

Language Arts 10B

Poetry

We will begin our poetry unit by looking at the most common type of poetry—music lyrics. This assignment is your opportunity to dig out your father’s Neil Diamond records. Or maybe ask your mom if she has a Chicago cassette tape somewhere in a back closet. We will be studying poetry according to conflict: person vs. person, person vs. self, person vs. society, and person vs. nature.

You are going to find a song that has poetic lyrics. Choose a song that has well written lyrics. There are some artists that are unoriginal and repetitive in their lyrics. On the other hand, there are many singers and songwriters that write exceptional poetry and then set it to music. You need to find a song that has thoughtful lyrics.

STEP 1: Find the lyrics to a song that moves you. This is a PG assignment. Do not use songs that contain suggestive lyrics or foul language.

STEP 2: Open a Google document. Title your document. Write the song title, artist, lyricist (this is the person who wrote the words to the song), and album title.

STEP 3: Write out your lyrics and analyze them. Decide what the conflict is in your song—person vs. person, person vs. nature, person vs. self, or person vs. society. How is the conflict presented? Is it resolved?

STEP 4: Now write. You will need to write THREE PARAGRAPHS discussing your song choice. In these three paragraphs summarize what is happening, analyze the conflict, and interpret your poem/lyrics. You will need to look for, describe and write about the following: mood, simile, tone, imagery, metaphor, rhyme, alliteration, assonance, consonance, enjambment, onomatopoeia, symbol, refrain, repetition, irony and images.

STEP 5: Proofread your work.

STEP 6: Save your assignment. Browse in link box below and upload assignment. You have the option to upload a music file of your assignment. However, this is not a graded part of the assignment.

MUSIC & LYRICS ASSIGNMENT RUBRIC (20 points)

- ✓ Assignment includes lyrics, title, and artist (2 points)
 - ✓ Thoroughly analyze conflict (3 points)
 - ✓ Point out and discuss poetic devices (mood, imagery, tone, alliteration etc.) (3 points)
 - ✓ Thoughtful interpretation of lyrics (3 points)
 - ✓ Assignment is free of grammatical, punctuation, and structural errors (3 points)
 - ✓ Assignment is (at minimum) three paragraphs in length (2 points)
 - ✓ Assignment displays quality work and analytical thoughts (4 points)
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