

General Information

Title of the lesson

- o Song Analysis Activity

Target learners/Grade

- o Secondary, Cycle 2, Year 1

Duration

- o 1 period of 75 minutes

Purpose

- o The purpose is to teach students to see beyond what they see in music lyrics and videos.

Broad Areas of Learning

- o Media Literacy
 - o Awareness of the place and influence of the different media in his/her daily life and in society.
 - o Understanding of media representations of reality.

Cross-Curricular Competencies

Intellectual	Methodological	Personal and social	Communication related
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o To use information o To solves problems o To exercise critical judgment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o To adopt effective work methods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Achieves his/her potential o Cooperates with others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o To communicate appropriately

ESL Competencies

To interact orally in English	To reinvest understanding of texts	To write and produce texts
Student <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Initiates, reacts, maintains and end oral interaction o Construct meaning of the message o Expands a personal language repertoire 	Student <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Listens to, reads and/or views texts o Constructs meaning of the text o Represents understanding of the text 	Student <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Uses a personalized production process o Builds a personal inventory of writing and production resources

Evaluation criteria

Cross-curricular competencies

- ◆ **Competency 1: To use information**
 - Pertinence of sources consulted
 - Quality of critical analysis
 - Coherence of organization of information
 - Range of context in which the information is used
- ◆ **Competency 2: To solve problems**
 - Degree of rigour in the use of data given
 - Precision of definition of the problem
 - Appropriateness of the strategies envisaged
 - Flexibility in pursuing possible solutions
 - Quality of reflection on the process
- ◆ **Competency 3: To exercise critical judgment**
 - Clarity of formulation of a question and the underlying issues
 - Quality of his/her point of view
 - Ability to refine his/her judgment
 - Degree of openness to questioning the judgment
- ◆ **Competency 5: To adopt effective work methods**
 - Quality of the analysis of the means required
 - Appropriateness of choice methods
 - Adaptation and adjustments of method chosen
 - Perseverance in carrying out the task
 - Degree of rigour in the assessment of the effectiveness of the methods chosen
- ◆ **Competency 7: Achieves his/her potential**
 - Pertinence of the assessment of the impact of his/her actions
 - Ability to clearly express his/her perceptions and values
 - Autonomy in expressing his/her opinions and choices
- ◆ **Competency 8: Cooperates with others**
 - Degree of respect for the rules of procedure
 - Degree of sensitivity to the needs and characteristics of others
 - Extent of contribution to discussion
 - Ability to manage conflict
- ◆ **Competency 9: To communicate appropriately**
 - Degree of mastery of vocabulary, syntax and symbols
 - Degree of respect for usage, codes and conventions
 - Appropriateness of choice of language used
 - Appropriateness of the message for the context and audience
 - Degree of coherence of the message
 - Accuracy of the judgment made of the effectiveness of communication

ESL Competencies

- ◆ **Competency 1: To interact orally in English**
 - Participation in oral interaction
 - Pertinence of the message
 - Articulation of the message
 - Use of communication and learning strategies
 - Use of resources
- ◆ **Competency 2: To reinvest understanding of oral and written texts**
 - Evidence of comprehension of texts
 - Use of knowledge from texts appropriate to the task
 - Use of communication and learning strategies
 - Use of resources
- ◆ **Competency 3: To write texts**
 - Pertinence of the text
 - Formulation of the text
 - Use of communication and learning strategies
 - Use of resources

Related Content

Strategies

Communication strategies	Learning		
	Metacognitive strategies	Cognitive strategies	Social/affective strategies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Gesture (use physical actions to convey or support message) ○ Recast ○ Rephrase (express in an alternative way) ○ Substitute 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Direct attention ○ Plan ○ Self-evaluate ○ Self-monitor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Activate prior knowledge ○ Compare ○ Infer ○ Practise ○ Predict ○ Recombine ○ Scan ○ Take notes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ask for help, repetition, clarification, confirmation ○ Cooperate ○ Encourage self and others ○ Take risks

