

# Song Analysis Worksheet and Sample Thesis

"Don't worry. Be Happy."	Don't worry about these issues	Episodes from life
<p><b>Verse 1</b>            Here is a little song I wrote            You might want to sing it note for note            Don't worry be happy            In every life we have some trouble            When you worry you make it double            Don't worry, be happy</p> <p><b>Verse 2</b>            Ain't got no place to lay your head            Somebody came and took your bed            Don't worry, be happy            The land lord say your rent is late            He may have to litigate            Don't worry, be happy</p> <p><b>Verse 3</b>            Ain't got no cash, ain't got no style            Ain't got no girl to make you smile            But don't worry be happy            Cause when you worry            Your face will frown            And that will bring everybody down            So don't worry, be happy (now)</p> <p><b>Spoken</b>            Here I give you my phone number            When you worry call me            I make you happy            Don't worry don't do it, be happy            Put a smile on your face            Don't bring everybody down like this            Don't worry, it will soon pass            Whatever it is            Don't worry, be happy</p>	<p><b>General troubles</b>            McFerrin's own opinion            i.e. pay close attention            (this seems simple...)            we – everyone is in it together            two worlds: reality and mind            inside and outside world balanced</p> <p><b>One's house</b>            homelessness is huge problem            doesn't really matter who did it            repeating the idea again            tenants vs. owners and others            getting others involved is usually            a bad sign</p> <p><b>Power, Identity, Love</b>            this is what society values            loneliness without companionship            "but" is a more direct connection            these things are even more selfish            nothing can change unless it            starts with attitude / need friends            (now) close by, not turned off</p> <p><b>Loneliness and self-centeredness</b>            really? the top-40 artist wants            his fans to call him? A gesture?            he makes us happy with music            but this spoken part is like he's on            the phone with us personally            not just us, though, "everybody"            not just now, tomorrow            not just these things, anything            it's like a mantra for meditating</p>	<p>I've had my troubles:            At age 14, I was too            concerned about trying            to be cool, which was            only making a tough            situation worse...</p> <p>I've had rent problems:            At age 19, I moved into            a house that bums had            occupied and lived            there with a friend who            later went homeless...</p> <p>I've been dumped:            At age 22, I had return-            ed from Europe to find            that my girlfriend, who            had written letters to            me for 2 years, wanted            to break it off...</p> <p>Happiness is shared:            Whenever I am happy, I            try to share it with            other people. A phone            call can make things a            lot better...</p>

In his one-hit wonder song, "Don't Worry, Be Happy," Bobby McFerrin tells modern adults about the importance of being happy. Specifically, we should overlook life's little troubles, issues with one's house, and problems with personal power, identity and love. All of these things are temporary, but especially we should not dwell on self-centeredness, because we are all in this together. In my own life, I have also seen the importance of this idea whenever I feel sadness, stress, and loneliness.