



Hip Hip Basics: Give Me a Word



Objective

Students will create their own original raps by improvising based off of a given word.

Resources

1. Visit <https://relatedwords.org/> for ideas on how to associate words with each other.
2. Watch [this video](#) of Lin-Manuel Miranda freestyling on the Jimmy Kimmel Show.

Key Terms

Bar - A measure of music, typically four beats long.

Procedures

1. Students will watch Coach Kenrick freestyle as he is given words to integrate into his rap.
2. Students will be given one word at a time that they must incorporate into their own freestyle rap. The words include: "city, traffic, paper, love, clouds, guitar, noise, and day."
3. Students will work in pairs. Student A will provide words for Student B, who will then freestyle over a rap or hip-hop beat. Students will then switch places and Student A will improvise the rap while Student B provides the words to incorporate. Students will repeat this process as needed in order to establish comfort with rapping using the Give Me a Word activity.
4. To create easier or more challenging versions of this activity, student who are struggling and use beats with a slower tempo, and students who are excelling and use one with a faster tempo. Students can also rap on every other measure to give them more time to prepare.

Extension

1. Students can expand on this activity individually by writing random words on flashcards. When the music starts, they can flip one card over at a time and begin improvising lyrics.
2. Students can also use a [Word Generator](#) to generate words that they can incorporate into their own freestyle.

National Core Arts Standards

MU:Cr2.1.C.IIIa Assemble and organize multiple sounds or extended musical ideas to create initial expressive statements of selected extended sonic experiences or abstract ideas.