**IMAGINE – TEXTUAL ANALYSIS**

The object of the present work is to discuss and analyse the song *Imagine* by John Lennon.

Just considering the title the reader or listener may expect the text to be an invitation to “imagine” something, hence the vision of something imaginary.

It follows that the analysis of the poem is meant to discover what is the vision and how the reader should imagine it.

In order to reach the goal the present work will develop a structural analysis first, and on a second moment will consider how connotative choices add to the meaning.

Looking at the lay out, the text is arranged into five stanzas, three verse and two chorus.

All three verse are organized in seven lines, and the last one is always one-worded: “I”, “you” and “you”.

The speaking voice is inviting the reader to visualise a world without boundaries of any kind, such as religion (“Imagine there's no Heaven”, “No Hell below us”, “And no religion, too”), nationality ( “no countries”), politics (“Nothin' to kill or die for”) and possession (“Imagine no possessions”, “No need for greed or hunger”, “Imagine all the people sharin' all the world”).

The two chorus are arranged into four lines and are almost the same, the only deviation is in the last line, indeed in the second one “And the world will be one” becomes “And the world will live as one”.

The first chorus separates the second verse from the third, which is followed by the second chorus.

The speaking voice conveys his awareness about the immensity of his vision, he knows that the listener might think he is “only a dreamer”, but he knows he’s not alone. He’s not the only one to imagine such a world, hence he newly invites the reader to join “them”, the ones who believe in that possibility.

In the fourth line the speaker communicates that the world will be in peace only after the above-mentioned actions.

The deviation from “be” to “live” underlines the contrast between “to exist” and “to be alive” or “to live”.

In conclusion, if there are no boundaries of any kind, the whole world will be in peace, as a result people will be together and will live.

The song acquires the meaning of a hymn to peace and love.