

Usa For Africa – We Are The World (1985)

There comes a time
When we **heed** a _____ call
When the _____ must come _____ as one
There are _____ dying
Oh, and it's time to _____ to life
The greatest _____ of all

We can't go on
Pretending _____,
That someone, somewhere soon make a _____
We're all a part of God's great big _____
And the _____, you know, _____ is all we need

CHORUS: We are the _____
We are the _____
We are the ones who make a _____ day, so let's
start giving
There's a _____ we're making
We're saving our own lives
It's _____ we'll make a _____ day, just you
and me

Oh, send them your _____
So they know that someone _____
And their lives will be _____ and free
As _____ has shown us by turning _____ to
bread
And so we all must _____ a helping _____

CHORUS...
When you're down and out, there seems no
_____ at all
But if you just _____ there's no way we can fall
Well, well, well, well let us realize
Oh, that a _____ can only come
When we stand _____ as one, yeah, yeah, yeah

change (2x), certain, lend a (...) hand (2x), heart, day-by-day, truth, love, people, together (2x), gift, world (2x), choice, better, brighter, stronger, stones, children, hope, family, true, cares, God, believe

📖 Before the writing of "We Are the World", American entertainer and social activist Harry Belafonte had thought for some time to have a song recorded by the most well-known artists in the music industry at the time. He planned to have the proceeds donated to a new organization called United Support of Artists for Africa (USA for Africa). The non-profit foundation would then **feed** and **relieve starving** people in Africa, specifically Ethiopia, where around one million people died during the country's 1983–1985 **famine** (A **widespread** famine affected Ethiopia from 1983 to 1985. The worst famine to hit the country in a century, it left 1.2 million dead. 400,000 **refugees** left the country, and 2.5 million people were **internally displaced**. Almost 200,000 children were **orphaned**.)

📖 Jackson revealed to Richie that he not only wanted to sing the song, but to **participate** in its writing as well. To begin with, "We Are the World" was to be written by Jackson, Richie, and Wonder. As Wonder had limited time to work on the project, due to writing songs from the film The Woman in Red, Jackson and Richie proceeded to write it themselves. They began creating the song at the Jackson family home. For a week, the two spent every night working on lyrics and melodies in Jackson's bedroom. They knew that they wanted a song that would be easy to sing and **memorable**. The pair wanted to create an **anthem**. Jackson's older sister La Toya watched the two work on the song, and later contended that Richie only wrote a few lines for the track. She stated that her younger brother wrote 99% of the lyrics, "but he's never felt it necessary to say that".

📖 Humanitarian aid: Four months after the release of "We Are the World", USA for Africa had taken in almost \$10.8 million (equivalent to \$25 million today).

The majority of the money came from record sales within the US. Members of the public also donated money—almost \$1.3 million within the same time period. In May 1985, USA for Africa officials estimated that they had sold between \$45 million and \$47 million worth of official **merchandise** around the world. Organizer Ken Kragen announced that they would not be distributing all of the money at once. Instead, he revealed that the foundation would be looking into finding a long-term solution for Africa's problems. "We could go out and spend it all in one shot. Maybe we'd save some lives in the short term but it would be like putting a Band-Aid over a serious wound." Kragen noted that experts had predicted that it would take at least 10 to 20 years to make a slight difference to Africa's long-term problems.

In June 1985, the first USA for Africa **cargo** jet carrying food, medicine, and clothing departed for Ethiopia and Sudan. It stopped **en route** in New York, where 15,000 T-shirts were added to the cargo. Included in the supplies were high-protein biscuits, high-protein vitamins, medicine, tents, blankets and refrigeration equipment.

📖 A **survivor** from Ethiopia being asked about his memory of Michael Jackson after his death remembers: *I won't ever forget Michael Jackson because his **contribution** to the song "We are the World" had a very significant effect on my life. I am 50 now but 25 years ago I was living in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, which at that time was suffering from a long **drought** and famine. It was a terrible situation. Lots of people became sick and many more died. Around one million people in all were killed by the famine. In 1984 Michael Jackson, along with a number of other leading musicians, made the song We are the World to raise money for Africa. We*

received a lot of aid from the world and I was one of those who directly benefitted from it. The **wheat flour** that was distributed to the famine victims was different to the usual cereal we bought at the market. We baked a special bread from it. The local people named the bread after the great artist and it became known as Michael Bread. It was soft and delicious. When you have been through such hard times you never forget events like this. If you speak to anyone who was in Addis Ababa at that time they will all know what Michael Bread is and I know I will remember it for the rest of my life.

📖 If doesn't matter where your from, the color of your skin, or any of the other things that stand in ppl's way. We are all humans and there should never be a thought to helping others. Do what you can, you NEVER know if it could or will be you! Just saying.....

📖 I think, it's all about having social conscious.. We the world let's join our hands for a great change and to remove poverty and anything else that suffers the society..

📖 this song talks about the famine in Africa in the mid 80's, this song was entirely written by Michael Jackson and Lionel Richie. We are the World was sang by popular artists in the 80's and it was originally created as a fundraising to bring money to feed people in Africa who were suffering from famine. They raised over \$60 million with this song.

📖 I think the song is a great song, which has the power to command unity in diversity: without considering the colour of our skin or human race, abolishing slave trade,

racial discrimination, religion and ethnicity bigotry, hunger and starvation, Political injustice and corrupt practices in every nation of the world. I Stand For Unity

Fill the gaps:

1. _____ pay attention to; take notice of.
2. _____ /'ænθəm/ a musical setting of a religious text to be sung by a choir during a church service, especially in Anglican or Protestant Churches.
3. _____ worth remembering or easily remembered, especially because of being special or unusual.
4. _____ hymn, song of praise, chorale, psalm, paean
5. _____ dry spell, dry period, lack of rain, shortage of water
6. _____ unforgettable, catchy, haunting
7. _____ pay attention to, take notice of
8. _____ goods, wares, stock, commodities, produce, product
9. _____ a child whose parents are dead.
10. _____ a person who has been forced to leave their country in order to escape war, persecution, or natural disaster.
11. _____ goods to be bought and sold; branded products used to promote a film, pop group, etc., or linked to a fictional character;

12. _____ a prolonged period of abnormally low rainfall, leading to a shortage of water.
13. _____ the part played by a person or thing in bringing about a result or helping something to advance. "the major contribution of social scientists to the understanding of political life"
14. _____ /wi:t/ a cereal which is the most important kind grown in temperate countries, the grain of which is ground to make flour for bread, pasta, pastry, etc.
15. _____ /'flʌʊə/ a powder obtained by grinding grain, typically wheat, and used to make bread, cakes, and pastry.
16. _____ during the course of a journey; on the way.
17. _____ goods carried on a ship, aircraft, or motor vehicle.

Question:
Are you moved by this tremendous example of human solidarity? Why?