

1 – Listen & Appraise: The Fresh Prince Of Bel-Air (Hip Hop)

Structure: Piano intro, verse 1, verse 2, chorus, verse 3, interlude, chorus, verse 4 with tag ending

Instruments/sounds you can hear: Loops, samples, decks, scratching, drums, bass, synthesizer, rapper.

Can you find the pulse as you are listening? Is the tempo fast, slow or inbetween? Dynamics? Texture?

2 – Musical Activities using glocks and/or recorders

Warm-up games play and copy back using up to 3 notes – D, E + F.

Bronze: D | Silver: D + E | Gold: D, E + F challenge.

Which challenge did you get to?

Singing/rapping in unison.

Play instrumental parts with the song by ear and/or from notation using the easy or medium part. You will be using up to 3 notes – D, G + A.

Which part did you play?

Improvise using up to 3 notes – D, E + F.

Bronze: D | Silver: D + E | Gold: D, E + F challenge.

Which challenge did you get to?

Compose a simple melody using simple rhythms choosing from the notes D, E + F or D, E, F, G + A.

3 – Perform & Share

Decide how your class will introduce the performance. Perhaps add some choreography? Tell your audience how you learnt this song and why. Record the performance and talk about it afterwards.

The performance will include one or more of the following:

Improvisations • Instrumental performances • Compositions



About this Unit

Theme: Old-school Hip Hop.

Facts/info:

The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air was written and performed by Will Smith in 1990 for a television series of the same name. The music and show were written by Quincy Jones.

Listen to 5 other hip hop songs:

- Me Myself and I by De La Soul
- Ready or Not by Fugees
- Rapper's Delight by The Sugarhill Gang
- U Can't Touch This by MC Hammer
- It's Like That by Run DMC

Vocabulary: Old-school Hip Hop, Rap, riff, synthesizer, deck, backing loops, Funk, scratching, unison, melody, compose, improvise, cover, pulse, rhythm, pitch, tempo, dynamics, timbre, texture, structure

Reflection

What did you like best about this Unit? Why? Was there anything you didn't enjoy about it? Why?

Did you have any strong feelings about it? Were you proud of yourself, happy or annoyed?

What are the 'style indicators' of Hip Hop?

How do you know this is Hip Hop?

Are there other hip hop artists do you know or like listening to? Any young female rappers?