

Billboard's Top 10 Songs

Overview: Music lyrics are packed with figures of speech including figurative language such as alliteration, similes, metaphors and idioms.

Procedure:

1. Prepare for the activity by choosing a few of your students' favorite current songs or search for songs on the internet that have examples of **alliteration, similes, metaphors and idioms**
2. Copy the lyrics off of the Internet and paste into a word document.
3. Before sharing with students, read through each of the lyrics to identify a few examples of figurative language and pair examples with illustrations that you simply draw or copy from the Internet and/or use other picture symbols.
4. Introduce the activity to students by using a SmartBoard, projector or Elmo to project the lyrics for the class. Listen to the song as the students follow along with the lyrics several times.
5. Identify some examples of figurative language (**alliteration, similes, metaphors and idioms**) using the illustrations to assist students in understanding and discuss how the author is using the comparison to describe something creatively.
6. Provide individual copies of the lyrics to each student. Point out the examples of figurative language again and instruct the students to use a highlighter or a marker to circle or underline specific words or phrases.

ASOL Covered in this Activity:

6E--RW 1a: The student will determine the meaning of simple idioms and figures of speech as they are used in a text.

Extension Idea: Prior to using lyrics, utilize children's literature that has examples of simple idioms and figures of speech as well as illustrations to support understanding and meaning.

6E--RW 1d: The student will demonstrate word relationships by interpreting similes.

Extension Idea: Use students in your classroom to create similes that describe their individual traits. You can provide word and or phrase choices to help them get started. (for example: Susie is cute as a kitten. Mrs. Jones is busy as a bee)

8E--RW 1a: The student will determine meanings of words and phrases in literature including figurative language.

Extension Idea: As the students review lyrics of songs, provide choices for determining the meaning of the examples of figurative language. They could work in groups or with a partner to decide the best choice.

HSE--RW 1a: The student will determine meaning of words and phrases as they are used in text, including common analogies and figures of speech.

Extension Idea: As the students review lyrics of songs, provide choices for determining the meaning of the examples of analogies and figures of speech. They could work in groups or with a partner to decide the best choice.

HSE--RW 1b: The student will determine meanings of words and phrases as they are used in informational text including figurative language.

Extension Idea: Extend students learning and understanding of figurative language in lyrics and children’s literature to excerpts of informational text. Read informational text aloud as a group and select and highlight comparisons between two unlike things. When finding similes, look for key words such as, *like* or *as*.

HSE--RW 2b: The student will demonstrate understanding of multiple-- meaning words and figurative language.

Extension Idea: As students review lyrics of songs, provide choices for demonstrating the meaning of the examples of multiple-- meaning words and figurative language. They could work in groups or with a partner to decide the best choice.

HSE--RW 3d: The student will demonstrate understanding of figurative language and word relationships by interpreting simple figures of speech encountered while reading.

Extension Idea: As students review lyrics of songs, they will select their interpretation of simple figures of speech when given choices.

Materials Needed: Computer for access to “Billboard Top 10” hits, song lyrics or other site that highlights songs that contain examples of figures of speech, printer, projector, Elmo or Smartboard

Instructional Setting: classroom as well as music classroom.

Community Connections and/or Peer Interaction: Music provides many opportunities for recreation and leisure. A better understanding of figures of speech may support students' personal interest in types of music, genres of literature and creative writing.

Functional Activity/Routine: Creating examples of types of figurative language that are used in social language may support a student's understanding and support their social skills/communication.

Strategies to Collect Evidence: Completed activities that demonstrate that the student can identify figures of speech in text, highlighted lyrics or lyrics with students selected choices for meaning.

Specific Options for Differentiating this Activity: Students with print disabilities can access lyrics electronically with read aloud software.

Students with visual impairments can access lyrics with voice over options or high contrast images.

Pair images, symbols and/or line drawings to illustrate examples of figures of speech.