

Finding the Elements of Hip-Hop Across Cultures to Connect to the Power of Place (figuratively and literally)

About this Lesson

Using modern music and text as the centerpiece for the lesson, students will analyze hip-hop lyrics from Beijing, China, and other places for comparison and for literary devices to connect cross-curricularly with a mapping activity. Students will use their understanding of hip-hop lyrics and poetic elements/figurative language to create their own rap/song/poem

Grade Level

9-12

Classroom Time

60 minutes

Resources

Map Rubric (provided below)

Lyrics (provided below or teacher can print those of student choice)

TPCASST worksheets available on paper or digitally

-https://www.readwritethink.org/sites/default/files/resources/30738_analysis.pdf

Computer with internet to play YouTube video at opening

Original poem/song/rap rubric (provided below)

If students need background on poetic elements teacher can use this video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=82fAR2V3BHI>

Background

Students should be familiar with poetic elements such as repetition, metaphor, simile, symbolism, alliteration, imagery, personification, rhyme, and hyperbole. This would be used as a formative assessment of students knowledge of these terms as seen in poetry/songs.

Objective

TLW: analyze music videos for Chinese cultural elements

TLW:analyze hip-hop lyrics for figurative language and poetic elements

TLW: take a poem to map out an area and understand more about a different location/culture

Standards

LA RI 1.1 Cite relevant and thorough textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.

LA RI 1. 4. Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze the cumulative impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone

LA S&L 1a Come to discussions prepared, having read and researched material under study; explicitly draw on that preparation by referring to evidence from texts and other research on the topic or issue to stimulate a thoughtful, well-reasoned exchange of ideas.

La L 4a 4. Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on reading and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.

Lesson

1. Opening Activity students will watch the music video of *Hiding In Beijing* by Yin Ts'ang (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qh6lJWfYyTo>) and complete the Library of Congress video analysis guide <https://www.archives.gov/files/education/lessons/document-analysis/english/analyze-a-video-intermediate.pdf>
2. Students will work with teacher to analyze lyrics of *Hiding in Beijing* using the TPCASTT. (Worksheet link provided below).
3. Students will then either choose one hip hop song or teacher can use one of the four I have provided to but students in groups of 2-4 to analyze the lyrics. (I have students share their song choices with me ahead of time so I can have lyrics ready for the groups.) They will analyze their song for figurative language and poetic elements.
4. Students will work in their group or individually to create a map of Beijing showing at least 5 places listed in the song from opening of lesson. (Lyrics below) or it can be done with any of the songs the groups chose/were given if it includes locations.

Post Lesson Activities

1. Students will create their own poem/rap/song about a place that is important to them for homework including at least 4 important places, things, or historical landmarks specific of the area. Students will have 3 nights to work on this and will check in with teacher briefly each day until it's due. (Rubric provided below)

Assessment

1. Group TPCASTT worksheet
[-https://www.readwritethink.org/sites/default/files/resources/30738_analysis.pdf](https://www.readwritethink.org/sites/default/files/resources/30738_analysis.pdf)
2. Group map using rubric
3. Original poem/rap/song using rubric

Lyrics- "Hiding" by In Beijing

In Beijing/We walk on Chang'an Street
In Beijing/There are many beautiful girls
In Beijing/We worship Buddha in the Yonghe Temple
In Beijing/We visit your Hutong
In Beijing/We learn history in the Palace Museum
In Beijing/We bought a T-shirt in Xidan Mall
In Beijing/Tian'anmen Square is very large
In Beijing/There are many things you don't know

I live in Dongzhimen/They live on Xueyuan Rd.
We have been to all those places/Thus Yin Ts'ang is very familiar with Beijing
There are many colleges and computer shops in Haidian District
There are many foreigners and CD shops in Wudaokou
At night we can go to Houhai and Sanlitun for a few drinks
KTV is everywhere seen/There are some disco-bars around Beijing Workers' Gymnasium
There are other things to do besides dancing, drinking and gossiping
You will surely still be flying high waking up the next morning

