

Subject: Learning from Lyrics

1. Do you know the past forms of the following verbs from Rihanna's song?

wrap		
check		
be		
go		
meet		
spin		
need		
feel		

2. Listen to the song and fill in the gaps with the past tense of the verbs from the previous exercise

Rehab (by Rihanna)

Baby, baby, when we first **a)**.....
 I never **b)**..... something so strong
 You **c)**..... like my lover and my best friend
 All **d)**..... into one with a **ribbon** on it

And all of a sudden you **e)**..... and left
 I didn't know how to follow
 It's like a shot that **f)**..... me around
 And now my heart's dead
 I feel so empty and **hollow**

And I'll never give myself to another the way I gave it to you
 Don't even recognize the ways you hurt me
 Do you?
 It's gonna take a miracle to bring me back
 And you're the one to blame

And now I feel like, oh
You're the reason why I'm thinking
I don't wanna smoke on these cigarettes no more
*I guess that's what I get for **wishful thinking***
*I **should've never let** you enter my door*

Next time you wanna go on and leave
I should just let you go on and do it
'Cause now I'm using like I bleed

*It's like I **g)**..... into rehab x 2*
Baby you're my disease



I gotta check into rehab x 2
'Cause baby you're my disease

Damn, ain't it crazy when you're love-swept
You'll do anything for the one you love
'Cause anytime that you **h**)..... me I'd be there
It's like you **i**)..... my favorite drug

The only problem is that you **j**)..... using me
In a different way that I **k**)..... using you
But now that I know it's not meant to be
You gotta go, I gotta **wean myself off** of you

And I'll never give myself to another the way I gave it to you
Don't even recognize the ways you hurt me
Do you?
It's gonna take a miracle to bring me back
And you're the one to blame

'Cause now.... chorus

[Justin Timberlake:]
Now ladies give me that
[Rihanna:]
Oh oh oh oh oh oh oh oh
[Justin Timberlake:]
Now give me that
[Rihanna:]
Oh oh oh oh oh oh oh oh

Chorus

Answer key: (a) met; (b) felt; (c) were; (d) wrapped; (e) went; (f) spun; (g) checked; (h); needed (i) were; (j) were; (k) was

3. Answer the questions

- Do you know the meaning of the words/phrases marked green in the text?
- Would you use 'should've never let' (marked pink) to refer to the past, present or future?
- Why does the woman want to check into rehab? What, in general, might be the reasons people have for checking into rehab?
- What does the woman blame the man for?
- When is 'ain't' used?
- The woman feels 'empty and hollow'. How else can you feel when you're unhappy? What other adjectives could be used to talk about sadness?
- What can the woman do to feel better? What do you usually do to cheer yourself up?