

WRITING # 3 – SOLO SOUNDTRACK "POETRY"

THE ASSIGNMENT

After having read Kwame Alexander's novel *Solo*, let's take another look at the soundtrack chosen by the authors as a backdrop for the book. Armed with the knowledge that songs with lyrics are essentially poems, choose ONE song from the soundtrack and take a closer look.

Listen to the track (search it on your favorite music streaming service or YouTube). Make sure you are looking for the correct artist as many of these songs have multiple cover versions, and plenty of other songs have similar titles. Search for the lyrics by using Google and read through them as you listen. (Tracks #1 – 14 listed on the back).

- Why did you pick this one?
- What is it about?
- Were you familiar with the song before we read the novel? Explain.
- Use your writing know-how to create a roughly one-page paper that discusses the importance of this song/poem.
- Quote it in at least two spots – putting the lyrics you quote in quotation marks.

Consider that one of the primary characteristics of essay is to connect the specific to the universal – to get to the *why it matters*.

Tech Steps:

1. Use Google docs to start a new document. Do this through GClassroom by going through the classwork tab and this assignment – then, it will appear where it should.
2. Name it YourLastName Writing 3(not literally – replace that with YOUR last name).
3. Just use a regular font size (the default is good). Please set the spacing to double.
4. Write your one-page essay. Be sure to shift paragraphs where ideas shift.

THE TRACKS

Track #1 – “Thinking of You” – Lenny Kravitz

Track #2 - “When the Lights Go Out” – The Black Keys

Track #3 – “Crossroads Blues” – Robert Johnson

Track #4 – “I Was Young When I Left Home” – Bob Dylan

Track #5 – “Sunny” – Bobby Hebb

Track #6 – “Welcome to the Jungle” – Guns ‘n Roses

Track #7 – “Enter Sandman” – Metallica

Track #8 – “Zombie” – Fela Kuti

Track #9 – “It’s Only Love” – Tina Turner & Bryan Adams

~~Track #10 – “Star Spangled Banner” – Jimmy Hendrix (instrumental only)~~

Track #11 – “With or Without You” – U2

Track #12 – “Right Now” – Van Halen

Track #13 – “Landslide” – Fleetwood Mac

Track #14 – “You Make Me Feel (Like a Natural Woman)” – Aretha Franklin