The taxi is charged at 1.2 yuan or 1.6 yuan per kilometer
The traffic is okay despite occasional congestion
It's needless to mention those restaurants, the roast duck and the fried noodle with soy bean paste
Oh my God there are so many hot-pot restaurants along Gui Street
In the morning we can go to the Fragrance Hill to get in touch with nature
Don't forget to drop by the Summer Palace when you return from there
I have a friend who is studying at Beijing University and a girlfriend at Tsinghua
On Chengfu Rd. there is an LRT running towards downtown

In Beijing/The Olympics Games will be held in 2008
In Beijing/The city is becoming more and more beautiful
In Beijing/There are lakes and rivers
In Beijing/Most people ride on bicycles
In Beijing/There is the Chinese Great Wall
In Beijing/It's really cold in winter
In Beijing/There is the Chinese War Heros' Memorial
In Beijing/Now you know You buy mobile phones in Xizhimen and clothes near the Zoo

You can easily lose your way in the West Railway Station
From Jishuitan to Gulou and eastward from Andingmen
You buy second-hand electric appliances/The Fifth Ring Road will be open to traffic soon
It reaches out many limbs eastward and westward which always confuse my mind
Embassies gather in Chaoyang District/Trees line up the streets there
The business center is east to Jianguomen
We live close to each other in Chinese courtyard houses
Trains pull in and out at the Beijing Railway Station/Visitors to the city stay in hotel rooms near the station
for the night

Buses go on the highway from the Long-distance Bus Station
Wangfujing is very clean/The Malls at Oriental Plaza are there
The Art Museum is very quiet/In Beihai Park there is the Nine-Dragon Wall
There are many poor in the Southern City/But the district is developing fast If you'd like to learn then go to
the History Museum
You go all the way eastward from Qianmen to Zhongnanhai
On behalf of Beijing, Yin Ts'ang hopes that all of you will visit the city often
In Beijing/We walk on Chang'an Street
In Beijing/There are many beautiful girls

In Beijing/We worship Buddha in the Yonghe Temple
In Beijing/We visit your Hutong
In Beijing/We learn history in the Palace Museum
In Beijing/We bought a T-shirt in Xidan Mall
In Beijing/Tian'anmen Square is very large
In Beijing/There are many things you don't know
In Beijing/The Olympic Games will be held in 2008
In Beijing/The city is becoming more and more beautiful

In Beijing/There are lakes and rivers
In Beijing/Most people ride on bicycles
In Beijing/There is the Chinese Great Wall
In Beijing/It's really cold in winter
In Beijing/There is the Chinese War Heroes' Memorial
In Beijing/Now you know

Lyrics *California Love* by 2Pac

California love!
California... knows how to party
California... knows how to party
In the citaaay of L.A.
In the citaaay of good ol' Watts
In the citaaay, the city of Compton
We keep it rockin! We keep it rockin!
Now let me welcome everybody to the wild, wild west
A state that's untouchable like Elliot Ness
The track hits ya eardrum like a slug to ya chest
Pack a vest for your Jimmy in the city of sex
We in that sunshine state with a bomb ass hemp beat
The state where ya never find a dance floor empty
And pimps be on a mission for them greens
Lean mean money-makin-machines servin fiends
I been in the game for ten years makin rap tunes
Ever since honeys was wearin sassoon
Now it's '95 and they clock me and watch me
Diamonds shinin lookin like I robbed Liberace
It's all good, from Diego to tha Bay
Your city is tha bomb if your city makin pay
Throw up a finger if ya feel the same way
Dre puttin it down for
Californ-i-a
Shake it shake it baby
Shake it shake it baby
Shake it shake it mama
Shake it Cali
Shake it shake it baby
Shake it shake it shake it shake it...

