_song.html

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () domain. This means anyone can use it because there is no copyright on it. However, the record label Warner Music says it
- () a penalty of \$150,000. The boss of GMTY was angry about this fee and took the case to a court in New York.
- () most famous performances of the song was when Marilyn Monroe sang, "Happy Birthday, Mr. President"
- () almost 100 years ago. The company wants Warner Music to return the millions of dollars it has
- () of the song and had to pay Warner Music \$1,500 to use it. If it didn't pay, it could have got
- () Good Morning To You (GMTY) Productions has opened a lawsuit that says the song belongs in the public
- () to "Happy Birthday To You" were added to the tune around a decade later. One of the
- (**1**) Everybody knows the song "Happy Birthday To You". It is the most popular and most often sung
- () song in the English language. It is also now part of a legal case. A New York film company called
- () in a sexy voice to John F. Kennedy in 1962. GMTY says any copyright on the song ran out
- () by two sisters from Kentucky, USA. They wrote it because they thought it would be easy for young children to sing. The words
- () collected for the song. Warner Music has so far stayed quiet and has not commented on the court case.
- () The melody of "Happy Birthday To You" comes from the song, "Good Morning to All". This was written in 1893
- () owns the copyright to the tune. GMTY is making a documentary about the history

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PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1306/130617-happy_birthday_song.html

1. and sung is popular often It most most song the.

2. A domain public the in belongs song the says that lawsuit.

3. owns the copyright to the tune Warner Music says it.

4. it If penalty a got have could it , pay didn't.

5. fee boss was this The GMTY about of angry.

6. young for easy be would it thought They sing to children.

7. later tune around Added a to decade the.

8. of famous the One most of the performances song.

9. on copyright Any ago years 100 almost out ran song the.

10. has millions collected of dollars Return it the.

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1306/130617-happy_birthday_song.html

Everybody knows the song "Happy Birthday To You". It is the most *popularity / popular* and most often sung *song / sang* in the English language. It is also now part of a legal *cause / case*. A New York *filmed / film* company called Good Morning To You (GMTY) Productions has opened a lawsuit that *says / sayings* the song belongs in the public domain. This means anyone can use it because there is *no / non-* copyright on it. However, the *record / recorded* label Warner Music says it owns the copyright *too / to* the tune. GMTY is making a documentary about the history of the song and had to *pay / paid* Warner Music \$1,500 to use it. If it didn't pay, it could have got a penalty of \$150,000. The boss of GMTY was angry about this fee and took the case *to / at* a court in New York.

The *melody / medley* of "Happy Birthday To You" comes from the song, "Good Morning to All". This was *wrote / written* in 1893 by two sisters from Kentucky, USA. They wrote it because they thought it would be *easily / easy* for young children to sing. The *words / lyric* to "Happy Birthday To You" were *added / additional* to the tune around a decade *later / late*. One of the most famous performances of the song was when Marilyn Monroe sang, "Happy Birthday, Mr. President" in a sexy *singing / voice* to John F. Kennedy in 1962. GMTY says any copyright on the song ran *out / up* almost 100 years ago. The company wants Warner Music to return the millions of dollars it has *collected / collection* for the song. Warner Music has so far stayed quiet and has not commented *on / as* the court case.

Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.

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INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1306/130617-happy_birthday_song.html

_v_ryb_dy kn_ws th_ s_ng "H_ppy B_rthd_y T_ Y__". _t
s th m_st p_p_l_r _nd m_st _ft_n s_ng s_ng _n th_
_ngl_sh l_ng__g_. _t_s _ls_ n_w p_rt _f_ l_g_l c_s_.
_ N_w Y_rk f_lm c_mp_ny c_ll_d G__d M_rn_ng T_ Y__
(GMTY) Pr_d_ct__ns h_s _p_n_d _ l_ws__t th_t s_ys
th_ s_ng b_l_ngs _n th_ p_bl_c d_m__n. Th_s m__ns
_ny_n_ c_n_s__t b_c__s th_r__s n_ c_pyr_gh_t _n
_t. H_w_v_r, th_ r_c_rd l_b_l W_rn_r M_s_c s_ys _t
wns th c_pyr_gh_t t_ th_ t_n_. GMTY _s m_k_ng _
d_c_m_nt_ry _b__t th_ h_st_ry _f th_ s_ng _nd h_d t_
p_y W_rn_r M_s_c \$1,500 t_ _s__t. _f_t d_dn't p_y,
_t c__ld h_v_g_t _ p_n_lty _f \$150,000. Th_ b_ss _f
GMTY w_s _ngry _b__t th_s f__ _nd t__k th_ c_s_ t_ _
c__rt _n N_w Y_rk.

