



### Background Information

'Home Among the Gum Trees' is a popular Australian song, written in 1974.

This song has become one of the most frequently recorded Australian compositions of all time and is a standard in Australian Folk Music.

John Williamson is just one version, but it the most accessible.

## Song Analysis Worksheet

### **Before Listening:**

Song Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Artist: \_\_\_\_\_ Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Based on the title, what you know about this particular artist, and what you know about this time period, what do you predict this song will be about?

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### **During Listening: Personal Response**

1. What emotion/s do you feel while listening to this song?
2. What events in your life, if any, does this song make you think about?

### **Analytical Response**

1. Do the lyrics? Tell a story? Describe. Express an emotion? Describe.
2. List any instruments, including voice, you hear in the song.
3. What lyrics stand out to you?
4. Think of the song in terms of its organization (beginning, middle, end; or stanza by stanza; or stanzas and refrain), and the relationship of the music to the lyrics. At what point is the music:

TEMPO	Slow paced
	Medium paced
	Fast paced
TIMBRE	Soft-toned
	Monotone
	Loud
PITCH	Using low notes
	Using middle-range notes
	Using high notes

### **After Listening:**

1. What is the message the artist is trying to convey in this song?
2. Who is the intended audience for this song? Why do you think this?
3. How would you classify the genre of this song?
4. What is the mood of this song?
5. How do the technical elements above contribute to the mood and meaning of this song?

**HOME AMONG THE GUM TREES**  
**Words and Music by By B. Brown/W. Johnson**

I've been around the world  
A couple of times or maybe more  
I've seen the sights, I've had delights  
On every foreign shore  
But when my mates all ask me  
The place that I adore  
I tell them right away

Chorus

Give me a home among the gum trees  
With lots of plum trees  
A sheep or two, a k-kangaroo  
A clothesline out the back  
Verandah out the front  
And an old rocking chair

You can see me in the kitchen  
Cooking up a roast  
Or Vegemite on toast  
Just you and me, a cup of tea  
And later on, we'll settle down  
And go out on the porch  
And watch the possums play

CHORUS

And an old rocking chair  
There's a Safeways up the corner  
And a Woolies down the street  
And a brand new place they've opened up  
Where they regulate the heat  
But I'd trade them all tomorrow  
For a little bush retreat  
Where the kookaburras call

CHORUS

Some people like their houses  
With fences all around  
Others live in mansions  
And some beneath the ground  
But me I like the bush you know  
With rabbits running round  
And a pumpkin vine out the back

CHORUS – repeat x 2