Go to www.euroclub-schools.org. Enter the Italian Zone. Click on Italian Opera. Finally, click on O Mio Babbino Caro. Read through the information on the web page and listen to the music.

PART 1 For the whole class together -
Pretend that you are in the audience at an Italian opera house such as il Teatro alla Scala di Milano. After listening to the aria, react according to your own personal opinion of how it was performed. Which of the following will be your reaction?....
* to clap
* to clap and call out 'Brava!' (good)
* to clap and call out 'Bravissima!' (very good)
* to clap and call out 'Bis!' (twice, again)
* to clap, standing up whilst calling out 'Brava!'
* to clap, standing up whilst calling out 'Bravissima!'
* to clap, standing up whilst calling out 'Bis!'
* to sit doing nothing

PART 2 Listen again to the aria. Please answer the following questions by expressing your own opinion -

1. Do you think Lauretta sounds happy, sad or something else?

2. What effect do you think this aria will have on her father as he listens?

3. Do you think Lauretta is serious about jumping off the bridge?

4. Are there any musical instruments that can be heard clearly as Lauretta sings?

5. Do you have an opinion about Lauretta's personality when you hear her singing?

6. Do you think the soprano is a good singer?

7. How does the music make you feel?

8. Which adjectives would you use to describe the aria?