Model Poem on Your Own Topic

In the poem “I Hear America Singing,” Whitman celebrates the diversity of American life, focusing on individuality. This poem is a list poem—Whitman lists or catalogues the people he hears “singing.” Fill in the blanks of the model poem below to create your own version of this poem. Where appropriate, indicate the pronoun by circling your choice.

“I Hear _______________ Singing”

I hear _______________ singing, the varied carols I hear.
Those of _______________, each one singing _______________ as it should be
_________________ and _______________.
The _______________ singing (his/hers/their) as (he/she/they)
_________________ (his/her/their) _______________
or _______________.
The _______________ singing (his/hers/their) as
(he/she/they) makes ready for _______________, or leaves off
_________________.
The _______________ singing what belongs to (him/her/them) in (his/her/their)
_________________, the _______________ singing on
the_________________.
The _______________ singing as (he/she/they) sits on (his/her/their)
_________________, the _______________ singing
(his/hers/their) as (he/she/they) _______________
The _______________ song, the _______________’s on
(his/her/their) way in the _______________, or at
_________________ or at _______________.
The _______________ singing of the_________________, or of the young
_________ at _______________, or of the ___________ or
_____________.
Each singing what belongs to him or her and to none else.
The _______________ what belongs to the __________________—
at _______________ the _______________ of
_________________.

Singing with open mouths their strong melodious songs.