

Poems which evoke emotion through sound

Day 2

Play the four Emotional Songs clips and write down how each makes you feel:

- Albatross by Fleetwood Mac:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QooCN5JbOkU>
- Happy by Pharrell Williams: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y6Sxv-sUYtM>
- Hallelujah by Leonard Cohen:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ttEMYvpoR-k>
- Ride of the Valkyries by Wagner:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V92OBNsQgxU>

Create a list of emotions words for each song and discuss how music and other sounds can make us feel strong emotions (use the emotions list to help you articulate your feelings).

Share your feelings, list the range of emotions words suggested under the name of each song and discuss it. Then sort the emotions from the Emotions List (see resources) under each song.

How do music and other sounds make us feel strong emotions? Studies suggest music and sound light up different parts of the brain linked to emotions. Minor keys and slower rhythms tend to make for sadder or calmer feelings while louder or more upbeat rhythms create more happy or angry emotions, depending on the music/song. Poetry can also provoke emotions in a similar way to music. The sound quality is created through word choice, including onomatopoeia.

The word 'clap', which features heavily in 'Happy', is onomatopoeic – a word formed from the associated sound. In this case the constant repetition of the word not only encourages listeners to clap along but sounds like clapping.

Activity

Cut out and stick or write six emotions words at the centre of a page.

Then cut out onomatopoeic words and link them to each emotion.

Emotions List

Adoration

Amusement

Anticipation

Anxiety

Calmness

Disgust

Dread

Empathy

Envy

Excitement

Fear

Happiness

Horror

Joy

Peace

Sadness

Surprise

Sympathy

Triumph

Emotions

happiness	anger	excitement	surprise
sadness	calmness	fear	disgust

Onomatopoeia

rustle	clink	cry	snap	creak	yelp
trickle	click	rattle	sizzle	groan	boom
rumble	tap	clap	squirt	mutter	crunch
gurgle	bang	cackle	howl	mumble	thud
shimmer	scratch	chortle	creep	giggle	crackle