



Afro Beat

Pre or Post Viewing Lesson

Grade Level: 3-6

Student Learning Objective(s): By the end of the lesson, students will be able to create a piece of original music.

Supplies Needed:

- Electronic Device (cell phone, tablet, computer)
- Music Genres Web Handout
- Journal/paper and a writing implement

California Arts Standards Addressed:

3.MU:Cr1	4.MU:Cr1	5.MU:Cr1	6.MU:Cr1
3.MU:Cr2	4.MU:Cr2	5.MU:Cr2	6.MU:Cr2

Common Core Standards Addressed:

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.3.1	CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.4.1	CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.5.1	CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.6.1
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.3.1.D	CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.4.1.D	CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.5.1.C	CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.6.1.C

Step by Step Directions for Teacher:

1. Warm Up Question: Ask your students: What types of music do you enjoy, and why? Have a few students share out their ideas with the class. If you are able, play a few examples of the songs using youtube or spotify.
2. Provide each student with the Music Genres Web (page 4) and ask them to think about the types of music that they know. Define the word “genre” for the class (a category of artistic composition, as in music or literature, characterized by similarities in form, style, or subject matter.) Provide an example or two for students (i.e. classical, rock, hip hop, etc). While they

are working, have your own Music Genres Web Handout drawn on the board and have students share what genres they have thought of.

4. Ask students: how do the genres sound? What kind of instruments are used in the genres that they mentioned? (Add answers as they fit to the class/teacher web)

5. Tell students you are going to play a quick game of naming the type of music. They will only hear instrumentals, no lyrics, and they will have to guess the genre/type of music it is. Play 15-30 seconds of the songs. (important, only play music, do not show the videos---it may reveal the genre).

Song Title	Video Link	Genre
Für Elise - Beethoven	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_mVW8tgGY_w	Classical
Savage	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wYZZw0tsG1U	Rap
Watermelon Sugar	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0SmUeqO_TKU	Pop
Dynamite - BTS	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PQSBWPoleCY	K-Pop
Buddy Holly - Weezer	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fef1bPh7Knc	Rock
Como La Flor - Selena	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IE9k9I15y7I	Cumbia
Ain't Misbehavin - Fats Waller	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hGS8UxIIYD0	Jazz
Jolene - Dolly Parton	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ah-G-QFW0FA	Country

6. Play the song Confusion by Fela Kuti: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4NwKhP4Dtm8> , and ask students what genre of music it is, and to use the class web to help them explain their answers.

7. Review: ask students how it felt to identify the songs without the words.

8. Share with the students some background of Afrobeat Music:

- Explain that Afrobeat began in West Africa in the 21st century and is a mix of genres like R&B, dancehall, Naija beats and many, many more.
- In 1969, a man named Fela Kuti and his band went on a trip to the U.S. It was there that Kute was introduced to many African American activists and their charge for equality. His interest in African American issues, he used his music as a way to support the demand for change in the U.S. So the music isn't just to dance to, but also to spread an important message.

10. Ask students why they think someone would use music to tell a message? Have them share with a partner and ask a few to share out to the class. Ask students what music they listen to when they're happy, sad, bored. Have the students either pair/share, or journal about a song that they like to listen to when they are feeling: happy, sad, and/or bored.

11. Have students think of how they're feeling today and have them turn that into a song by going to the free website: <http://sampler.com/>

Students can record their songs, and share out their songs to the class. Classmates can guess what mood the students are sharing.

**Alternatively, students can journal their thoughts and the typing will make song by using this website: <https://typatone.com/>

A collaborative option: <https://plink.in/>

Name: _____

