

Title of Session: Learning From Lyrics

Moderator: Johnathan Chase

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Room: Learning From Lyrics Group

BJB2: we usually start the Tapped In discussions with introductions. I think John has a real treat for us today

BJB2: I'm a communications teacher in south central Pennsylvania

PaulHe: I teach high school English in Nevada

MaureenB: I teach 4th grade in NY

DavidWe: I'm David Weksler. I'm a HelpDesk volunteer and I also lead a math education and technology discussion in Tapped In. I'm in New Jersey, near New York City

FredK: I am a literacy tutor in SE Oklahoma

JohnathanC: 7/8 social studies in Central NY

JohnathanC: OK I wanted to revisit previous topic tonight, We Didn't Start The Fire

JohnathanC: Anyone here want to recap from last time

FredK tries to remember

JohnathanC: Are we all familiar with the song?

DavidWe nods

PaulHe: We talked about using a small text to intro a song

PaulHe: I used the Walt Whitman piece "I sit and look out" when I taught "Fast Car" last week

JohnathanC: Great!

JohnathanC: How did it go?

PaulHe: It went really well actually...a lot of the kids had heard "Fast Car" before

PaulHe: most of them thought it was a guy singing

PaulHe: which was amusing

PaulHe: I asked them how Tracy Chapman's gravelly voice added to the meaning

PaulHe: and got some good responses

JohnathanC: Tracy Chapman has a very distinct voice

PaulHe: the Whitman poem really blended well

PaulHe: with the ideas I was focusing on in "Fast Car"

JohnathanC: Glad it went well Paul, back to "Fire".....we talked about timelines in relation to the song

JohnathanC: I found a new video by a student that covers all the years of the song...

JohnathanC: And then includes contemporary images and references, it's quite good

JohnathanC: Click on the next link and READ only please don't start the video yet

JohnathanC: <http://kengallery.ultimatejourney.net/WDSTF.html>

JohnathanC: Give me a sign when you finish reading

FredK: Dial up still loading

JohnathanC: Did the text part appear?

PaulHe: finished

MaureenB: finished

FredK: Done

JohnathanC: The video player on this page is too small to read the quotes, so I will now post the You Tube address for the same video and you can then maximize it to fit your screen

JohnathanC: Questions?

JohnathanC: Happy Viewing.....

JohnathanC:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HcqMJN9dDtc&mode=related&search=>

PaulHe: awesome!

BJB2: WOW! That was great!!!

MaureenB: that is very powerful

JohnathanC: I love the updated images

BJB2 agrees.

PaulHe: yes

JohnathanC: Interesting what this young person included

JohnathanC: Did they strike you as more positive or negative?

PaulHe: I thought the "color wars" line where he/she had coke v pepsi was an interesting take on the lyric

PaulHe: a mix of both

JohnathanC: No it's "cola wars"

PaulHe: oh, oops!

JohnathanC: remember all the commercials and taste tests

PaulHe: yep

MaureenB: and it can go on and on with Iraq images

JohnathanC: sadly

JohnathanC: It would require more research but a teacher could ask students to select images references that predate the start of the song as well

PaulHe: that would be an interesting project

JohnathanC: I teach social studies but work closely with the health teacher at my school

JohnathanC: thought we'd talk about music and drug prevention

BJB2: lot of references to medical history in the lyrics song

BJB2 . o O (polio vaccine, thalidomide)

JohnathanC: Yes, I will also incorporate, film, literature and history in the next segment

JohnathanC: But first something to read...

JohnathanC: <http://www.learningfromlyrics.org/puff.htm>

JohnathanC: Ok please stop at the end of the reading before we explore the links below

JohnathanC: Some class discussion before we proceed....

PaulHe: I'm ready

BJB2: great resources, John!

JohnathanC: I really like the cross references in Sting's song

JohnathanC: <http://www.learningfromlyrics.org/poppy.htm>

JohnathanC: traveling through time.....innocence lost

JeffC: I recall that The Beatles denied that "Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds" was about acid. Any insight on that one Johnathan?

JohnathanC: Not sure but sounds like a good homework assignment for me

JohnathanC: I'll look into it

JohnathanC: I've heard that too

JeffC: <http://www.snopes.com/music/hidden/lucysky.htm>

JeffC: found it

JeffC: I still don't believe it's coincidence...

JeffC: my argument to kids is the strength of the drug you take is directly proportional to the dissatisfaction you have with reality.

JohnathanC: good point

JohnathanC: Back to the page.....

JohnathanC: <http://www.learningfromlyrics.org/puff.htm>

JohnathanC: scroll down below the text

JohnathanC: and explore some of the links

JohnathanC: under referenced and related works

JohnathanC: the student visuals are powerful

JohnathanC: I'm quite fond of Meet the Parents as well

PaulHe: The "Casey Jones" picture is interesting

JohnathanC: Interesting story about the Neil Young picture

JohnathanC: The student listed the names of musicians who used drugs on the poster

JohnathanC: Green color was for still alive and red ink for deceased

JohnathanC: Kurt Cobain died as he was creating the poster

JohnathanC: so he tried to trace over the green with red, go back and look

JohnathanC: <http://www.learningfromlyrics.org/needle.html>

PaulHe: I was wondering about that

PaulHe: there were quite a few drug deaths in rock in the late 80s & early 90s

PaulHe: and some near deaths

JohnathanC: yes

JohnathanC: did everyone see Meet the Parents?

JohnathanC: <http://www.learningfromlyrics.org/meet.htm>

PaulHe: yes

FredK: yes

JohnathanC: Since we are on the topic of music and health

JohnathanC: One more video

JohnathanC: the song "hold On" by Good Charlotte

JohnathanC: quick read

JohnathanC: <http://www.learningfromlyrics.org/Goodcharlotte.html>

JohnathanC: And then check out the video...

JohnathanC: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DLpwJkin9Ow>

JohnathanC: powerful words, music and images

JohnathanC: But a hopeful ending.....Hold On

BJB2: jeezee...I am totally drained with that one!

FredK: Will look when it finishes loading. What a blessing-transcripts.

JohnathanC: Yeah but it really reaches the kids

BJB2: Thanks so much for a truly inspiring discussion, John.

PaulHe: thanks

JohnathanC: you're welcome

FredK: Thanks Johnathan

JohnathanC: Happy holidays

BJB2 waves goodnight. The next Learning From Lyrics will be January 16

JohnathanC: Bye

FredK: You too

PaulHe: bye