￼ **Song Lyric Analysis Article**

You have just landed a job with a local music magazine. Your first assignment is to write a short article in which you interpret the lyrics of a popular or favorite song. Choose a popular song (or your favorite song) that has lyrics you would enjoy interpreting. In the style of a magazine article, write a *two-page* analysis of this song.

First, summarize what the song says, paying attention to details in each stanza. Second, state what you think the song’s theme is- that is, what insight into life does it reveal? Third, explain the song’s effect on you. How do you think the lyricist wants you to feel about his or her choice of words? How does the musical composition affect you?

INTRODUCTION

* Catch the reader’s attention and let the reader know what your article will be about.
* Give background information about song, stating title, etc.
* State the overall theme of the song, which will be the thesis statement.

BODY

* Describe the main verses and what you think they mean
* Analyze the song’s chorus and hook

CONCLUSION

* Write a paragraph explaining the poem’s effect on you.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

1. Review your article to locate and correct errors in grammar, usage, and mechanics. (Remember to enclose the title of the song in quotation marks.)

2. Use correct form to show that parts of a song have been quoted. If you quote three or more lines of the song, begin the quoted material after a colon, and separate the quoted material from your text by skipping a line, indenting, and writing the material in the same form as the song in poetic form. Start a new line rather than using a slash mark to separate lines. Line numbers should be given to identify the quotation.

EXAMPLE:

In the first stanza, Carole King tells of the richness of her life by comparing it to a tapestry of many colors. She tells that her life is an ongoing process of change, impossible of always staying the same:

 My life has been a tapestry of rich and royal hue,

 An everlasting vision of the ever-changing view.

 A wondrous woven magic in bits of blue and gold,

 A tapestry to feel and see, impossible to hold.

(lines 1-4)

If you quote two lines of the song in your text, separate the lines with a slash mark (/) And enclose them with quotation marks.

EXAMPLE:

In the chorus of the song, “Bad Blood,” Taylor Swift states, “Now we got problems/And I don’t think we can solve them.”

3. Your article must be written in proper MLA format with all sources cited. It is primarily your opinion of the song; however, since it is an analysis of the lyrics in article format, it needs to be written in the third person POV.

**Please print out the lyrics of the song you select and staple them to your final draft.**

**Outline and song due: May 5, 2016**

**Rough draft due: May 17, 2016**

**Final draft due: May 19, 2016.**

Rubric:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ / 15 Format and guidelines are followed as stated above.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ / 30 Analysis is well-though out, shows evidence of high-level, deep thinking and provides quotes from the song.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ / 10 Spelling, grammar, MLA format, lyrics included with final draft

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ / 55 Total points

Comments: