

Fluency Passage–Nonfiction

Name _____

Word Count: 198

A Popular Song

What is one of the most sung English songs? I'm sure	11
that you've heard it! It's "Happy Birthday to You." It's	21
such a common song that you probably never thought	30
about someone writing it.	34
Children and presidents have sung it. Astronauts	41
in space have sung it. You can hear the songs in cards,	53
music boxes, and watches.	57
Patty Smith Hill was born in 1868 in Kentucky. She	67
taught kindergarten in Louisville. In 1893, she wrote "Good	76
Morning to All" as a welcome song to start the school day.	88
Her sister, Mildred Hill, wrote music for the words that	98
Patty wrote. Over time, children began singing the song	107
to their teacher, and it became "Good Morning to You."	117
The same song was sung with new words. The new words	128
were "Happy Birthday to You." Two teachers wrote a simple song. It's a simple song that lives on.	120 138 146

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The next time you hear "Happy Birthday" sung in a	156
movie, stay and watch the very end. The end always lists	167
the names of people and songs that were part of the movie.	179
If you watch carefully, it will show that the song was	190
written by Patty Smith Hill and Mildred Hill.	198

