

Ain't Got No, I Got Life, by Nina Simone

1. Before you listen to the song, discuss the title. What do you think it means?
2. Listen to the song and fill in the gaps (StA – StB). Get in pairs and check your answers.

STUDENT A

Ain't Got No, I Got Life, by Nina Simone

Ain't got no H _____, ain't got no shoes
Ain't got no M _____, ain't got no class
Ain't got no S _____, ain't got no sweaters
Ain't got no P _____, ain't got no love
Ain't got no F _____

Ain't got no C _____
Ain't got no M _____, ain't got no father
Ain't got no B _____, ain't got no children
Ain't got no A _____, ain't got no uncles
Ain't got no L _____, ain't got no mind

Ain't got no C _____, ain't got no schooling
Ain't got no F _____, ain't got no nothing
Ain't got no W _____, ain't got no air
Ain't got no S _____, ain't got no chicken
Ain't got no

Ain't got no W _____
Ain't got no love
Ain't got no A _____
Ain't got no God
Ain't got no W _____
Ain't got no money
Ain't got no F _____
Ain't got no God
Ain't got no L _____

Then what have I _____
Why am I alive anyway?
Yeah, hell
_____ have I got
Nobody can take away

I got my hair, got my H _____
Got my brains, got my E _____
Got my eyes, got my N _____
Got my M _____
I got my
I got myself

I got my arms, got my H _____
Got my fingers, got my L _____
Got my feet, got my T _____
Got my liver
Got my B _____

I've got life
I've got L _____

I've got headaches, and T _____
And bad times too like you

I got my hair, got my H _____
Got my brains, got my E _____
Got my eyes, got my N _____
Got my mouth
I got my S _____

I got my tongue, got my CH _____
Got my neck, got my B _____
Got my heart, got my S _____
Got my back
I got my S _____

I got my arms, got my H _____
Got my fingers, got my L _____
Got my feet, got my T _____
Got my L _____
Got my blood

I've got life
I've got my F _____
Ohhh
I've got L _____!

STUDENT B

Ain't Got No, I Got Life, by Nina Simone

Ain't got no home, ain't got no S _____
Ain't got no money, ain't got no C _____
Ain't got no skirts, ain't got no S _____
Ain't got no perfume, ain't got no L _____
Ain't got no F _____

Ain't got no C _____
Ain't got no mother, ain't got no F _____
Ain't got no brother, ain't got no CH _____
Ain't got no aunts, ain't got no U _____
Ain't got no love, ain't got no M _____

Ain't got no country, ain't got no S _____
Ain't got no friends, ain't got no N _____
Ain't got no water, ain't got no A _____
Ain't got no smokes, ain't got no CH _____
Ain't got no

Ain't got no water
Ain't got no L _____
Ain't got no air
Ain't got no G _____
Ain't got no wine
Ain't got no m _____
Ain't got no faith
Ain't got no G _____
Ain't got no love

Then W _____ have I got
W _____ am I alive anyway?
Yeah, hell
What have _____ got
N _____ can take away

I got my H _____, got my head
Got my B _____, got my ears
Got my E _____, got my nose
Got my M _____
I got my _____
I got M _____

I got my A _____, got my hands
Got my F _____, got my legs

Got my F _____, got my toes
Got my L _____
Got my blood

I've got L _____
I've got lives

I've got H _____, and toothaches
And bad times too like you

I got my H _____, got my head
Got my B _____, got my ears
Got my E _____, got my nose
Got my M _____
I got my S _____

I got my T _____, got my chin
Got my N _____, got my boobs
Got my H _____, got my soul
Got my B _____
I got my sex

I got my A _____, got my hands
Got my F _____, got my legs
Got my F _____, got my toes
Got my L _____
Got my blood

I've got L _____
I've got my freedom
Ohhh
I've got life!

- 3. How many parts does the song have? In which line does the second part begin?**
- 4. What is the tone of the first part of the song? And that of the second? In the title of the song, the speaker already changes her mind. Why do you think there is such a change?**
- 5. Can you identify an example or two of Black English and rewrite it/them into Standard English?**
- 6. Let's do a bit of research! Write a paragraph explaining who Nina Simone was. Why is this song relevant to work on this song on Women's Day?**