


Unit 201ta: Song Analysis Prep

WORKBOOK 2

Unit 201ta Overview

RSL Learning Outcomes	What you actually have to do!
<p>1.1 Describe the contributing traits of two contrasting contemporary musical styles through consideration of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">The factors that influenced its inceptionSignificant artists/bands/producersImportant recordings/performances/eventsImagery and fashion associated with the style	<ul style="list-style-type: none">1.1.a - Project about  a musical style1.1b - Project about a *contrasting* musical style
<p>2.1 Listen to a piece of music, recognising and discussing the following musical elements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">TonalityTempoInstrumentationLyrical content (where applicable)Production Techniques	<ul style="list-style-type: none">2.1 - Song Analysis

By now you should have already completed your first draft of 1.1a, your **project on your first musical style**.

You will get **individual** and **class** feedback on this before you start on your second musical style (1.1b).

The work we'll do in this booklet and the accompanying video is all about preparing you for **your song analysis (2.1)**.₂

Home Learning Top Tips!

1. Do listen fully to the examples - some of the time I'll be pointing out things as they play.
2. Do pause the videos and try the activities independently first - it will be good practice.
3. Don't worry if you don't get everything on first go through - there's going to be a lot of info and new vocab, so just try your best.
4. You can write your answers in the ppt document, on paper, or on a printed out copy of this booklet - it's up to you - just keep it safe!
5. You're my fabulous Y10s - you got this.

Phase 3 focus

When you do your song analysis, you will have to write about 5 aspects of the song:

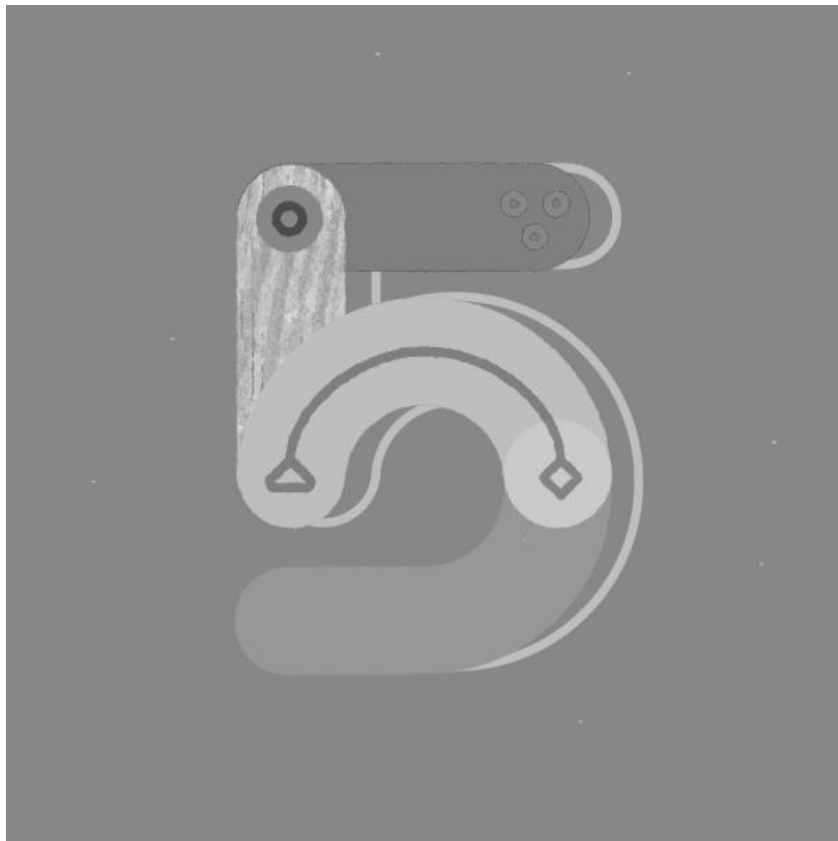
Tonality	The ‘character’ of a piece of music, based on its key and other pitch features
Tempo	Speed of the music
Instrumentation	The instruments used in the music
Lyrical content (where applicable)	Words - what they mean and how they affect the listener’s experience and understanding of the song.
Production Techniques	Includes the techniques used to record a song, and the effects that have been applied to a raw recording of a song (for examples, reverb)

In Phase 3, we’ll be looking at:

- Video 5: Production Techniques

Production Techniques

VIDEO NUMBER



Production Techniques

Production Techniques

Effects applied to an instrument or recording



Production Techniques

Effects applied to an instrument or recording

To get a **Pass** you will have to simply **describe** the production techniques used in your song. These may include:

What production techniques can we listen out for?

