



# Sing for Hull

With the Albemarle Broadband



## Week 9 – Ain't No Mountain High Enough Listening Activities

*Ain't No Mountain High Enough* was written in 1966 by the husband and wife song-writing duo Nickolas Ashford and Valerie Simpson. It was recorded as a single in 1967 by Marvin Gaye and Tammi Terrell. It has been covered by many artists, including Diana Ross and the Supremes. Listen to the different versions of the song and answer these questions:

1. What version do you prefer?
2. The first three lines of the chorus start and end with the same words: '*Ain't no \_\_\_  
\_\_\_ enough*'. Why do you think the writers chose this repeated pattern?
3. What happens in the melody line during these three lines? Is there a pattern?
4. The original song was written as a duet between a male and female singer. It is also sometimes performed as a solo version, with only one singer. Which do you think works best?
5. Can you think of any other duets that are performed between a male and female singer?
6. Can you identify the structure of the song using the terms: Intro, Verse, Chorus, Bridge and Outro?
7. Look at the lyrics of the song. Can you describe the message of the song? Do you feel the mountain, valley and river are powerful images in the song?
8. The song has featured in a number of films. Why do you think it is a good song for a film?
9. Do you like the song? Why?

### *Ain't No Mountain High Enough – Did you know?*

*Ain't No Mountain High Enough* is famous for having one of the most iconic **Bass Guitar** lines in history. Many **Bass Guitar** performers love playing the part due to its groove, rhythm and movement. Listen to the recording and see if you can pick out the funky groove of the bass. If you want to hear more iconic bass lines, listen to *Come On, Come Over* by Jaco Pastorius or *Le Freak* by Chic.