

Project Worksheet: The Anatomy of a Song

Student Name:

Song Title:

Artist/Band:

Genre:

Part 1: The "Silent" Reading (Lyrics as Poetry)

Before listening to the music, read the lyrics strictly as a poem.

1. The Literal Meaning In 2–3 sentences, what is actually happening in this "poem"? Who is the speaker, and who are they talking to?

2. Poetic Device Hunt: Find and quote at least two examples of figurative language used in the song.

Device 1 (e.g., Metaphor, Simile, Personification): _____
○ Quote:

Device 2: _____
○ Quote:

3. Tone and Connotation What is the tone (the author's attitude) of the written words? List three "power words" from the lyrics that support your answer.

Tone:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Part 2: The Listening Session (Musicality)

Now, listen to the song. Pay attention to everything except the words.

4. Emotional Response: How does the music make you feel? (e.g., Does it make you want to move, or does it feel heavy in your chest?)

Part 3: The Synthesis (The Big Picture)

This is where you connect the "Poem" to the "Sound."

5. Support or Subvert? Does the music support the meaning of the lyrics (e.g., a sad song that sounds sad), or does it subvert (contrast) them? Explain why the artist might have made that choice.

6. The "Vibe" Shift: Did your understanding of the lyrics change once you heard the music? How did the speed or the genre change the "weight" of the words?

7. Final Analysis: If this song were a poem in a book instead of a track on an album, would it be as effective? Why or why not?