Th_ m_l_dy _f "H_ppy B_rthd_y T_ Y__" c_m_s fr_m th_
s_ng, "G__d M_rn_ng t_ __ll". Th_s w_s wr_tt_n _n 1893
by tw_ s_st_rs fr_m K_nt_cky, _S_. Th_y wr_t__t
b_c__s th_y th_gh_t _t w__ld b_ __sy f_r y__ng
ch_ldr_n t_ s_ng. Th_ w_rds t_ "H_ppy B_rthd_y T_
Y__" w_r_ _dd_d t_ th_ t_n_ _r__nd _d_c_d_l_t_r.
n _f th_ m_st f_m__s p_rf_rm_nc_s _f th_ s_ng w_s
wh_n M_r_lyn M_nr__ s_ng, "H_ppy B_rthd_y, Mr.
Pr_s_d_nt" _n _s_xy v__c_ t_ J_hn F. K_nn_dy _n
1962. GMTY s_ys _ny c_pyr_gh_t _n th_ s_ng r_n __t
_lm_st 100 y__rs _g_. Th_ c_mp_ny w_nts W_rn_r
M_s_c t_ r_t_rn th_ m_ll__ns _f d_ll_rs _t h_s
c_ll_ct_d f_r th_ s_ng. W_rn_r M_s_c h_s s_f_r st_y_d
q__t _nd h_s n_t c_m_m_nt_d _n th_ c__rt c_s_.

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1306/130617-happy_birthday_song.html

everybody knows the song "happy birthday to you" it is the most popular and most often sung song in the english language it is also now part of a legal case a new york film company called good morning to you (gmt) productions has opened a lawsuit that says the song belongs in the public domain this means anyone can use it because there is no copyright on it however the record label warner music says it owns the copyright to the tune gmt is making a documentary about the history of the song and had to pay warner music \$1500 to use it if it didn't pay it could have got a penalty of \$150000 the boss of gmt was angry about this fee and took the case to a court in new york

the melody of "happy birthday to you" comes from the song "good morning to all" this was written in 1893 by two sisters from kentucky usa they wrote it because they thought it would be easy for young children to sing the words to "happy birthday to you" were added to the tune around a decade later one of the most famous performances of the song was when marilyn monroe sang "happy birthday mr president" in a sexy voice to john f kennedy in 1962 gmt says any copyright on the song ran out almost 100 years ago the company wants warner music to return the millions of dollars it has collected for the song warner music has so far stayed quiet and has not commented on the court case

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1306/130617-happy_birthday_song.html

everybodyknowsthesong"happybirthdaytoyou"itisthemostpopularandmost oftensungsongintheenglishlanguageitisalsonowpartofalegalcaseanewyorkfilm companycalledgoodmorningtoyou(gmt)productionsahasopenedalawsuitthat saysthesongbelongsinthepublicdomainthismeansanyonecanuseitbecause thereisnocopyrightonithowevertherecordlabelwarnermusicsaysitownsthe copyrighttothetunegmtymakingadocumentaryaboutthehistoryofthesong andhadtopaywarnermusic\$1500touseititdidn'tpayitcouldhavegotapenalty of\$150000thebossofgmtymwasangryaboutthisfeeandtookthecasetoacourtin newyorkthemelodyof"happybirthdaytoyou"comesfromthesong"goodmorning toall"thiswaswrittenin1893bytwosistersfromkentuckyusatheywroteitbecause theythoughtitwouldbeeasyforyoungchildrentosingthewordsto"happybirthday toyou"wereaddedtothetunearoundadecadelateroneofthemostfamous performancesofthesongwaswhenmarilynmonroesang"happybirthdaymr president"inasexyvoicetojohnfkennedyin1962gmtysaysanycopyrightonthe songranoutalmost100yearsagothecompanywantswarnermusicreturnthe millionsofdollarsithascollectedforthesongwarnermusicassofarstayedquiet andhasnotcommentedonthecourtcase

"Happy Birthday to You" in court case – 17th June, 2013

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HOMework

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find out more about the "Happy Birthday" song. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. HAPPY BIRTHDAY SONG: Make a poster about the "Happy Birthday" song. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. COURT CASE: Write a magazine article about the court case. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against the song being copyright-free.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT? Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

6. LETTER: Write a letter to a copyright expert. Ask him/her three questions about copyright. Give him/her three of your opinions on it. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

TRUE / FALSE (p.4)

a F b T c F d T e T f F g T h F

SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- | | |
|---------------|---------------------|
| 1. knows | a. is familiar with |
| 2. popular | b. common |
| 3. case | c. lawsuit |
| 4. owns | d. possesses |
| 5. penalty | e. fine |
| 6. melody | f. tune |
| 7. added | g. attached |
| 8. ran out | h. finished |
| 9. collected | i. gathered |
| 10. commented | j. spoken about |

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. Everyone
2. In the public domain
3. Warner Music
4. \$1,500
5. New York
6. 1893
7. Around a decade after 1893
8. Marilyn Monroe
9. Millions of dollars
10. Nothing

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

1. b 2. d 3. a 4. c 5. b 6. a 7. c 8. a 9. a 10. d

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.
(It's good for your English ;-)