

Lesson Plan # 4 Censorship and Hip-hop

Tracy Hayward
English 10th—grade
25 students—55 minutes

OBJECTIVE:

The purpose of this lesson is to have students think about censorship in the media and to question how rap and hip-hop is often targeted and why this is so.

MATERIALS:

*At least twelve working computers with Internet access.

*internet web site ready for students to use. Found at
www.freemuse.org/03libra/subjects/rap01/texts/cloon/04022003.htm

STEPS:

1. Write website address on board.
2. Students will get in pairs at each computer.
3. Have students look up web site and read article about censorship. 15 minutes.
4. Let them discuss this with their partner. 5 minutes.
5. Students should close web site and take out their journals.
6. Have students write a review on the review they just read. Have students write a short response answering these questions: Why do think rap music is singled out? Why aren't movies and books singled out more? What do you think the single most reason that people turn to drugs? 20-30 minutes
7. For homework students must finish their review and turn it in to me.

LITERACY ASPECT:

Students will have a chance to hear opinions that are firmly against the mentioning of drugs in hip-hop music. Writing their review in response will really sharpen their argument skills. They are building upon other topics in their journals. One of these entries will eventually be made into a larger paper, and another one of their choice will be put into their bookbinding project. Forming opinions first as a class or in groups, and then in their journals, really allows students to see what directions their opinions are taking them.

ASSESSMENT:

Their review will be great way for me to see if students are thinking about and understanding the ideas I am presenting to them. I want them to address the issues of the censorship of rap in comparison to movies and literature. When I check their journals I will be able to see if they really thought about the questions I asked and to what extent this helped them write their review.

REFLECTION:

I love the idea of review a review. I think the students will love writing about censorship!