



SONG ACADEMY

HELPING EVERY CHILD FIND THEIR VOICE



PRACTICAL SONGWRITING IDEAS FOR MUSIC TEACHERS!

1. Rhyme Time

Pick a topic to write about, (for example, 'love') and create rhyming patterns. The most common ones are AABB, ABAB, ABCABC - but you can create your own ones! It's fun to try and switch between perfect rhymes and near perfect rhymes. Challenge yourself to do as many as you can!

Example

I hate it when we're apart - A
But you're always in my heart - A
You've taken up a big place - B
And from my heart you won't be erased - B

2. Song Title Inspiration

If you can't think of a subject or an idea to write a song about then choose 5 items from your bedroom. Write these objects down and think of some associated words to create your song title!

For example:

Bed = Safe Haven
Guitar = Broken Strings
Window = What Do You See?

You can then begin to write lyrics based on the title of your song!

3. The 'Cutting Up' Technique

Find a magazine or a newspaper, cut out some phrases, words or headlines from them and piece them together to make some lyrics. David Bowie and Kurt Cobain were big fans of this method. The phrases in the newspaper will probably be totally different from your own, but its good to push yourself and write in a different way, and get out of habits that you might have. You can always add more of your own words if you want to!

4. Rewrite Your Favourite Song

Pick your favourite song - and rewrite it in YOUR words! Don't worry about the lyrics fitting to the original melody, this is your version of the song and you can create a new melody to it. Every song has been written before but what makes them special and different is how YOU say it.

5. Object Writing

Pick a word/have someone give you a word (for example, 'time') then write down or type whatever comes to mind when you think of that word for 10 minutes. Do not let your pen come off the paper - if you get stuck you can even write "I am stuck", anything goes, be creative, there are no limits! In this exercise you aren't necessarily writing lyrics, you are writing about a certain word (in sentences). Once the time is up look back and see if there are any key words/phrases/sentences that you have written that could be used as song lyrics.

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EXPRESS
YOURSELF

& BE HEARD



SONG ACADEMY

POP

I Will Always Love You by Whitney Houston

Love Story by Taylor Swift

Thriller by Michael Jackson

Crazy in Love by Beyonce

We Found Love by Calvin Harris featuring Rihanna

Shallow by Lady Gaga

Leave Right Now by Will Young

Bad Guy by Billie Eilish

Losing You by Solange

Shape of You by Ed Sheeran

Someone Like You by Adele

Get Lucky by Daft Punk featuring Pharrell Williams

Round Round by Sugababes

Hands Up by Merk & Kremont featuring DNCE

Heal by Tom Odell

Happiness by McFly

SONGS TO INSPIRE YOU!

ROCK

Somebody That I Used To Know by Gotye featuring Kimbra

Tempted by Squeeze

Mr Brightside by The Killers

Bohemian Rhapsody by Queen

Paranoid Android by Radiohead

Counting Stars by OneRepublic

Friday I'm In Love by The Cure

The Chain by Fleetwood Mac

When Doves Cry by Prince

Stuck In The Middle With You by Stealers Wheel

Comfortably Numb by Pink Floyd

Wonderwall by Oasis

If We Were Vampires by Jason Isbell

When The Sun Goes Down by Arctic Monkeys

Johnny Got A Boom Boom by Imelda May

Loner by Yungblud

HIP HOP/RAP

Gangsta's Paradise by Coolio featuring L.V.

Own It by Stormzy featuring Ed Sheeran and Burna Boy

Man Don't Care by JME featuring Giggs

One Dance by Drake featuring Wizkid and Kyla

Down With The Trumpets by Rizzle Kicks

Milkshake by Kelis

Take What You Want by Post Malone featuring Ozzy Osbourne and Travis Scott

It's Like That by Mariah Carey featuring Fatman Scoop and Jermaine Dupri

Jump Around by House of Pain

Old Town Road by Lil Nas X featuring Billy Ray Cyrus

Yeah by Usher featuring Lil Jon and Ludacris

Stop Killing The Mandem by Novelist

Intergalactic by Beastie Boys

Doo Wop (That Thing) by Lauryn Hill

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