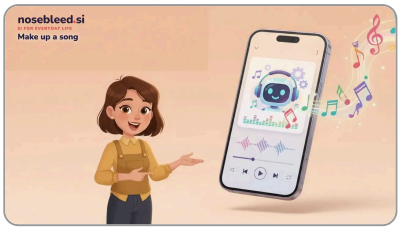
Make up a song



Use AI to write new words to a tune everyone knows, for a birthday, a party or just for fun.

By the end, you'll be able to:

- choose a well-known tune and a subject
- use AI to write words that fit the tune
- check the words fit, and are true

Warm-up Which songs does everyone know?

Talk about it with your group. Which songs could a whole room sing without the words in front of them?

1 Pick a tune and a subject

Traditional tunes are free for anyone to use. Tick one you know.

☐ Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star ☐ She'll Be Coming Round the Mountain

☐ Daisy Bell (A Bicycle Made for Two) ☐ Row, Row, Row Your Boat

Who or what would your song be about? Write three things about them.

2 Ask AI for the words

If you have a device, try this prompt.

TRY THIS PROMPT

Please write new words to the tune of "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star" for my granddaughter Ella's 6th birthday. She loves dinosaurs, swimming and her cat, Biscuit. Keep it to two short verses, with the same number of syllables as the original lines, so it's easy to sing.

3 Does it fit the tune?

Sing or clap these lines to "Twinkle, Twinkle". The original first line has 7 syllables: *Twin-kle, twin-kle, lit-tle star*. Which line doesn't fit?

EXAMPLE AI VERSE

A: Happy birthday, Ella dear,
B: Dinosaurs are stomping here,
C: Biscuit the cat is purring on your bed and wants to play,
D: Splashing in the pool all day.

The line that doesn't fit is: _____ Why?

4 Write your own line

Write one line for your own song, to your chosen tune. Count the syllables on your fingers.

5 Good to know

- Some AI tools can make a whole new song, with music and a singing voice. Try one if you're curious.
- Use traditional tunes, or ones that are free to use, if you'll share your song online.
- Sing it through before the party, so there are no surprises.

> **No device?** In small groups, write a verse about your group to "She'll Be Coming Round the Mountain", then sing it!

Find out more: read the free step-by-step guide, with a 10-second video, at **nosebleed.si/ideas/make-up-a-song**

Teacher notes: Make up a song

Time: 45 to 60 minutes

Level: beginners; no AI experience needed

Group: any size; works well in pairs

You'll need: a copy per learner; phones or tablets with an AI chat app (optional)

Before the session

Try the prompt yourself. Ella is made up. Singing is optional: clapping the rhythm works just as well. The four tunes in Part 1 are traditional.

Running order

5 min	**Warm-up.** Songs everyone knows.
10 min	**Part 1.** Pick a tune and a subject.
15 min	**Parts 2 and 3.** Try the prompt, then check the fit.
15 min	**Part 4.** Write a line, then share.
5 min	**Wrap-up.** Sing it through!

Answers: Part 3

Line C is far too long (14 syllables, not 7), so it won't fit the tune. Ask AI: "Please make line 3 seven syllables, like the original."

Discussion points

- AI often struggles with syllables and rhythm. Singing it aloud is the best check.
- Copyright: new words to a modern song are fine at a family party, but sharing them online may break the songwriter's rights. Traditional tunes avoid this.
- AI music tools have their own terms of use. Check them before sharing a song publicly.

© FirstM Ltd 2026