

Hero Themed Song Lyrics Writing A ctivity

Works really
well in a Poetry
Unit!

Students must read the
lyrics & listen to songs with
a hero theme. They must
justify their two favorites.



Hero Themed Song Lyrics

Great for Poetry Unit

Students discuss the theme of Heroes and what it means to them. They then have to pick two songs for inclusion on a Hero Themed CD and write about why they feel the songs should be included on the CD. I usually download the song on iTunes and then play them in class. (You may also be able to find them on YouTube too.) This is a fun assignment to do with students and they are usually happy to debate and discuss the merits of each song.

Includes:

- Detailed Assignment Sheet
- Hero Brainstorming Sheet
- Brainstorming sheet for their song choices
 - Lyrics for all seven songs
 - Marking Rubric



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Heroic Productions

Hero CD Assignment

You have been hired by **Heroic Productions** to produce a CD on the theme of **HEROES**. Your task is to review several songs that have been suggested for the CD and decide whether or not they should be included on the Hero CD.

You are going to listen to several songs in class, however you can only pick two of them for inclusion on the CD. Which two will you pick and why?

Write a well-organized paragraph to explain each song.

Be sure to include the following information about each song you've chosen.

- How does the song relate to the theme of heroes?
- Is the song effective? Why or why not?
- Why / what does it make you think about heroes?
- What makes this a good song? **(Use specific examples)**
- What is the song about?
- Why should this song be included on the CD?
- Don't forget to spell-check and edit your work for errors

Songs to Consider for the CD

“Superman” - Five For Fighting

“Superman Song” - Crash Test Dummies

“I Need A Hero” - Bonnie Tyler

“Hero” - Nickelback

“Hero of the Day” - Metallica

“My Hero” - Foo Fighters



What Makes A Hero?

What are the characteristics of a HERO?

What are some HERORIC ACTIONS?

List 3-5 people who you consider to be a HERO. Write a few notes to explain why you think they are a HERO.



Hero Song Brainstorming

Listen to the songs you picked several times. Take notes about each song below.

Song 1

Song 2



Hero Song Review Rubric



	Not Quite Yet (Not yet within expectations) 2 marks	Good Start (Minimally Meets Expectations) 3 marks	You did it! (Meets Expectations) 4 marks	Wow! (Exceeds expectations) 5 marks
<u>Content</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Briefly explains each song, but missing key ideas and details. Does not demonstrate an understanding of the ideas of each song. No specific examples from the songs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explains each song with basic details and understanding. Shows understanding of the basic ideas of each song. Used basic examples from the songs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has a clear purpose and tries to explain more detailed ideas Well-developed ideas show understanding of each song. Ideas are supported with examples from the songs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has a clearly defined purpose and has effectively dealt with complex ideas. Ideas and details are thoughtful and complex show a deeper understanding of the song. Well-chosen examples from each song are used to support ideas.
<u>Style</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Short choppy sentences make paragraphs difficult to read. Basic, simple language 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some sentence variety. Everyday, conversational language 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A variety of sentence lengths and styles are used. Language is clear, appropriate, and varied 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paragraphs flows smoothly due to varied sentence lengths and styles. Language is clear, varied and mature
<u>Form</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Little to no introduction to the topic. No transitions between ideas. Little / no conclusion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic introduction, may overly explain ideas. Ideas are together but may be listed rather than developed Weak conclusion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interesting introduction Logical sequence and transitions used Logical or predictable conclusion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interesting, creative and engaging introduction Smooth and logical sequence and transitions Creative and engaging conclusion
<u>Conventions</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Significant editing still required. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some noticeable errors in basic structures and words. Further editing required. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mostly correct—a few errors that would have been improved with more editing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Well-edited and well-written paragraphs.

