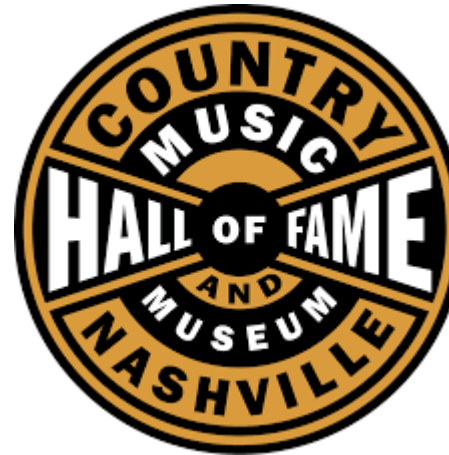




TEACH LANGUAGE ARTS THROUGH LYRIC WRITING

WORDS & MUSIC

LESSON 2





TEACH LANGUAGE ARTS THROUGH LYRIC WRITING

HOMEWORK

Did you come up with any ...

- Song titles?
- Themes/messages you are interested in writing a song about?



TEACH LANGUAGE ARTS THROUGH LYRIC WRITING

FREE WRITE

Do: Write about anything on your mind.

Do: Focus on writing for the entire five minutes.

Do: Keep your pen or pencil moving for the whole five minutes.

Don't: Worry about conventions like spelling or punctuation.





TEACH LANGUAGE ARTS THROUGH LYRIC WRITING

CREATING STRONG IMAGES





TEACH LANGUAGE ARTS THROUGH LYRIC WRITING

BRAINSTORM

In your journal, list as many **details about your current surroundings** as you can in 30 seconds.

Try to move past the obvious things you see and find tiny details that someone else might not notice.



Ready... set... **GO!**

BRAINSTORM

- For 30 seconds, close your eyes and listen. Pay attention to every little sound.
- Open your eyes and **list as many sounds as you can** in 30 seconds.
- You can repeat this brainstorm activity with smell, taste, and touch.



ACTIVITY

Sensory details are the individual sights, sounds, tastes, aromas, and touch sensations that allow us to take in our surroundings.

Images are mental pictures.



Sensory details are the most powerful tool to create the **images** that move our emotions.

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A **simile** can be used to create strong imagery in your lyrics. A simile is a comparison that uses “like” or “as.”

“He was as fast as a whirlwind on the basketball court.”

“The sun rose like a neon tangerine.”



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A **metaphor** makes similar comparisons without using “like” or “as.”

“He was a whirlwind on the basketball court.”
“At dawn, the sun was a neon tangerine.”



“I’m So Lonesome I Could Cry”



Written and Performed by Hank Williams

LISTEN

As you listen, note any images that Hank Williams creates in the song.

- Explain the images that you identified.
- How did Hank Williams use sensory imagery to create these images?
- How did these images affect the mood and tone of this song?

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“I’m So Lonesome I Could Cry”



Written and Performed by Hank Williams

Hear the lonesome whippoorwill
He sounds too blue to fly
The midnight train is whining low
I'm so lonesome I could cry

I've never seen a night so long
When time goes crawling by
The moon just went behind the clouds
To hide its face and cry

Did you ever see a robin weep
When leaves begin to die
That means he's lost the will to live
I'm so lonesome I could cry

The silence of a falling star
Lights up a purple sky
And as I wonder where you are
I'm so lonesome I could cry



TEACH LANGUAGE ARTS THROUGH LYRIC WRITING

HOMEWORK

Time to write your song!

- Create a song outline, then write a first **verse** and **chorus**.
- If you need help organizing your ideas and writing details, use the following handouts:
 - Songwriting Outline Handout
 - Sensory and Emotion Handout
 - Songwriting Template
 - Story Song Template
- If finished in time, email it to us before your next session!



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SONGWRITING OUTLINE

Title: _____

Verse 1 topic: _____

Hook (in the chorus): _____

Verse 2 topic: _____

Hook (in the chorus): _____

Verse 3 topic: _____



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SONGWRITING TEMPLATE

HANDOUT

Songwriting Template • Lesson 8

Name: _____ Date: _____

Verse 1

_____	_____ :syllable
_____	_____ :syllable
_____	_____ :syllable
_____	_____ :syllable

Chorus

_____	_____ :syllable
_____	_____ :syllable
_____	_____ :syllable
_____	_____ :syllable



TEACH LANGUAGE ARTS THROUGH LYRIC WRITING

SENSORY AND EMOTION

HANDOUT

Sensory and Emotion Brainstorm • Lesson 8

Name: _____ Date: _____

Close your eyes and imagine yourself in your song. What sensory details could you include to paint a stronger picture for your listener? What emotions will you draw upon to create images? Remember to use all your senses to incorporate details into your song.

THINGS I SEE:

THINGS I FEEL FROM TOUCH:

THINGS I HEAR:



TEACH LANGUAGE ARTS THROUGH LYRIC WRITING

STORY SONG TEMPLATE

HANDOUT

Story Song Template • Lessons 2 and/or 8

Name: _____ Date: _____

Story songs devote a verse each to the beginning, middle, and end of a story.
The main theme is communicated in the chorus.

Song title: _____

(Remember, this will probably appear somewhere in your chorus as your hook.)

FIRST VERSE (introduces the story):

CHORUS (theme of the story; includes your hook):
