

Descriptive Music Review Practice

Step One: Brainstorming

Directions: Imagine you are a music reviewer for an online music blog or magazine. Listen to the sample songs and brainstorm unique ways to describe the instruments, the vocals, the groove, any polyphony, call and response, riffs, breaks, or other sounds you hear. As you listen, use the sensory language lists and vivid verbs resource for word choice ideas. For now, write down every thought that pops into your head; don't erase! We will narrow down the descriptions and images in the next step: drafting.

<i>Song Information</i>	<i>Brainstorm Descriptions</i>
Song #1 Title: Performer:	
Song #2 Title: Performer:	
Song #3 Title: Performer:	

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<i>Song Information</i>	<i>Brainstorm Descriptions</i>
Song #4 Title: Performer:	
Song #5 Title: Performer:	

Step Two: Drafting

Directions: Now that you have raw material for your practice review, the next step is to begin crafting a short paragraph to convey the sounds you hear in the song. Begin to create sentences which use some of your brainstormed ideas and begin to build on them to create descriptions that come to life for readers. Don't worry if you leave some brainstormed words or phrases behind; choose only the ones which convey the sounds unique to your chosen music. Write 3-4 descriptive sentences which capture what you have heard and be prepared to share them!

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