"Superman" – Five for Fighting

I can't stand to fly
I'm not that naive
I'm just out to find
The better part of me

I'm more than a bird...i'm more than a plane
More than some pretty face beside a train
It's not easy to be me

Wish that I could cry
Fall upon my knees
Find a way to lie
About a home I'll never see

It may sound absurd...but don't be naive
Even heroes have the right to bleed
I may be disturbed...but won't you concede
Even heroes have the right to dream
It's not easy to be me

Up, up and away...away from me
It's all right...you can all sleep sound tonight
I'm not crazy...or anything...

I can't stand to fly
I'm not that naive
Men weren't meant to ride
With clouds between their knees

I'm only a man in a silly red sheet
Digging for kryptonite on this one way street
Only a man in a funny red sheet
Looking for special things inside of me
Inside of me
Inside me
Yeah, inside me
Inside of me

I'm only a man
In a funny red sheet
I'm only a man
Looking for a dream

I'm only a man
In a funny red sheet
And it's not easy, hmmm, hmmm, hmmm...

It's not easy to be me

"Superman's Song" – Crash Test Dummies

Tarzan wasn't a ladies' man
He'd just come along and scoop 'em up under his arm
Like that, quick as a cat in the jungle
But Clark Kent, now there was a real gent
He would not be caught sittin' around in no
Junglescape, dumb as an ape doing nothing

[Chorus:]

Superman never made any money
For saving the world from Solomon Grundy
And sometimes I despair the world will never see another
man like him

Hey Bob, Supe had a straight job
Even though he could have smashed through any bank in
the United States, he had the strength, but he would not.
Folks said his family were all dead, their planet crumbled
but Superman, he forced himself
To carry on, forget Krypton, and keep going

Tarzan was king of the jungle and Lord over all the apes
But he could hardly string together four words: "I Tarzan,
You Jane."

Sometimes when Supe was stopping crimes
I'll bet that he was tempted to just quit and turn his back
On man, join Tarzan in the forest
But he stayed in the city, and kept on changing clothes
In dirty old phone booths till his work was through
And nothing to do

but go on home

"Hero of the Day" – Metallica

Mama, they try and break me.
The window burns to light the way back home
A light that warms no matter where they've
gone.
They're off to find the hero of the day
But what if they should fall by someone's wick-
ed way?
Still the window burns, time so slowly turns
Someone there is sighing
Keepers of the flames
Do you feel your names?
Do you hear your babies crying?
Mama they try and break me
Still they try and break me
'Scuse me while I tend to how I feel
These things return to me that still seem real
Now deservingly this easy chair
But the rocking stops by wheels of despair
Don't want your aid
But the fist I've made for years won't hold or
feel
No I'm not all me
So please excuse me while I tend to how I fell
But now the dreams and waking screams that
ever last through the night (echoed between
James and Jason)

So build the wall behind it crawl and hide until
it's light
Can you hear your babies crying now?
Still the window burns
Time so slowly turns
And someone there is sighing
Keepers of the flames, can't you feel your
names?
Can't you hear your babies crying?
But now the dreams and waking screams that
ever last the night
So build a wall behind it crawl
And hide until it's light
So can't you hear your babies crying now?
Mama they try and break me
Mama they try and break me
Mama they try and break me
Mama they try mama they try
Mama they try and break me
Mama they try Mama they try

"Hero" – Nickelback

I am so high. I can hear heaven.
I am so high. I can hear heaven.
No heaven, no heaven don't hear me.

And they say that a hero can save us.
I'm not gonna stand here and wait.
I'll hold onto the wings of the eagles.
Watch as they all fly away.

Someone told me love will all save us.
But how can that be, look what love gave us.
A world full of killing, and blood-spilling
That world never came.

And they say that a hero can save us.
I'm not gonna stand here and wait.
I'll hold onto the wings of the eagles.
Watch as they all fly away.

Now that the world isn't ending, it's love that I'm send-
ing to you.
It isn't the love of a hero, and that's why I fear it won't
do.

And they say that a hero can save us.
I'm not gonna stand here and wait.
I'll hold onto the wings of the eagles.
Watch as they all fly away.

And they're watching us
(Watching Us)
As they all fly away.

