

Music, Society and You Assignment

Learning Goal

The goal of this assignment is to increase our understanding of how music can represent social paradigm shifts and changes in our society. Through this assignment, you will also be better able to understand one song in particular, its meaning, the artists' intentions and views, and to reflect on your own views regarding the song and what it represents about our society.

Outcome

Create a brief presentation that you will share with the class about your chosen song that addresses the following expectations.

Expectations

Listen to the sample songs in class that have something to say about society, change or someone's viewpoint or perspective. Think about your own perspectives or views about society today.

1. Use your own collection of music, or surf the net, to find a song that reflects either a change in society, or the way you feel about the state of society today. Find an electronic link to share part of your chosen song with the class in your presentation.
2. Find the song lyrics and copy them so that you can use them and research about the artist and genre.
→ Include some "key" lyrics in 1-2 slides, along with your song link.
3. Keep track of where you are getting your information from and cite it directly in your presentation text (using in text citations).
→ This means you put the name of the author or organization who wrote the article you are using in brackets after the point, with the year that the article was published or put on line. For example (Smith, 2011)
4. Create 4-5 slides that describe how this song illustrates the change/your views by doing the following...
 - i. describe the song's literal and/or symbolic meanings
 - ii. talk about how this song illustrates societal changes and/or your views on Canadian society (or Global society)
 - iii. strive to draw the connections between what the song says and concepts/theories from the course so far
5. Include a reference slide.

"Music is always a commentary on society."

-Frank Zappa

Music, Society and You... Success Criteria Checklist

Getting ready

- I read over the expectations and understand them
- I found a song that represents some of my views on society
- I conducted research regarding the artist, the time period and the lyrics
- I have reviewed the rubric and understand how my work will be assessed

Putting it together

- I included a copy of the song lyrics with my presentation
- I edited the lyrics for swearing and made the appropriate changes
- I edited my own work for swearing and made the appropriate changes
- I didn't refer to the artist by his or her first name (*I used the last name or both together, it is more professional*)
- I described the song's literal meaning or most obvious meaning
- I discussed other possible symbolic or abstract meanings that have been attributed to the song
- I included information about the artist's views and possible intentions behind the song (including the historical context of what was going on in the world at the time it was written)
- I included information about my own views on the world and how this song has meaning for me
- I used in text citations to show all the sources that I used for information
- I included a References page and included all the sources that I referred to
- I did not copy and paste other peoples' words and use them as my own
- I printed a hard copy of my assignment for submission

APA Referencing for Songs

Example:

Dylan, Bob (1974). Idiot wind. Rams Horn Music, Lyric Interpretations (2013). Retrieved from

<http://www.lyricinterpretations.com/Bob-Dylan/Idiot-Wind>.

IMPORTANT...If you cite it in your writing - you must also include it on your references page!

Music Society and You... Assignment Rubric

Criteria	Level Four +/- 4- 4 4+ 80% 90% 100%	Level Three +/- 3- 3 3+ 70% 75% 79%	Level Two +/- 2- 2 2+ 60% 65% 69%	Level One +/- 1- 1 1+ 50% 55% 59%
Communication /10	-Clear and concise. -virtually no errors in grammar, punctuation and spelling. - neat in appearance and visually appealing.	-Clear with minimal editing required. - few no errors in grammar, punctuation and spelling - neat in appearance	- Moderate clarity of writing; some editing required - some errors in grammar, punctuation and spelling - moderate visual appeal	- lacking clarity in writing; much editing required - many errors in grammar, punctuation and spelling - lacking visual appeal
Knowledge/ Understanding /10	- developed knowledge of the society they live in, and changes within it. - thorough understanding of the lyrics meanings presented by the artist	- Adequate knowledge of the society they live in, and changes within it. - Clear understanding of the lyrics meanings presented by the artist	- moderate knowledge of the society they live in, and changes within it. - some understanding of the lyrics meanings presented by the artist	- limited knowledge of the society they live in, and changes within it. - lacking an understanding of the lyrics meanings presented by the artist
Thinking/ Inquiry /10	- Highly successful analysis of complex and abstract meaning(s) of song - Solid research about the artist - High level of insight and reflection.	- Adequate analysis of complex and abstract meaning(s) of song - Sufficient research about the artist - Effective insight and reflection.	- moderate analysis of complex and abstract meaning(s) of song - some research about the artist - moderate insight and reflection.	- limited analysis of complex and abstract meaning(s) of song - lacking in research about the artist - low level of insight and reflection.
Application /10	Apply previous experiences with society and ways of looking at things to this exercise in a highly practical and creative way. Very successful in finding an appropriate song and lyrics Information is sourced using excellent APA format	Apply previous experiences with society and ways of looking at things to this exercise in a practical way. Successful in finding an appropriate song and lyrics Information is sourced using correct APA format	Apply previous experiences with society and ways of looking at things to this exercise in a moderate way. Adequate song and lyrics selected. Most information is sourced using correct APA format	Limited ability to apply previous experiences with society and ways of looking at things to this exercise Questionable song and lyrics selected. Improper APA formatting