

Songwriter Analysis Project

Objective: To analyze and understand what makes our favorite songs tick by evaluating lyrics, form, and instrumentation/texture.

1. Choose your favorite song(Clean Version)! The song should be pretty important in your life, something you would want to analyze and dive into deeply.
2. Use your computer's to do online research and find background information on your artist's life. Create a brief biography of the songwriters life and the context in which the song was written.
 - a. Ex) When was the song written? What was going on in the songwriters life?
3. Look at the lyrics
 - a. What is the song about?
 - b. Any rhyming scheme?
 - c. Consonance or dissonance?
 - d. Any phrases used in a different/unusual way?
 - e. Metaphors?
 - f. Anything else you find interesting
4. Look at the form of the song in relation to the "normal" song form(Verse, Pre-chorus, Chorus, Verse 2, Pre chorus 2, Chorus 2, Bridge, Chorus)
 - a. What is the form of the song?
 - b. Is there anything unusual about it?
5. Listen to the singers voice?
 - a. How does it fit in the texture?
 - b. Does it fit with the meaning of the song?
 - c. How does it make you feel?
6. Find anything else interesting that sticks out to you
7. Write a 1-2 page personal evaluation of the song including your analysis and these personal questions
 - a. What does the song mean to you?
 - b. What do you admire in the song?
 - c. If you were to perform or rearrange it- What would you change?
8. Project should include, your 1-2 page analysis and personal evaluation, a copy of the lyrics, and recording of the song.

Level:	Expert	Advanced	Getting there!	Good try!
Thoroughness and accuracy of analysis	Student hit the objective points of the project, writing an	Student touched on all the objective points, on the way to	Student wrote more than one page, describes their song but	Student did not write more than one page, skimming over

	analysis that hit the questions asked in the project description and anything else they found interesting.	being technically correct!	maybe not the most accurate analysis	the topics briefly.
Depth of evaluation	Student wrote a meaningful response to the questions, demonstrating understanding of the concepts and interest in the topic	Student touched on the evaluation portion, on the way to deeply evaluating and clear understanding.	Wrote more than one page, more of a skimming than a deep evaluation.	Student briefly evaluated the song showing little interest
Grammar/On Time Work/Formatting	No grammar mistakes, on time, effort	Few grammar mistakes, On Time, some effort put in	Some grammar mistakes, Missing a part, Late, some effort put in	A lot of grammar mistakes, Missing all the parts, turned in late, little effort put in

Composition Assignment

Objective: To create based on mood based on the salient features of music of melody, harmony, rhythm, instrumentation, and texture.

1. On your computers and at your midi workstations, open the video:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uvJOcVJyoEE>
2. Watch the video and be ready to discuss as a group these questions:
 - a. What made the music suspenseful?
 - b. What was the texture like?
 - c. What was the instrumentation/melody like?
 - d. Do you think the rests played a part in the suspense of the scene?
3. Pair up with a partner and upload this video into your workstations in Logic
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dnRxQ3dcaQk>
4. You will be creating a background score to this movie scene!
5. Work with your partner to score with your tools(Midi keyboard, pre existing loops, pre existing sounds, and midi loops)
6. Think about the mood of this scene, and what would enhance it even more!
7. At the end of the period, submit your score while briefly answering these questions
 - a. What made you pick that track/instrumentation?
 - b. How does this music make you feel ?
 - c. What is the point of the scene/how can we portray that through the music?
 - d. What types of instruments could we use to portray the message?
8. Submit a self evaluation of the rubric below

Criteria	Excellent	Almost there	Needs work	Trying our best
Creativity				
Appropriate for Mood				
Effort				