

Lesson Plan # 5 The Music and Message of Lauryn Hill

Tracy Hayward
English—10th Grade
25 Students—55 minutes

OBJECTIVE: To portray an artist who illustrates social responsibility both personally and musically.

MATERIALS:

- *CD Player
- *CD of Lauryn Hill's "Freedom Time"
- *25 copies of lyrics to song.

<http://www.ohhla.com/anonymous/lauryn/tmolh/everytng.fge.txt>

STEPS:

1. Set up CD player before class
2. Have students get out lyrics previously given out: Afroman's "Let's Get Drunk" and "White Lines (Don't Do It)"
3. Play Hill's "Freedom Time" 5-10 minutes
4. Have students discuss her theme and message in relation to the other songs we have heard in class. 10 minutes
5. Ask students how Lauryn has used her notoriety to send her message.
6. Discuss themes of drugs and alcohol vs. themes of peace, freedom and anti-drugs. 10 minutes
7. Have students begin to develop ideas for an essay topic. Explain that essay will be an argumentative one in which we will use an idea presented in the last few weeks, or a specific opinion that formed from these ideas. 20-25 minutes

LITERACY ASPECT:

Students will analyze Hill's lyrics and compare and contrast with other songs. Once again students will discuss and debate in class the pros and cons of the different messages that they hear from the media. Students will brainstorm ideas for essay topic. We will do this together as a class using brainstorming techniques we have learned in previous classes.

ASSESSMENT:

I will assess students by their participation in class discussion and participation in brainstorming techniques, which students will be writing down. I am keeping close tabs on who says what and am making sure I am reaching everyone.

REFLECTION:

By now I really hope that my assignments have sparked everyone's interest. I hope that they are thinking about the impact the media plays and how messages of drugs and alcohol fit into this. I think I am providing enough structure and I hope I have been successful.