

We Shall Overcome

This text is in the public domain.

We shall overcome, we shall overcome
We shall overcome some day
Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe
We shall overcome some day

The Lord will see us through, the Lord will see us through
The lord will see us through some day
Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe
The Lord will see us some day

We're on to victory, we're on to victory
We're on to victory some day
Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe
We're on to victory some day

We'll walk hand in hand, we'll walk hand in hand
We'll walk hand in hand some day
Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe
We'll walk hand in hand some day

We are not afraid, we are not afraid
We are not afraid today
Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe
We are not afraid today

The truth shall make us free, the truth shall make us free
The truth shall make us free some day
Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe
The truth shall make us free some day

We shall live in peace, we shall live in peace
We shall live in peace some day
Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe
We shall live in peace some day

Analyze Author's Techniques, including Figurative Language – Poem/Song

Questions developed by Center for Urban Education for use by Chicago Public Schools 2008-2009.

Choose the best answer for each question.

1. Why does the writer repeat the words in each part of the song?

- a. to rhyme the sentences
- b. to make the idea important
- c. to match the music
- d. to help people sing

3. What does “deep in my heart” mean in the song?

- a. what I really feel
- b. how I think
- c. what I like
- d. how people share

2. Why does the writer keep saying some day?

- a. to tell when it will happen
- b. to rhyme all the lines
- c. to show it is about the future
- d. to show it is about today

4. What does “walk hand in hand” mean in the song?

- a. walking down the street
- b. a parade
- c. people cooperating
- d. making a trip

5. Write your own answer to this question. What is your favorite part of the song?

What does it mean to you?

TEACHER NOTES: Develop Students' Skills: Exercise Thinking

These questions have not been validated, so decisions about student's achievement should not be made based on their responses. They are intended to exercise skills. Recommended activities include: students work in pairs to choose the best response; give students the questions without the responses so they generate their own answers; students make up additional questions; students make up questions like these for another passage.

Answers: You can remove this answer key and then give it to students and ask them to figure out the basis for the correct response.

Item	1	2	3	4
Answer	b	c	a	c

Question 5 is open-ended. Here is a suggested response.
Answers will vary. Students should explain what the part means to them.