

# Down by the River

1. Listen to the song and select the correct word.

City life was **putting us/ gettin' us** down  
So we spent the weekend out of town  
Pitched the **tent/gent** on the patch of ground  
Down by the river



Lit a fire and drank some wine  
You put your **jeans/beans** on the top of mine  
Said, come in the water's **fine/mine**  
Down by the river

Down by the river  
Down by the river  
Said, come in the water's fine  
Down by the river

Didn't **feel/fall** too good all night  
So we took a walk in the morning light  
Came across the **strangest/strongest** sight  
Down by the river

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**Silver/sliver** fish lay on its side  
It was washed up by the early tide  
I wonder how it **died/lie**  
Down by the river



Down by the river  
Down by the river  
Silver fish lay on its side  
Down by the river

Doctor put us both to bed  
He **dosed/closed** us up and he shook his head  
Only **foolish/smart** people go, he said  
Down by the river



Why do willows **weep/sleep**, said he  
Because they're dying gradually  
From the **waste/taste**, from the factories



Down by the river

Down by the river  
 Down by the river  
 Why do willows weep, said he  
 Down by the river

In time, the river banks will **die/fry**  
 The reeds will wilt and the ducks won't fly  
 There'll be a **tear/beer** in the otter's eye  
 Down by the river

The banks will soon be **black/back** and dead  
 And where the otter raised his head  
 Will be a clean white **stone/bone** instead  
 Down by the river

Down by the river  
 Down by the river  
 Will be a clean white stone instead  
 Down by the river



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2a. Match the words from the song with their nearest meaning.

Word	Meaning
1. weep	G. rubbish
2. waste	H. crying
3. gradually	C. droop
4. willow	D. unusual
5. strangest	E. tree
6. wilt	F. slowly

2b. Match the phrasals from the song with their nearest meaning.

Phrasal	Meaning
1. Getting us down	A. The plant life is dying
2. Pitched the tent	B. Why are these trees crying
3. Didn't feel too good	C. He gave us some medicine
4. Silver fish lay on its side	D. An ecological disaster has occurred.
5. Dosed us up	E. Was unwell
6. Why do willows weep	F. Put up a shelter
7. The reeds will wilt	G. The marine life was destroyed
8. The banks will be black and dead	H. We were quite depressed

3a. Why are the willows crying?

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3b. *The banks will soon be black and dead.* What does this mean?

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4. What happens to the household waste in your country? What happens to the household waste in the UK?

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5. Note down 10 eco-friendly ways to deal with household waste.

1 \_\_\_\_\_  
2 \_\_\_\_\_  
3 \_\_\_\_\_  
4 \_\_\_\_\_  
5 \_\_\_\_\_  
6 \_\_\_\_\_  
7 \_\_\_\_\_  
8 \_\_\_\_\_  
9 \_\_\_\_\_  
10 \_\_\_\_\_

6. Complete the following comparative and superlative sentences using appropriate words.

1. Recycling is better \_\_\_\_\_.

2. The \_\_\_\_\_ way to manage waste is to recycle it.

3. Plastic bags are not \_\_\_\_\_ as cloth bags.

7. Design an eco-friendly poster.



# Key

## Down by the River

1. The song can be accessed via YouTube by clicking on this link :-  
[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZE3xS\\_Q0VDM&feature=fvsr](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZE3xS_Q0VDM&feature=fvsr)



City life was **gettin' us down**  
So we spent the weekend out of town  
**Pitched the tent** on the patch of ground  
Down by the river

Lit a fire and drank some wine  
You put your jeans on the top of mine  
Said, come in the water's fine  
Down by the river

Down by the river  
Down by the river  
Said, come in the water's fine  
Down by the river

**Didn't feel too good** all night  
So we took a walk in the morning light  
Came across the strangest sight  
Down by the river

**Silver fish lay on its side**  
It was washed up by the early tide  
I wonder how it died  
Down by the river



Down by the river  
Down by the river  
Silver fish lay on its side  
Down by the river



Doctor put us both to bed  
He **dosed us up** and he shook his head  
Only foolish people go, he said  
Down by the river

**Why do willows weep**, said he  
 Because they're dying gradually  
 From the waste, from the factories  
 Down by the river

Down by the river  
 Down by the river  
 Why do willows weep, said he  
 Down by the river



In time, the river banks will die  
 The **reeds will wilt** and the ducks won't fly  
 There'll be a tear in the otter's eye  
 Down by the river

The banks will soon be **black and dead**  
 And where the otter raised his head  
 Will be a clean white stone instead  
 Down by the river

Down by the river  
 Down by the river  
 Will be a clean white stone instead  
 Down by the river



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2a. Match the words from the song with their nearest meaning.

Word	Meaning
1. weep	H. crying
2. waste	G. rubbish
3. gradually	F. slowly
4. willow	E. tree
5. strangest	D. unusual
6. wilt	C. droop

2b. Match the phrasals with their nearest meaning.

Phrasal	Meaning
1. Getting us down	H. We were quite depressed
2. Pitched the tent	F. Put up a shelter
3. Didn't feel too good	E. Didn't feel well
4. Silver fish lay on its side	G. The marine life was destroyed.
5. Dosed us up	C. He gave us some medicine
6. Why do willows weep	B. Why are the willows crying
7. The reeds will wilt	A. The plant life is dying
8. The banks will be black and dead	D. An ecological disaster has occurred.

3a. Why are the willows crying?

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\_\_\_\_\_

3b. *The banks will soon be black and dead.* Explain this line in your own words.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. What happens to the household waste in your native country? What happens to the household waste in the UK? Discuss.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Elicit the words 'recycle, reuse and reduce'

5. Note down 10 eco-friendly ways to deal with household waste.

1. Compost kitchen waste.
2. Reuse glass bottles, jars, envelopes, cardboard boxes.
3. Join [www.freecycle.org](http://www.freecycle.org)
4. Sell 'waste' on eBay.
5. Hold a car boot sale.
6. Donate clothes, books to a charity shop.
7. Mend clothes. Don't throw away your favourite pair of jeans.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.

6. Complete the following comparative and superlative sentences using appropriate words.

1. Recycling is better than **throwing waste into the bin**.
2. The **best** way to manage waste is to recycle it.
3. Plastic bags are not **as bio-degradable** as cloth bags.

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7. Design an eco friendly poster.