Language repertoire

Functional Language	Other vocabulary
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Social conventions ○ Rejoinders, connectors ○ Agreement/disagreement, opinions ○ Feelings, interests, tastes, preferences ○ Decision/indecision ○ Requests for help ○ Requests for information ○ Teamwork and encouragement ○ Discourse markers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Vocabulary related to the students' interests and needs ○ Vocabulary related to the broad areas of learning ○ Vocabulary related to the cross-curricular competencies
Culture	Texts
Aesthetic Aspect	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Music 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Popular ○ Components: contextual cues

Materials needed

For the teacher:

- Computer, internet (with YouTube access) and multimedia projector

For the students:

- Lyrics of 5 songs (there are 5 songs suggested in this document, but you can change them if you want.)
- Song analysis questionnaire

PROCEDURES

	The teacher	The students	Grouping	Time
<i>Pre-activity</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Write the title of the 5 songs on the board <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ask students if one of these title mean something to them ○ What do they think this song is about? ○ Is this a new or old song? ○ What is the context of each song? ◆ Once they answered, pass all videos WITHOUT passing the lyrics. They need to pay attention to the videos 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Listen to the teacher ◆ Answer to the teacher's question ◆ Ask questions if needed ◆ Watch the videos and take note if needed 		30 minutes
<i>Main Activity</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Explain what the students have to do: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ They need to choose 1 song that means something to them. Not only because they like the rhythm ○ They need to fill in the questionnaire with the help of the lyric sheet of the song they choose 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Choose 1 of the 5 songs ◆ Complete the questionnaire ◆ Ask questions to the teacher if needed 	Teams of 4-5 students	30 minutes
<i>Post-activity</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Put in groups the ones who chose the same song *** Not more than 5 students per team *** ◆ In teams they need to discuss what they think about the song and what they found for each questions ◆ They won't have the time to discuss all the questions, but explain them that they can choose the question they have more things to discuss. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Form discussion groups ◆ Choose questions they want to talk about ◆ Discuss about their opinions of the chosen song ◆ Use resources available 	Teams of 4-5 students	15 minutes

Simple Plan - Untitled¹

I open my eyes
I try to see but I'm blinded by the white light
I can't remember how
I can't remember why
I'm lying here tonight

And I can't stand the pain
And I can't make it go away
No I can't stand the pain

How could this happen to me
I made my mistakes
I've got nowhere to run
The night goes on
As I'm fading away
I'm sick of this life
I just wanna scream
How could this happen to me

Everybody's screaming
I try to make a sound but no one hears me
I'm slipping off the edge
I'm hanging by a thread
I wanna start this over again

So I try to hold onto a time when nothing mattered
And I can't explain what happened
And I can't erase the things that I've done
No I can't

How could this happen to me
I made my mistakes
I've got nowhere to run
The night goes on
As I'm fading away
I'm sick of this life
I just wanna scream
How could this happen to me

I made my mistakes
I've got n where to run
The night goes on
As I'm fading away
I'm sick of this life
I just wanna scream
How could this happen to me

¹ Video: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZQ7oqmikZDQ>
Lyrics: <http://www.azlyrics.com/lyrics/simpleplan/untitled.html>

Hedley - Invincible²

Took a long hard look at my life.
Lost my way while I was fighting the time.
A big black cloud, stormy sky
Followed me while I was living a lie.
So heartless, so selfish, so in darkness,
When all your nights are starless,
You're running outta hope.

But I found the strength inside to see,
Found the better part of me,
And I'll never let it go.

I've come a long, long way,
Made a lot of mistakes,
But I'm breathing, breathing,
That's right
And I mean it, mean it
This time
I'm a little run down,
I've been living out loud.
I can beat it, beat it,
That's right,
'cause I'm feeling, feeling,
Invincible.
Whoa-oh-oh-oh [x3]

When you're gone for a day on your own,
Tear your heart out just to find your way home.
I've been so high, I've sunk so low,
I've come so far with nothing to show
For it mistaken, I got so good at taking,
But now I'm tired of faking.
This story's getting old.

So I found the strength inside to see,
From the better part of me,
And I'll never let it go.