"Hero" Mariah Carey

There's a hero
If you look inside your heart
You don't have to be afraid
Of what you are
There's an answer
If you reach into your soul
And the sorrow that you know will melt away

And then a hero comes along
With the strength to carry on
And you cast your fears aside
And you know you can survive
So when you feel like hope is gone
Look inside you and be strong
And you'll finally see the truth
That a hero lies in you

It's a long road
When you face the world alone
No one reaches out a hand for you to hold
You can find love if you search within yourself
And the emptiness you felt will disappear

And then a hero comes along
With the strength to carry on
And you cast your fears aside
And you know you can survive
So when you feel like hope is gone
Look inside you and be strong
And you'll finally see the truth
That a hero lies in you

Lord knows dreams are hard to follow
But don't let anyone
Tear them away, hey yeah
Hold on there will be tomorrow
In time you'll find the way

And then a hero comes along
With the strength to carry on
And you cast your fears aside
And you know you can survive
So when you feel like hope is gone
Look inside you and be strong
And you'll finally see the truth
That a hero lies in you

"My Hero" – Foo Fighters

Too alarming now to talk about
Take your pictures down and shake it out
Truth or consequence, say it aloud
Use that evidence, race it around

There goes my hero
Watch him as he goes
There goes my hero
He's ordinary

Don't the best of them bleed it out
While the rest of them peter out
Truth or consequence, say it aloud
Use that evidence, race it around

There goes my hero
Watch him as he goes
There goes my hero
He's ordinary

Kudos my hero leaving all the best
You know my hero, the one that's on

There goes my hero
Watch him as he goes
There goes my hero
He's ordinary.

"I Need A Hero" - Bonnie Tyler

Where have all the good men gone
And where are all the gods?
Where's the street-wise Hercules
To fight the rising odds?
Isn't there a white knight upon a fiery steed?
Late at night I toss and turn and dream
of what I need

[Chorus]

I need a hero
I'm holding out for a hero 'til the end of the night
He's gotta be strong
And he's gotta be fast
And he's gotta be fresh from the fight
I need a hero
I'm holding out for a hero 'til the morning light
He's gotta be sure
And it's gotta be soon
And he's gotta be larger than life

Somewhere after midnight
In my wildest fantasy
Somewhere just beyond my reach
There's someone reaching back for me
Racing on the thunder end rising with the heat
It's gonna take a superman to sweep me off my feet

[Chorus]

Up where the mountains meet the heavens above
Out where the lightning splits the sea
I would swear that there's someone somewhere
Watching me

Through the wind and the chill and the rain
And the storm and the flood
I can feel his approach
Like the fire in my blood

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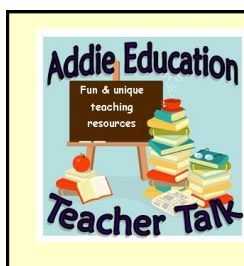
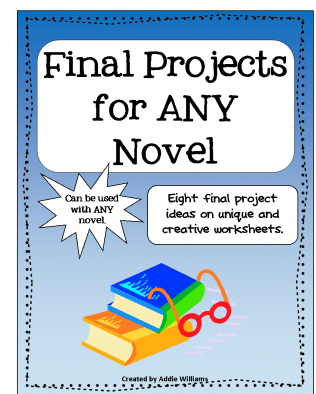
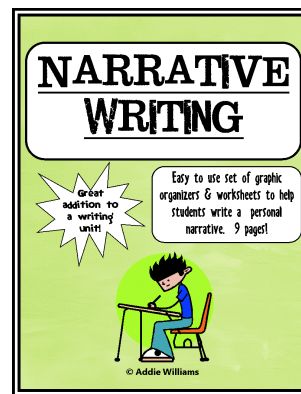
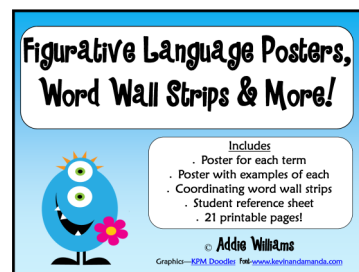
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