

SO YOU WANT A REVOLUTION?

Purpose

Choose something in your life or community that you would like to see change. Using the lyrics from a revolution or protest song, think through those changes and the actions you might take to make them happen. Thinking about the kinds of changes you'd like to see in your community will give you perspective before learning about revolutions of the long nineteenth century.

Process

1. Many famous songs have called for revolution or change. Read the lyrics on the next page to the Beatles' song "Revolution." As you read, think about what the song is suggesting, and then answer the analysis questions in the right-hand column.

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"Revolution" lyrics	Analysis question
You say you want a revolution Well, you know We all want to change the world You tell me that it's evolution Well, you know We all want to change the world But when you talk about destruction Don't you know that you can count me out Don't you know it's gonna be alright Alright Alright	What kind of change do you want to see in your community or world?
You say you got a real solution Well, you know We'd all love to see the plan You ask me for a contribution Well, you know We're all doing what we can But if you want money for people with minds that hate All I can tell you is, brother, you have to wait Don't you know it's gonna be alright Alright Alright	What tactics would you use to make this change happen?
You say you'll change the Constitution Well, you know We all want to change your head You tell me it's the institution Well, you know You'd better free your mind instead But if you go carrying pictures of Chairman Mao You ain't going to make it with anyone anyhow Don't you know it's gonna be alright Alright Alright... The Beatles. <i>Revolution</i>. Apple Records, 1968.	What is the Beatles' message about revolutionary change in this song? How does their perspective compare to yours?