## Reading and Speaking

Who wrote Imagine?

## **5 READING**

- a Read the article once and mark the sentences T (true) or F (false).
  - 1 Imagine was a hit three times.
  - 2 Yoko Ono helped to write Imagine.
  - 3 Ono wrote poems for John Lennon.
  - 4 Lennon never said that Yoko helped him with the song.
  - 5 Imagine was written in two places.
  - 6 John Lennon opened the new Liverpool Airport.

## Who wrote Imagine?

Imagine, John Lennon's most famous song, was recently voted 'Britain's favourite song of all time'. It's an idealistic song about peace and the hope for a better world.

'Imagine all the people living life in peace'. The song was a big hit in 1971, and again in 1980 when Lennon was murdered in News York. It became a hit for a third time after the terrorist attacks of September 11th 2001.

But who really wrote the song? Until recently the answer to this questions was always John Lennon. But on a TV programme this week Lennon's wife, Yoko Ono, spoke for the first time about how she, in fact, helped to write the song.

Ono said that the idea and inspiration for Imagine came from some of her poems that John Lennon was reading at that time. The poems began with the word 'Imagine'. 'Imagine a raindrop. Imagine a goldfish'. Ono said, «When I was a child in Japan during the Second World War my brother and I were terribly hungry. I imagined delicious menus for him and he began to smile. If you think something is impossible, you can imagine it and make it happen'.

In an interview just before he died, Lennon admitted that Yoko deserved credit for Imagine. He said, 'A lot of it - the lyrics and the concept - came from her, from her book of poems, 'imagine this, imagine that'. Lennone said that he was 'too macho' to share the credit with her at the time.

Ono said that some of the song was written when they were flying across the Atlantic and the rest was written on the piano in their bedroom at their home in England. Ono said, \The song speaks about John's dream for the world. It was something he really wanted to say.' 'Imagine became a popular song for peace activitsts everywhere.

In March 2002 the airport in his home town of Liverpool was re-named John Lennon Airport. A sign about the main entrance has a line from Imagine. 'Above us only sky'.



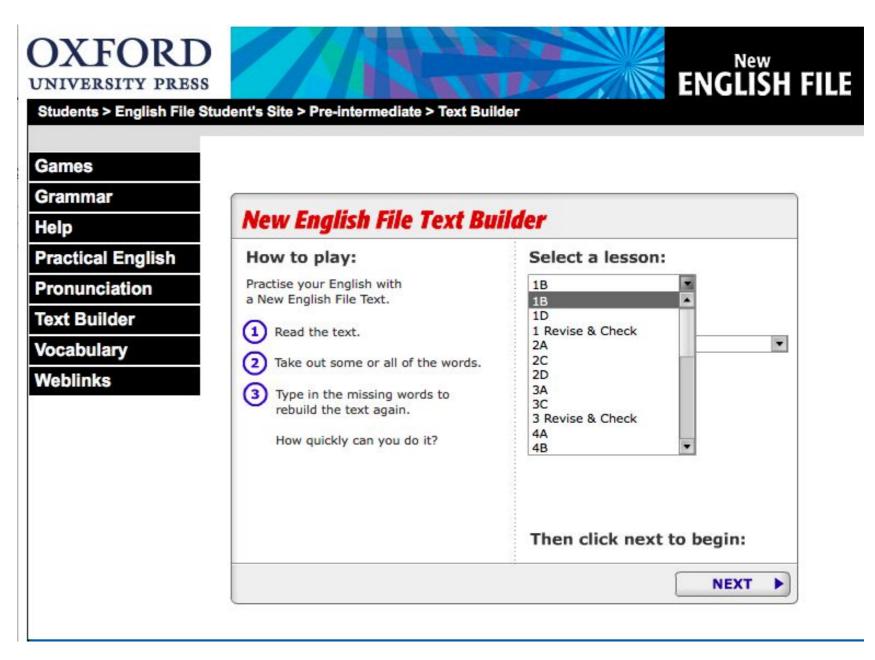
b	Read the article again. Number the sentences in the order that things happened.	r
	A John Lennon read Ono's poems.	
	B John Lennon wrote Imagine.	
	C Yoko Ono helped her little brother.	1
	D John Lennon spoke about the song in an interview.	
	E Liverpool Airport was renamed John Lennon Airport.	
	F Yoko Ono spoke about the song on a TV programme.	
	G The song became a hit again when Lennon died.	
	H The song became popular again after September 11th 2001.	

Here you can practice remembering the text before recording the retelling of the text.

## 1. Use the link

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- 2. Choose the Unit 2C
- 3. Do the exercise until you can retell the text.
- 4. Record your retelling.
- 5. Attach your recording to the comments to the post.



Speaking. Task 1.