

A-Sides

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Answer: **LEADER**

The jumbles provide reasonable answers to the clues, and the conspicuous years should kick off a search for well-known songs from that year. The parentheses and the rest of the flavor further point towards songs with a parenthetical extension (“subtext”) in the title. The jumble answers match the length of the main title, and the parenthetical title functions as a second answer to the clue question. Identify all the songs in the order already provided.

Year	Clue	Jumble Answer	X	Main Title	(Rest of Title)	Artist
1997	Furthest end of narrow path between buildings?	ALLEYWAYS	Y	EVERYBODY	BACKSTREET'S BACK	Backstreet Boys
1992	Thing you shout when you find what you're looking for?	HOORAY!	O	WHOOOMP!	THERE IT IS	Tag Team
2000	Way someone might refer to a Helen Keller biography?	MIRACULOUS	U	ABSOLUTELY	STORY OF A GIRL	Nine Days
2011	How to categorize something that's non-lethal?	HARMLESS	R	STRONGER	WHAT DOESN'T KILL YOU	Kelly Clarkson
1969	Dismissive comment from a chauvinistic track coach?	BROADS ALWAYS FALL	A	LIVING LOVING MAID	SHE'S JUST A WOMAN	Led Zeppelin
2008	Critical part to set up an arena floor for a boxing match?	CANVAS SQUARE	N	SINGLE LADIES	PUT A RING ON IT	Beyoncé
1996	Good sign a video you're watching is almost over?	ENDING SCREEN	S	STREET SPIRIT	FADE OUT	Radiohead
1973	Where you might keep an extra pair of work boots?	A SHED WITH A ROOF	W	I KNOW WHAT I LIKE	IN YOUR WARDROBE	Genesis
1983	Kneel in church and ask God for some R-E-S-P-E-C-T?	HELP AMEN	E	WOOD BEEZ	PRAY LIKE ARETHA FRANKLIN	Scritti Politti
1965	Late for a helicopter ride to the base of a mountain?	PARACHUTE JUMP	R	NORWEGIAN WOOD	THIS BIRD HAS FLOWN	The Beatles
1997	Slang descriptions for someone very, very cool?	WAY CHIC	I	THE RAIN	SUPA DUPA FLY	Missy Elliott
1971	Message for the soldiers at the Battle of New Orleans?	TRUCE GUYS	S	HAPPY XMAS	WAR IS OVER	John Lennon & Yoko Ono
1977	Male malcontent lacking wisdom that comes with age?	ANNOYED JUVENILE	L	FOOLING YOURSELF	THE ANGRY YOUNG MAN	Styx
1971	Response to something very common or expected?	QUITE USUAL	E	ALONE AGAIN	NATURALLY	Gilbert O'Sullivan
1980	Most annoying thing about fixing printers?	FAULTY INKJETS	A	MASTER BLASTER	JAMMIN'	Stevie Wonder
2001	Demand messages when an email system is down?	DEBUG MY SERVERS	D	DROPS OF JUPITER	TELL ME	Train
1979	Means of referring to a guy out well past curfew?	CROOK! THIEF! KNAVE!	E	GIMME! GIMME! GIMME!	A MAN AFTER MIDNIGHT	ABBA
1985	Motivation someone might have for a business degree?	UNDERGRADUATE	R	OPPORTUNITIES	LET'S MAKE LOTS OF MONEY	Pet Shop Boys

Reading where the main title and the jumble answer line up for each clue yields one letter, and reading down in order yields “YOUR ANSWER IS **LEADER**” as a final clue phrase.

Author's Notes

Adam: This used to be about 50% longer in terms of individual songs, but some in-round shuffling got me to make removals and substitutions. Thankfully, I had prepped *lots* of clues in this style, and was able to reformat it. Maybe I could have come up with a cleverer clue phrase that didn't waste most of the letters, but we were short on time by that revision; that's on me. Trust me, there's plenty left over for a sequel. (Bonus thanks to our tester Dee for the final title.)