

NAME _____ CLASS HOUR _____ DATE _____

Song Chorus — Independent Work

I. List the title and artist of your selected song below:

Title

Artist

II. Write your song's chorus in the space below:

III. Locate, print, and attach a copy of your song's lyrics to this packet. You will need to bring your completed packet plus a copy of your song's lyrics with you to class for small-group work. If you would like your group members to listen to your song, please bring a copy of your song in either CD or MP3 format.

IV. Respond to the questions listed below using complete sentences.

Context:

When was the song originally written, produced, or released?

Circle one

50s 60s 70s 80s 90s Early 2000s Present-day

2. What (if any) cultural issues, historical or current events are relevant to the song? Explain any significance.

Audience:

3. What specific audience would you say the song is intended for?

4. If you were asked to rewrite this song for a different audience, what would you have to change? Why?

Genre:

5. What genre of music does your song represent? For example: rap, country, jazz, heavy metal, folk, pop, reggae, etc.

6. List some of the conventions or typical characteristics of this genre (style of music). You might consider factors such as content or subject matter, tone, style, and language.

7. How does your song conform to these conventions? Give at least one specific example.

8. In what ways does your song break away from this musical genre's conventions? Give at least one specific example. Explain why you think the songwriter chose to break with genre conventions.

9. In what ways (if any) do you think the song's genre influence the chorus?

Stance:

10. What is the overall tone of the song? How do you know?

11. What is the songwriter's attitude toward the subject matter? How do you know?

12. What does the chorus reveal about the songwriter's/artist's perspective or stance in regard to the song's content or subject? Explain your answer.

Purpose:

13. Examine your song's chorus in relation to each of the song's verses. Does the chorus have a similar relationship to each verse or does each verse add to or change the meaning of the chorus or does it offer a new perspective in regard to the chorus? In your response, be sure to provide at least one specific example.

14. Write a short paragraph in which you respond to the following questions: How does the chorus function in the song? In other words, what is the purpose of the chorus? How does the chorus help listeners understand the song's overall meaning? Based on the chorus, what do you think the songwriter is trying to communicate to listeners with this song?
