

Active Listening

Instrumentation

- WHAT INSTRUMENTS CAN YOU HEAR?
- DO THEY ALL PLAY THROUGHOUT THE WHOLE SONG?
- WHAT EFFECT DO THEY HAVE?

Structure

- HOW IS THE SONG OR TUNE PUT TOGETHER?
- VERSES? CHORUS? BRIDGE? INTRO OR OUTRO?
- IF IT'S A PIECE WITHOUT LYRICS, ARE THERE REPEATED TUNES? IS THERE SYMMETRY?

Style

- WHAT GENRE IS THIS?
- HOW CAN YOU TELL?
- ARE THERE FEATURES OF ANY OTHER GENRE?

Technique

- LISTEN TO THE VOCALIST (SINGER) AND THE MUSICIANS.
- WHAT IS EFFECTIVE IN THEIR PERFORMANCE? WHAT IS REALLY IMPRESSIVE? WHAT DO YOU LIKE? IS THERE ANYTHING THEY COULD IMPROVE ON?

Lyrics

- IS THERE A STORY?
- WHAT WORDS OR IMAGES STAND OUT?
- IS THERE A RHYME SCHEME?
- HOW DOES THE LANGUAGE AFFECT OUR RESPONSE TO THE SONG?

WHAT IS ACTIVE LISTENING?

Active listening is listening with focus. Instead of just hearing music, we are thinking about it and responding to it.

What can we focus on?

- # Instrumentation
- # Structure
- # Style
- # Technique
- # Lyrics



Remember to: get yourself comfortable and undistracted, notice how the music makes you feel, analyse what makes you feel this way.

We all respond to different music in different ways – you don't have to like everything you hear.

Can you understand and describe your responses? Can you use musical vocabulary to do this?