



Hip Hip Basics: Freestyle Freewrite



Objective

Students will create their own original raps by using the Freestyle Free Write activity.

Resources

1. Watch [This Video](#) of Kendrick Lamar freestyling at a high school in Bergen, New Jersey.

Key Terms

Free Write - Writing bars without worrying about grammar or making sense

Procedures

1. After watching the Kendrick Lamar video, students will discuss the following questions: What is a cypher? How does one participate in a cypher?
2. Students will watch Josh and Gary create a freestyle rap by seeing them use their Freestyle Free Write activity.
3. Students will put a timer on for five minutes and then writing down as many words and lines as possible, no need for the words to make sense. Write as much as you'd like within those five minutes.
4. Students will then take turns sharing the raps they wrote using the Freestyle Free Write activity. If done remotely, students can all participate while on mute. If done in person, students can pair up and take turns rapping for each other.

Extension

1. Students who feel really comfortable with the Freestyle Free Write activity can record themselves rapping over a beat. They can then go back and listen to their rap and begin to expand on their ideas.
2. Once students have gone through this process a couple of times, they can then begin to formulate their ideas into a composition. Once all of the lyrics are completed, they can then record the full version of their composition and share it with their peers.

National Core Arts Standards

MU:Cr2.1.C.IIIb Analyze and demonstrate the development of sounds and extended musical ideas in drafts of music within a variety of moderately complex or complex forms