

Lecture Demonstration

Music Appreciation

February 26, 2020

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What music do you like?

Why?

Write your answer on the
paper provided, fold it in half,
and set it aside.

MY FAVORITE MUSIC?

SILENCE.

memegenerator.net

What People Like

Lizzo:
Good as Hell



Do you like this song? Why?

Loud Luxury and Bryce Vine: I'm Not Alright



Do you like this song? Why?

Lewis Capaldi:
Someone You Loved



Do you like this song? Why?

BRACE YOURSELF PEOPLE

**VOCABULARY WORDS ARE
COMING...**

makeameme.org

Talking About Music

“Musical”

The patterns of sound and their effects.

What do you hear?

What are some examples of musical and extra-musical elements?

“Extra-Musical”

The associations with environment, activity, personality, and memory.

What do you experience that isn't sound?

Pentatonix, covering Queen: Bohemian Rhapsody



Describe this musically.
What are you hearing?

Pentatonix, covering Queen: Bohemian Rhapsody



Describe this extra-musically.
What are you experiencing?

“Musical”

What type of sounds do you like to hear?

“Extra-musical”

How do you like to experience music?

With what do you like to associate music?

When do you consume music?

Leonard Bernstein /
Stephen Sondheim:
“America” from *West Side Story*



Film re-adaptation upcoming December 2020, feat. Ansel Elgort and Rachel Zegler.

What do you like/dislike about this song?
Are those musical or extra-musical reasons?

Which aspects appear in these listeners' likes?

“‘I'm a Mess’ is also very relatable. Not everyone is perfect and everyone has their own demons. The only way to make it through some of these problems is to look and the brighter side and realize ‘Everything is going to be alright.’”

“Most of the music I like is from people I hang out with, they listen to it and it kind of got me interested in it.”

“I mostly like classic rock and some hip-hop because it has meaningful lyrics. I like R&B because of the heavy bass beats and Indie when I need some calming peaceful music.”

“Both of these songs are heavily auto-tuned and don't sound authentic at all. I like songs of this nature when they are just straight music, but when you heavily auto-tune a voice it annoys me because you know that's not how they sound live.”

Concrete

Musical Elements

Melody

Harmony

Rhythm

Timbre

Texture

Form

...

Extra-Musical Considerations

Listening vs. Hearing

Meaning

Personality

Genres / Eras

Style categories of popular music

Pop

Country

Punk

...

Time periods of Western art music

Medieval

Renaissance

Baroque

Classical

...

Leonard Bernstein /
Stephen Sondheim:
“America” from *West Side Story*



Practice shifting your attention through the musical elements.
What extra-musical elements distracted you?

Which element seems to predominate these listeners' likes?

“[It’s] just same thing over and over again.”

“Classic rock is full of complexity between guitar melodies and different experimental playing and what I often listen to the most.”

“I enjoy listening to pop because I usually like the voice of the singer during the song.”

“I like how each song feels different from the last. Each song doesn't feel like same few chords the entire song.”

“I do not like ‘Sunflower’ because of how slow and repetitive it is.”

“Most of modern rap songs today are hard for me to understand the lyrics and there's just too much chaos going on with the background music.”



Likeability

Abstract

Value

Musical and Extra-Musical
Objective vs. subjective

Personal and Impersonal
For you vs. for society

Expectation

Predictable vs. surprising

Preference equals...

VALUE

high quality construction to effectively
convey a message (musical) with
meaningful social and cultural associations
(extra-musical)

plus

EXPECTATION

follows the “rules” of construction as we know
and accept them
with elements of unpredictability or surprise
to maintain intrigue

Lizzo:
Good as Hell



How is this valuable?
How is this expected?

Loud Luxury and Bryce Vine: I'm Not Alright

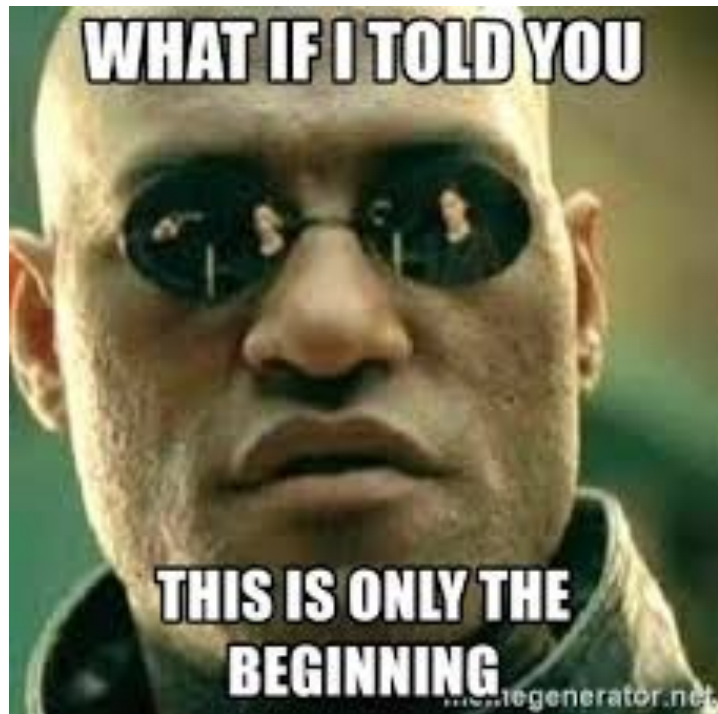


How is this valuable?
How is this expected?

Lewis Capaldi: Someone You Loved



How is this valuable?
How is this expected?



So what?

What music do you like?

Why?

Return to your answers at the
beginning of class.

Based on what we have
discussed today...

Which elements do you
most strongly prefer?

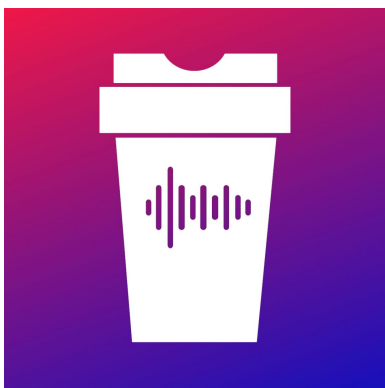
Is it possible to predict
what someone will like?

Abstract or concrete?

Musical or extra-musical?

What information would you need?

How would you make recommendations?



How do these actually work?

End of Presentation



ANY QUESTIONS?

memecreator.org

Questions?