I've come a long, long way,
Made a lot of mistakes,
But I'm breathing, breathing,
That's right
And I mean it, mean it.
This time
I'm a little run down,

I've been living out loud.
I can beat it, beat it,
That's right,
'cause I'm feeling, feeling,
Invincible.
Whoa-oh-oh-oh [x3]
Invincible.

****P Reign Rap****

Jesus peace, I swore on my stones
I rose from the ashes covered in gold
Realized I lived a lie cause I fled the truth
My son asked if there's a god
Said I'm living proof
P. Reign Baby
Y'all better believe
When they tell you if it can be dreamed
It can be achieved
Got charged readin'
Turn on the news and you'll see

But I know a way to beat it
Now I'm gonna be,
Invincible.
Whoa-oh-oh-oh [x3]
Invincible.

I've come a long, long way,
Made a lot of mistakes,
But I'm breathing, breathing,
That's right
And I mean it, mean it.
This time
I'm a little run down,
I've been living out loud.
I can beat it, beat it,
That's right
'cause I'm feeling, feeling,
Invincible.
Whoa-oh-oh-oh [x3]
Invincible.
Whoa-oh-oh-oh [x3]
Invincible.

² Video: <http://www.youtube.com/user/HedleyOnlineTV?blend=1&ob=4>
Lyrics: <http://www.lyricsreg.com/lyrics/hedley/Invincible+Feat.+P+Reign/>

Nickelback - When We Stand Together³

One more depending on a prayer
And we all look away
People pretending everywhere
It's just another day
There's bullets flying through the air
And they still carry on
We watch it happen over there
And then just turn it off

Hey, yeah, yeah, hey, yeah
We must stand together
Hey, yeah, yeah, hey, yeah
There's no giving in
Hey, yeah, yeah, hey, yeah
Hand in hand forever
Hey, yeah, yeah, hey, yeah
That's when we all win
Hey, yeah, yeah, hey, yeah
That's, that's, that's when we all win
That's, that's, that's when we all win

They tell us everything's alright
And we just go along
How can we fall asleep at night
When something's clearly wrong
When we could feed a starving world
With what we throw away
But all we serve are empty words
That always taste the same

Hey, yeah, yeah, hey, yeah
We must stand together
Hey, yeah, yeah, hey, yeah
There's no giving in
Hey, yeah, yeah, hey, yeah
Hand in hand forever
Hey, yeah, yeah, hey, yeah
That's when we all win
Hey, yeah, yeah, hey, yeah
That's, that's, that's when we all win
That's, that's, that's when we all win

The right thing to guide us
Is right here inside us
No one can divide us
When the light is nearly gone
But just like a heartbeat
The drumbeat carries on
And the drumbeat carries on

Hey, yeah, yeah, hey, yeah
We must stand together
Hey, yeah, yeah, hey, yeah
There's no giving in
Hey, yeah, yeah, hey, yeah
Hand in hand forever
Hey, yeah, yeah, hey, yeah
That's when we all win
Hey, yeah, yeah, hey, yeah
That's, that's, that's when we all win
That's, that's, that's when we all win

³ Video: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NjCbGHI_4Hs&ob=av2e

Lyrics: <http://www.azlyrics.com/lyrics/nickelback/whenwestandtogether.html>

Beyoncé Knowles - If I Were a Boy⁴

Intimacy
Honesty
Commitment
You, Me, Us

If I were a boy
Even just for a day
I'd roll outta bed in the morning
And throw on what I wanted then go
Drink beer with the guys
And chase after girls
I'd kick it with who I wanted
And I'd never get confronted for it.
Cause they'd stick up for me.

If I were a boy
I think I could understand
How it feels to love a girl
I swear I'd be a better man.
I'd listen to her
Cause I know how it hurts
When you lose the one you wanted
Cause he's taken you for granted
And everything you had got destroyed

If I were a boy
I would turn off my phone
Tell everyone it's broken
So they'd think that I was sleepin' alone
I'd put myself first
And make the rules as I go
Cause I know that she'd be faithful
Waitin' for me to come home (to come home)

If I were a boy
I think I could understand
How it feels to love a girl
I swear I'd be a better man.
I'd listen to her
Cause I know how it hurts
When you lose the one you wanted (wanted)
Cause he's taken you for granted (granted)
And everything you had got destroyed