Technique	Definition	For example...
Mix levels	How the track is mixed, i.e. the relative volumes of each instrument or vocal.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">You know you listen to a recording sometimes and the vocal just doesn't feel quite loud enough - that's a problem with the mix - the voice is too quiet compared to other instrument.
Panning	<p>The way the track is presented in stereo sound (the balance between left and right). Where each instrument sounds like it's coming from.</p> <p>Are different instruments or vocals more prominent on one side (one ear!) of the recording?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Ever listen to a song and it seems like the sound is moving from one ear to the other - that's panning!8D music relies on panning to create that surround-sound, moving effect.
Effects	<p>Processes added to sounds to alter their characteristics.</p> <p>There's LOADS!</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Reverb - A6 vs T4Delay - similar to echoCompression - make vocals, bass and drums more evenEQ - enhancing certain frequenciesChorus - loads of you! Ambient!Flange and Phasing - wibbly and weird!
Samples	You can 'sample' music from someone's' song (e.g. Vanilla Ice samples Queen/Bowie in <i>Ice ice Baby</i>), <i>but you can also sample non-musical sounds.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Chatter, birds tweeting, traffic - anything!

Production Techniques

Effects applied to an instrument or recording

To get a **Merit** or **Distinction** you have to then discuss **why** the producer may have used these techniques.

You might make links between:

- Techniques and the song's musical style
- Techniques and the song's 'message' or mood

And many other possibilities, depending on the song you choose.

Production Techniques

Effects applied to an instrument or recording

Task 1

Listen to *Be My Baby*.

What techniques so you think you can hear? Feel free to jot down some ideas.

Task 2

Listen to *Crazy in Love*.

What techniques so you think you can hear? **In the table on page 10**, bullet-point some ideas.

Task 3

Spend 2 mins jotting down any ideas you have about **why** *Be My Baby*'s producer may have used these production techniques. Consider:

- Musical style
- Message/feel of the song

Task 4

In the table on page 10, have a go yourself at suggesting why *Crazy in Love*'s producer may have used these production techniques. Consider:

- Musical style
- Message of the song

Production Techniques

Effects applied to an instrument or recording

Context		What production techniques can you hear? (Pass)	Why might the producer use these techniques? (Merit+)
Pop/R'n'B + Wall of Sound' Wall of Sound all about echo, layering, and creating a full and warm sound.	<i>Be My Baby - The Ronettes</i>	Describe the mix - Panning? Effects? Samples?	STYLE - MESSAGE/FEEL -
2000s RnB Production very important in dance music AND in 90s-00s R'n'B Designed to play at clubs	<i>Crazy in Love - Beyoncé</i>	Describe the mix - Panning? Effects? Samples?	STYLE - MESSAGE/FEEL -

Production Techniques

Effects applied to an instrument or recording

Task 5: “Homework”

Now it's your turn!

1. Listen to the songs.
2. Have a go at filling in the **table on page 12** just like we've done for *Be My Baby* and *Crazy in Love*.
3. You can look back at what we did together before to help you.
4. Take as long as you need - it's not a test, it's practice

Production Techniques

Effects applied to an instrument or recording

Context		What production techniques can you hear? (Pass)	Why might the producer use these techniques? (Merit+)
Rock/ experimental It's Queen! Anything goes! Lots of develop- ments in tech at this time For sci-fi film <i>Flash</i> <i>Gordon's</i> sound- track	<i>Flash - Queen</i>	Describe the mix - Panning? Effects? Samples?	STYLE - MESSAGE/FEEL -
Funk/pop/ rock! Lots of develop- ments in tech at this time Bowie always pushing trying new things, like Queen.	<i>Let's Dance - David Bowie</i>	Describe the mix - Panning? Effects? Samples?	STYLE - MESSAGE/FEEL -

Phase 4 focus

When you do your song analysis, you will have to talk about 5 aspects of the song:

Tonality	The ‘character’ of a piece of music, based on its key and other pitch features
Tempo	Speed of the music
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In Phase 4, we’ll be looking at:

- Practising writing short analyses of musical elements to consolidate what we’ve done so far.