

Name \_\_\_\_\_



# PRIMARY SOURCE ANALYSIS MUSIC OF THE ERA

**ERA & SUB-ERA**

**SONG TITLE**

**ARTIST**

**MUSIC GENRE\***




\* Orchestral, Band, Jazz, Choral, Barbershop, A cappella, Gospel, Opera, Folk, Country, Blues, Rock, World.

## OBSERVATIONS – *FIRST LISTENING*

The first time you play the song, simply listen and describe what you hear. What do you notice first? What instruments (or type of instruments) do you recognize? What else do you notice about the rhythm and style of the music – is it fast, slow, loud, soft, heavy, catchy, dull, etc.? What things stand out the most? What other details do you notice?

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What imagery is created by the rhythm and style of the music (what places, events, or things does it remind you of or make you think of)?

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Which emotions does the music cause you to feel – calm, anxious, happy, angry, sad, reflective, melancholy, etc.?

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## OBSERVATIONS – *SECOND LISTENING*

The second time you listen to the song, follow along with printed lyrics and pay closer attention to what message is being shared. What message do the lyrics convey? Do the words being sung match or contradict (go against) how the music makes you feel? Which people, places, topics, events, or concerns of the era, etc. are mentioned in the lyrics? What else do you notice about the lyrics?

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# REFLECTIONS & ANALYSIS

Why do you think the artist recorded this song? Does the song show bias (favoritism or prejudice)? If so, towards what or whom? What does the song reveal about the artist's viewpoint? Is there an underlying political message? If so, what is it? What do you think the artist might have wanted the audience to think, believe, or feel when they listened to this song? What clues do you find to suggest this? In what ways are the lyrics, instrumentation, and title of the song each important?

Who do you think was the intended audience of this piece of music – who would be interested in hearing this song? Is there a reason why this music was created for that particular audience? How would someone else (someone of a different gender, race, or age; someone who made more or less money; or someone with different political views and values) react differently to hearing this song? What are your personal reactions to this song and its lyrics? How do you feel after listening to it and analyzing its lyrics? Do you agree with the artist's viewpoint and message?

## UNDERSTANDING THE ERA & ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

What does this song tell you about what life was like during this historical era? Using your preexisting knowledge about the era, how do you think this song had an impact on people's daily lives?

What else did you learn from listening to this recording? In what ways did this song help answer your essential questions?

## FURTHER STUDY

What new "I wonder" questions arose in your mind as a result of listening to this song?