It's a little too late for you to come back
Say it's just a mistake
Think I'd forgive you like that
If you thought I would wait for you
You thought wrong

But you're just a boy
You don't understand
Yeah you don't understand
How it feels to love a girl someday
You wish you were a better man
You don't listen to her
You don't care how it hurts
Until you lose the one you wanted
Cause you've taken her for granted
And everything you have got destroyed
But you're just a boy

⁴ Video: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AWpsOqh8q0M&feature=relmfu>
Lyrics: <http://www.azlyrics.com/lyrics/beyonceknowles/ifiwereaboy.html>

Coolio - Gangsta Paradise⁵

As I walk through the valley of the shadow of death
I take a look at my life and realize there's not much left
Cause I've been blasting and laughing so long,
That even my mama thinks that my mind has gone
But I ain't never crossed a man that didn't deserve it
Me be treated like a punk you know that's unheard of
You better watch how you're talking and where you're walking
Or you and your homies might be lined in chalk
I really hate to trip but I gotta, loc
As I Grow I see myself in the pistol smoke, fool
I'm the kinda G the little homies wanna be like
On my knees in the night, saying prayers in the streetlight

Been spending most their lives, living in the gangsta's paradise (X2)
Spending most our lives, living in the gangsta's paradise (X2)

They got the situation, they got me facin'
I can't live a normal life, I was raised by the stripes
So I gotta be down with the hood team
Too much television watching got me chasing dreams
I'm an educated fool with money on my mind
Got my 10 in my hand and a gleam in my eye
I'm a loc'd out gangsta set trippin' banger
And my homies is down so don't arouse my anger, fool
Death ain't nothing but a heartbeat away,
I'm living life, do or die, what can I say
I'm 23 now, but will I live to see 24
The way things are going I don't know

Tell me why are we, so blind to see
That the one's we hurt, are you and me
Been spending most their lives, living in the gangsta's paradise (X2)
Spending most our lives, living in the gangsta's paradise (X2)

Power and the money, money and the power
Minute after minute, hour after hour
Everybody's running, but half of them ain't looking
What's going on in the kitchen, but I don't know what's cookin'
They say I gotta learn, but nobody's here to teach me
If they can't understand it, how can they reach me
I guess they can't, I guess they won't
I guess they front, that's why I know my life is out of luck, fool

Been spending most their lives, living in the gangsta's paradise (X2)
Spending most our lives, living in the gangsta's paradise (X2)
Tell me why are we, so blind to see
That the one's we hurt, are you and me
Tell me why are we, so blind to see
That the one's we hurt, are you and me

⁵ Video: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4IUN-e0nie0&feature=related>
Lyrics: <http://www.azlyrics.com/lyrics/shakira/wakawakathistimeforafrica.html>

Date: _____

Name: _____

Teacher's name: _____

Group #: _____

★ SONG ANALYSIS ★

Song: _____

Artist: _____

1. What is the subject of the piece?

How do you know this? How has the subject been selected and presented by the artist?

2. Can you classify this subject in any of the following cultural/social categories? Please explain.

(environment, peace/antiwar, sports, social upheaval, justice/injustice, civil rights, economics, gender roles in society, romantic love, sex, alienation, rock music, introspection, counter culture, drugs, alcohol, school, etc..)

3. What does the piece reveal about the artist and the artist's viewpoint?

Do you agree with this viewpoint? Do you agree with the way the artist passes the message? Do you agree on the type of lyrics / images the artist chose to express this viewpoint?

4. What is the artist's purpose?

In what ways does he/she convey this message? What is the song saying?

5. As you listen to this song are there any assumptions you can make about the audience to whom it is directed?

Think about things like race, gender, social class or a specific person for whom the song was created. Is the artist's language directed at a specific audience; this may be characterized by words or phrases that are unusual?

6. How is the song supposed to make you feel?

What does the piece reveal about the artist and the artist's viewpoint? Do you agree with this viewpoint? Do you agree with the way the artist passes this viewpoint? Do you agree on the type of lyrics/images the artist chose to express this viewpoint? What is the emotional state of the artist?
