

## Lesson Plan # 2 Anti-drug Messages in Hip-Hop

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English—10<sup>th</sup> Grade  
25 students—55 minute class

### OBJECTIVE:

To explore anti-drug messages in socially conscious hip-hop.

### MATERIALS:

\*CD player

\*CD of song “White Lines (Don’t Do It)” by GrandMaster Flash and Melle Mel

\*Printed lyrics of “White Lines” found at

[http://www.ohhla.com/anonymous/rap\\_comp/sugarhill/w\\_lines.sug.txt](http://www.ohhla.com/anonymous/rap_comp/sugarhill/w_lines.sug.txt)

\*Dictionaries

### STEPS:

1. Set up CD player before class
2. Play students “White Lines” and pass out lyrics 5 mins.
3. Discuss song and talk about in what social context it may have emerged from. Discuss using this kind of art form as a mode of expression. 15 mins.
4. Have students write an in class rap song of their own that speaks out against using drugs or alcohol. 15 mins
5. Have students use a dictionary to find and use five unknown words to them in the song
6. Have students underline these words in his or her rap. 10-20mins.
7. Students can finish this for homework

### LITERACY ASPECT:

Students will write their own rap songs, which will allow them to really think about song lyrics and their social impact. The class discussion should really get them thinking about this. I have also incorporated a vocabulary lesson into this assignment. By incorporating new words into their songs students will be more challenged than simply writing a silly rap song.

### ASSESSMENT:

Students will be assessed by the content of their songs and the correct use of their new vocabulary words. Their rap songs will be assessed only by checking they have done as I asked: Anti drug messages and new vocabulary words.

REFLECTION: I am a little worried that not everyone will be excited about creating his or her own rap poem that incorporates anti-drug messages. Maybe they will think it’s “uncool”? I like this assignment because while they have already written about

themselves in the previous assignment, this one makes them think more consciously about music and social impact. I definitely will not make (nor will time allow) every one to share their raps. I hope that they are understanding that I want them to be thinking about the social responsibility that artists have. Perhaps I should make this clearer in the beginning.