

# Analyzing MUSIC LYRICS

Song Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Artist: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*Directions:* Answer each of the following questions carefully, thoughtfully, and completely after reflecting upon and reviewing the lyrics of this song.

**1** *Theme:* What message does this song convey?

**2** *Connection*  
What are some specific examples of how this message is relevant in today's world: to your life, in your school, in your community, or in your country or world?

**3** *Re-Title it!*  
What is an appropriate alternate title for this song? Why?

**4** *Author's Purpose*  
What purpose or agenda do you think the songwriter had in mind when composing these lyrics? Explain your thinking. Draw upon historical, political, or social events of the time period in your reflection.

**5** *Music's Influence*  
Do you think young people who listen to this song would be influenced by it? Could it sway their beliefs, words, or actions? Also, do songwriters have a responsibility to use their platforms for positive change? Explain.

**6** *Favorite Line:* Doodle your favorite lyric below.

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*Identity:* In the margins, make annotations (color-coded, if possible) of the examples of literary devices used in this song: similes, metaphors, personification, symbolism, sound devices, etcetera. Then, explain how the figurative language in this song adds a deeper layer of meaning.

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### *Symbolism*

Draw a meaningful image or symbol from this song.

### *Identifying Poetic Features*

- Find your favorite **line** in the poem. Draw a **star** next to it.
- Now, find your favorite **stanza**. Put brackets around it. { } or [ ]
- Look for a **rhyming couplet**. Underline it!
- Identify a **quatrain**. Put a  box around it.
- Label the **rhyme scheme** of the first 3 **stanzas** in the right margin.
- Consider the **rhythm/beat** of this poem/song. Identify a stanza that has a smooth rhythm by putting a smiley face 😊 next to it. Then, explain:  are syllables and the alternation of strong/weak beats used to establish this rhythm?



- Identify the **MOOD** and **TONE** of this song. **MOOD:** \_\_\_\_\_ **TONE:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Now, highlight or circle words that contribute to the mood in a color that symbolizes that adjective.