

## Dog Days Are Over

### A. Use the verbs in their correct form to fill in the gaps:

sink	hit	wash	turn	flee	kill	hide(x2)
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Happiness .....(1) her like a train on a track

Coming towards her stuck still no ..... (2) back

She ..... (3) around corners and she ..... (4) under beds

She ..... (5) it with kisses and from it she ..... (6)

With every bubble she ..... (7) with her drink

And ..... (8) it away down the kitchen sink

### B. Match the two halves:

The dog days are over,

the dog days are done

The horses are coming,

for your sisters and brothers

Run fast for your mother,

if you want to survive

Run for your children,

so you better run

Leave all your love

run fast for your father

You can't carry it with you

and your longing behind

### C. Fill in

*The dog days are over, the dog days are done*

*Can you hear the horses? `Cause here they come*

And I never .....(9) anything from you except

everything you .....(10)and what was .....(11) after that too

Happiness ..... (12) her like a train in the back

..... (13) from a great height by someone who should know  
better than that

*The dog days are over, the dog days are done*

*Can you hear the horses? `Cause here they come*

***Florence and the machine***

## Lyrics Comprehension

### A. Answer:

1. What do you think the song is about? What is the main idea?
2. Do you think it is a joyous or sad song? How do you know?
3. Do you know the meaning of the idiom “dog days”? If no, can you guess?

### B. Read to see what the meaning of the idiom is:

The idiom *dog days* traditionally refers to the hottest period of the late summer. It has a long and interesting history. The Romans referred to the late-summer period as *dies caniculares*, literally meaning *Dog Star days*, out of the belief that the summer heat was caused by the proximity of the star Sirius (the brightest star and part of the *Large Dog* constellation) to the sun during these months. For the Romans, the dog days fell between July 24 and August 24. This is still roughly the period denoted by *dog days* in modern use, but the term is often extended to mean:

- a. either the late summer generally,
- b. bad, hurtful times, or
- c. any period of inactivity, immobility.

### C. Use the words to fill in the gaps in the text which explains the meaning of the lyrics:

Some people think that the song is probably about not knowing what happiness is in a romantic relationship. She says happiness hit her “like a train on a track” and “like a bullet in the back”, which ..... (1) like she wasn’t expecting it or maybe wasn’t .....(2) to being happy. She may have had a difficult time (for example a string of bad luck..... (3) and when happiness finally came she just didn’t know what it was. So she tried to run from it, hide from it to try and get ..... (4) of the feeling. But the “dog days [were] over” and things were about to change for the better: “the horses are coming”. She is trying to run away from the thing she doesn’t know (a happy romantic relationship) and run towards something that’s more ..... (5), like her family. She’s leaving behind this confusing feeling to run towards the people and feelings she knows.

Others claim that dog days are about good times that have to end because something terrible is ..... (6) (“The horses are coming”) and so the person has to escape and reach the safety of people she/he loves. The ..... (7)of love to a bullet and a train shows that she considers love to be dangerous!

Life moves in ..... (8)patterns. Prepare for the worst when you're joyous, but know that another happy time will arrive when you're down. The song sounds very ..... (9)on the ear, so just let the music tell you if it's portraying a good or bad story. Pull out your own meaning from it. Your own interpretation is what..... (10).

Sounds	used	relationships	familiar	approaching
comparison	cyclic	cheery	matters	rid