

# Music Journal Sentence Stems & Starters

for writing and discussing music

<p><b><u>A. Making Connections:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. This reminds me of...</li> <li>2. An experience I have had like that...</li> <li>3. This reminds me of the song _____ because...</li> <li>4. This sounds like...</li> <li>5. This lyric reminds me of...</li> <li>6. When I heard this song, I think of...</li> </ol>	<p><b><u>B. Asking Questions:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. I wonder...</li> <li>2. How come...</li> <li>3. Why...</li> <li>4. I'm confused...</li> <li>5. What if...</li> <li>6. I don't understand...</li> </ol>
<p><b><u>C. Visualizing/Sensory Images:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. In my mind I picture _____ when I heard...</li> <li>2. I visualized...</li> <li>3. If I had to choose colors, this song would be...</li> <li>4. I heard _____ which made me picture _____.</li> <li>5. When I listen to this song, I see...</li> </ol>	<p><b><u>D. Inferring/Predicting:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. I think this song is about...</li> <li>2. Maybe this means...</li> <li>3. I'm guessing...</li> <li>4. This allows me to assume...</li> <li>5. I predict _____ because...</li> </ol>
<p><b><u>E. Summarizing:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. This song is mostly about...</li> <li>2. The main ideas in this song are...</li> <li>3. Some important parts of this song are _____ because...</li> <li>4. First....Next....Then....Finally</li> <li>5. When I listen to this...</li> <li>6. A lyric from the song that interested me the most was _____ because...</li> </ol>	<p><b><u>F. Synthesizing:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. I'm thinking that...</li> <li>2. At first I thought _____ but now I'm thinking _____ because...</li> <li>3. I'm changing my thinking again because...</li> <li>4. I think the song is about _____ because...</li> <li>5. These parts of the song have caused me to think...</li> <li>6. The rhythms I hear in this song are...</li> <li>7. I think the composer used _____ because _____</li> </ol>
<p><b><u>G. Composer/ Artist's Message:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Something that interests me about this song is...</li> <li>2. Something new I learned from this song is...</li> <li>3. This song made me want to learn more about...</li> <li>4. Some questions I still have about the song are...</li> <li>5. The composer made the song interesting by....</li> <li>6. Something the composer could have added is...</li> <li>7. The lyrics made me think...</li> <li>8. I think the main idea or message is...</li> </ol>	<p><b><u>H. Evaluating/ Reflecting:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. I agree with _____ because...</li> <li>2. I don't think ....</li> <li>3. I like this song because....</li> <li>4. I dislike this song because...</li> <li>5. I noticed the performer/ artist...</li> <li>6. Something I don't understand is...</li> <li>7. My favorite part was when _____ because...</li> <li>8. This song made me feel _____ because...</li> </ol>
<p><b><u>I. Composer:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. I think the composer wrote this song because...</li> <li>2. It's interesting how the composer/ artist...</li> <li>3. Something I noticed about the composer/ artist's style is...</li> <li>4. I'd like to heard another song by this composer/ artist because...</li> <li>5. I do/don't like this composer/ artist's writing style because...</li> </ol>	<p><b><u>J. Music Production:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. If I were the producer of this song I would change...</li> <li>2. I could draw _____ as a symbol for _____ because...</li> <li>3. Illustrations would/wouldn't make this song more interesting because...</li> <li>4. If I could add/ take away an instrument to this song, I would add/ take away.../</li> <li>5. To make this song sound _____, I would _____.</li> </ol>
<p><b><u>QUESTIONS FOR LISTENING ACTIVITIES:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What do you think this song about?</li> <li>2. How does it make you feel?</li> <li>3. What does it remind of you of?</li> <li>4. What lyrics are most interesting to you?</li> <li>5. What instruments do you hear?</li> <li>6. What do you see when you heard this (write or draw)</li> <li>7. Why do you think the composer/ artist wrote this?</li> <li>8. What musical language can you use to describe this song? Is there a lyric or rhythm you can write out?</li> </ol>	<p><b><u>JOURNAL PROMPTS (THINGS TO WRITE ABOUT)</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What is your favorite song and why?</li> <li>2. Describe a music performance you've seen that you really liked. What made it a good performance?</li> <li>3. You were just given a MILLION dollars to write the best song ever. What is your song about? Why? What does it sound like? What makes it the best song ever?</li> <li>4. What would the theme song to your life sound like?</li> <li>5. Create new music technology. What would it look like? What would it do? What problem does it solve?</li> </ol>