**M2: Patriotic Songs: The Star-Spangled Banner (official national anthem)**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WyGseT2Fiqo> (with pictures) or <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FqxJ_iuBPCs> (long version)

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| 51015202530 | Oh, say can you see, by the dawn’s1 early light,What so proudly we hailed2 at the twilight3’s last gleaming4?Whose broad stripes and bright stars thru the perilous5 fight,O’er the ramparts6 we watched were so gallantly7 streaming?And the rocket’s red glare, the bombs bursting in air,Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.Oh, say does that star-spangled banner yet waveO’er the land of the free and the home of the brave?On the shore, dimly seen through the mists of the deep,Where the foe’s8 haughty host in dread silence reposes9,What is that which the breeze, o’er the towering steep10,As it fitfully blows, half conceals11, half discloses12?Now it catches the gleam of the morning’s first beam13,In full glory reflected now shines in the stream:‘Tis the star-spangled banner! Oh long may it waveO’er the land of the free and the home of the brave!And where is that band who so vauntingly14 sworeThat the havoc15 of war and the battle’s confusion,A home and a country should leave us no more!Their blood has washed out their foul footsteps’ pollution.No refuge could save the hireling and slaveFrom the terror of flight, or the gloom16 of the grave:And the star-spangled banner in triumph doth waveO’er the land of the free and the home of the brave!Oh! thus be it ever, when freemen shall standBetween their loved home and the war’s desolation.17Blest with victory and peace, may the heav’n rescued landPraise the Power that hath made and preserved us a nation.Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just,And this be our motto: “In God is our trust.”And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall waveO’er the land of the free and the home of the brave! | 1 first light of the day2 to greet 3 opposite of “dawn”4 to shine 5 dangerous6 barricade 7 brave8 enemy 9 to rest10 steil11 to cover 12 to uncover13 light 14 in an arrogant way15 chaos16 misery17 greyness |

**M2: Patriotic Songs: The Star-Spangled Banner (official national anthem):**

**Background information:**

* Official national anthem since 1931; usually only the first part (ll.1-8) is sung.
* Originally a poem entitled "The Defense of Fort McHenry".
* Written by Francis Scott Key in 1814 during the War of 1812.
* The verses tell of the Battle of Baltimore, a days-long siege between British and American forces
* Message: celebration of patriotism; America = land of the free and the brave
* However: controversial for various reasons
	+ Francis Scott Key used to be a slaveholder
	+ Lyrics very martial: for example l. 5, l. 10, ll.20ff., ll.28f. ( reference to the War of 1812, references to slavery; l. 5 can be misunderstood as an acceptance of rockets etc., also compare ll.28f.)
* There are very specific rules (the “Flag Code”):
	+ Everyone is expected to stand and face the flag; military personnel or veterans have to salute, all other people have to stand with the right hand over heart.
	+ Singing is not obligatory, but it is highly encouraged.
	+ In the past, changing (even embellishing) the anthem in a performance could be punished.
	+ In most schools, students do not have to sing the national anthem every day, but are required to say the Pledge of Allegiance at the beginning of every day
	+ The anthem has to be played before all important sports events, some associations like the NFL or NBA explicitly require certain forms of “respect” (In 2016, Colin Kaepernik was the first (NFL) player who was expelled for kneeling down as a form of protest (BLM) while the anthem was played.

Sources:

<https://edition.cnn.com/interactive/2018/07/us/national-anthem-annotated/> (last accessed March 19, 2023);

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-37208404> (last accessed March 19, 2023);

<https://www.mtsu.edu/first-amendment/article/2148/national-anthem-government-regulation#:~:text=Most%20controversies%20centering%20on%20%E2%80%9CThe,anthem%20in%20silent%20protest%20against> (19/02/2023); <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/07/04/sports/football/anthem-kneeling-sports.html> (last accessed March 19, 2023);

<https://www.republicworld.com/sports-news/other-sports/was-colin-kaepernick-fired-from-the-49ers-nfl-star-cut-ties-with-team.html> (last accessed March 19, 2023)

**M2: Patriotic Songs: America the Beautiful (“unofficial” national anthem):**

* Very patriotic song, praising the beauty of America; many people consider it the unofficial anthem
* It was first a poem written in 1893 by Lee Bates.
* At least 70 tunes had been composed until Samuel A. Ward’s music was chosen in 1910.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TLYAyuf1I1Q> (with patriotic pictures)

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| 510152025 | Oh beautiful for heroes provedIn liberating strife1Who more than self, their country lovedAnd mercy more than lifeAmerica, America may God thy gold refine'Til all success be noblenessAnd every gain divinedAnd you know when I was in schoolWe used to sing it something like this, listen hereOh beautiful, for spacious skiesFor amber waves of grainFor purple mountain majestiesAbove the fruited plainBut now wait a minute, I'm talking aboutAmerica, sweet AmericaYou know, God done shed his grace on theeHe crowned thy good, yes he did, in brotherhoodFrom sea to shining seaYou know, I wish I had somebody to help me sing this(America, America, God shed his grace on thee)America, I love you America, you seeMy God he done shed his grace on theeAnd you oughta love him for it'Cause he, he, he, he crowned thy goodHe told me he would, with brotherhood(From sea to shining Sea)Oh Lord, oh Lord, I thank you Lord(Shining sea) | 1 conflict |

**M2: Patriotic Songs: God Bless America (“unofficial” national anthem):**

 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_kGAN-rl-OI> (with lyrics)

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| 51015 | God bless America, land that I loveStand beside her and guide herThrough the night with the light from aboveFrom the mountains to the prairiesTo the oceans white with foamGod bless America, my home sweet homeGod bless America, land that I loveStand beside her and guide herThrough the night with the light from aboveFrom the mountains to the prairiesTo the oceans white with foamGod bless America, my home sweet homeFrom the mountains to the prairiesTo the oceans white with foamGod bless America, my home sweet homeGod bless America, my home sweet home |  |

**Background information:**

Today, for many Americans it is their unofficial national anthem of the US: “This simple one-verse song became an overnight hit, and a hopeful song as war threatened. “It’s not a patriotic song,” composer Irving Berlin said in a 1940 interview, “but an expression of gratitude for what this country has done for its citizens, of what home really means.”” <https://www.kennedy-center.org/education/resources-for-educators/classroom-resources/media-and-interactives/media/music/story-behind-the-song/the-story-behind-the-song/god-bless-america/> (last accessed March 19, 2023)

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