

Song Lyric Analysis

Advanced Eng. A | AY 24 -25

Ms. Martocello



Project Description: Analyzing Song Lyrics as Poetry

Objective

In this project, you will analyze the lyrics of a song as if it were a poem. Your goal is to explore its poetic elements, such as rhyme, figurative language, imagery, and theme. Through this analysis, you will gain a deeper understanding of how songwriters use language to convey emotions, ideas, and stories.

• Guidelines

- **Choose a Song:** Select a school-appropriate song with meaningful lyrics.
- **Annotate Your Lyrics:** Highlight poetic devices, including rhyme, metaphors, imagery, and more.
- **Plan Your Essay:** Use your annotations to outline your analysis.
- **Write Your Essay:** Follow MLA format and include an introduction, body paragraphs, and conclusion.
- **Submit a Polished, Typed Essay:** Ensure it is professional and meets all requirements.

Formatting Guidelines

- **Heading:** Top left corner: Your name, teacher's name, class, and date.
- **Title:** Centered, creative, and related to your analysis.
- **Font & Spacing:** Times New Roman, 12-point font, double-spaced.
- **Citations:** Include the song title and artist in the introduction. Cite lyrics properly (e.g., "quoted lyrics" [line #]).

Paragraph Breakdown

1. Introduction (1 Paragraph):
 - Introduce the song, artist, and reason for selection.
 - Include a thesis statement summarizing your focus.
2. Body Paragraphs (3-4 Paragraphs):
 - Rhyme Scheme & Structure: Analyze the rhyme pattern and identify the type of poem.
 - Figurative Language: Provide at least three examples (e.g., simile, metaphor, personification) and explain their significance.
 - Imagery & Theme: Discuss how imagery contributes to the song's theme or mood. Include personal or audience connections.
3. Conclusion (1 Paragraph):
 - Summarize your analysis and reflect on your insights.

Checklist for Success

Before Writing

- I chose a school-appropriate song with meaningful, rich lyrics.
- I annotated the lyrics, identifying poetic elements such as rhyme, figurative language, and imagery.

During Writing

- My essay is typed in MLA format (Times New Roman, 12 pt font, double-spaced).
- My introduction includes:
 - The song title, artist, genre, year released, and if it is the original or a cover
 - A clear thesis statement outlining the poetic elements I will analyze.
- I analyzed the rhyme scheme and the type of poem (e.g., narrative, free verse) in one paragraph.
- I identified and explained at least three examples of figurative language (e.g., simile, metaphor, personification).
- I analyzed imagery and explained the song's theme or message.
- My conclusion summarizes my analysis and reflects on the song's connection to the audience or my personal experience.

After Writing

- I properly cited song lyrics (e.g., "quoted lyrics" [line #]).
- My essay is clear, organized, and free of spelling or grammar errors.
- I reviewed MLA formatting and made necessary adjustments.
- My work shows creativity, thoughtfulness, and effort.

Remember!

- Use examples from the lyrics to support your analysis.
- Re-read your essay to ensure clarity, grammar, and spelling accuracy.
- Email Ms. Martocello if you have questions or need help. Ask early!
- Double-check MLA formatting before submitting your essay.

**Questions?
Concerns?**

Email:

Martocello@schoolnova.org

Homework:

DUE: 12/8

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Song Lyric Analysis: Rubric

CRITERIA	POINTS	DESCRIPTION	SCORE
Song Selection	10	Lyrics are school-appropriate, meaningful, and rich in poetic elements.	
Annotations	20	Thoroughly annotated lyrics with clear identification of poetic devices and literary elements.	
Essay Content	50	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Insightful analysis of poetic elements, rhyme scheme, theme, and structure.• Includes clear organization with introduction, body paragraphs, and conclusion.	
Formatting	10	Follows MLA guidelines (typed, Times New Roman 12 pt font, double-spaced, proper citations).	
Effort & Creativity	10	Demonstrates care, originality, and thoughtfulness throughout the analysis.	
Total:	100		

Notes:

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