Out on bail fresh outta jail, California dreamin
Soon as I stepped on the scene, I'm hearin hoochies screamin
Fiendin for money and alcohol
The life of a west side playa where cowards die
Only in Cali where we riot not rally to live and die
In L.A. we wearin Chucks not Ballies (that's right)
Dressed in Locs and khaki suits and ride is what we do
Flossin but have caution we collide with other crews
Famous cause we program worldwide
Let'em recognize from Long Beach to Rosecrans
Bumpin and grindin like a slow jam, it's west side
So you know the row won't bow down to no man
Say what you say
But give me that bomb beat from Dre
Let me serenade the streets of L.A.
From Oakland to Sacktown
The Bay Area and back down
Cali is where they put they mack down
Give me love!
Now make it shake...
Uh, yeah, uh, longbeach in tha house, uh yeah
Oaktown, Oakland definately in tha house hahaha
Frisko, Frisko
Hey, you know LA is up in this
Pasadena, where you at
Yeah, Inglewood, Inglewood always up to no good
even Hollywood tryin to get a piece baby
Sacramento, sacramento where ya at? yeah
Throw it up y'all, throw it up, Throw it up
Let's show these fools how we do this on that west side
Cause you and I know it's tha best side
Yeah, That's riight
West coast, west coast
Uh, California Love
California Love

Lyrics *Country Grammar* by Nelly

HOT ISH (hot ish)

[Chorus]

mmmmmm im going down down baby, yo' street in a range rover
(boom)(boom)baby, uh uh, ready to let it go (HOT ISH)
Shimmy shimmy cocoa what? Listen to it pow

Light it up and take a puff, pass it to me now
I'm goin down down baby, yo' street in a Range Rover
(boom)(boom)baby, uh uh, ready to let it go
Shimmy shimmy cocoa what? Listen to it pow
Light it up and take a puff, pass it to me now

[Nelly]

Mmmmm, you can find me, in St. Louis rollin on dubs
Smokin on dubs in clubs
blowin up like cocoa puffs
Sippin Bud
gettin perved and getting dubbed
Daps and hugs
mean mugs
and shoulder shrugs
And it's all because, 'ccumulated enough stretch
just to navigate it, fully decorated on chrome
and it's candy painted
fans fainted - while I'm entertainin
Wild ain't it
How me and money end up hangin, I hang with Hannibal Lector (HOT ISH) uh uh uh
so feel me when I bring it
Sing it loud (what?) I'm from the Lou' and I'm proud
Run a mile - for the cause, I'm righteous above the law
Playa my style's raw, I'm "Born to Mack" like Todd Shaw
Forget the fame, and the glamour
Give me D's wit a rubber hammer
My grammar be's ebonics
gin tonic and chronic
scratch bionic it's ironic
slammin hatas like Onyx
Lunatics til the day I die
I run more game than the Bulls and Sonics

Chorus

Who say pretty boys can't be wild
Loud --
O.K. Corral and its
Foul and its
run in the club and bust in the crowd then
How then
Ask me again and it's goin down then
Now then
come to the circus and watch me clown then
Poundin'
what you be givin when I'm around and
Frownin'

talkin that ---- when I leave the town, then
Say now, can you hoes come out to play now
Hey I'm, ready to cut you up any day now
Play by, my rules Boo and you gon' stay high
May I, answer yo' Third Question like A.I.
Say hi, to my playas left in the slamma
From St. Louis to Memphis
From Texas back up to Indiana, Chi-Town
K.C. Motown to Alabama
L-A, New York Yankee sluggaz to Hotlanta
'ouisiana, gettin paid off this "Country Grammar"
Smokin ----- in Savannah
Blow thirty mill' like I'm Hammer

Chorus

Let's show these cats to make these milli-ons
So you ---- quit actin silly, mon
Kid quicker than Billy, mon
Talkin really and I needed mon
Foes I kick em freely mon, 'specially off Remi, mon
Keys to my Beemer, mon - holla at Beenie Man
See me, mon, cheifin rollin deeper than any mon
through Jennings mon, through U-City back up to Kingshighway
wit nice playaz, sheist playaz who snatch yo' life and they
Trife when they who produce and sell the same beat twice
(HOT ISH) with they Ice banging all over close
to never sober
From broke to havin paper
my price Range is Rover
Now I'm knockin like Jehovah - let me in now, let me in now
Bill Gates, Donald Trump let me in now
Spin now, I got money to lend my friends now
We in now, candy Benz, Kenwood and 10"s now
I win now (Whoo!)(uhhh) lesbian twins now
Sin now, through the pen I make my in's now

Lyrics-Paris, Tokyo by Lupe Fiasco

I know, I know but I gotta get up outta here, you know?
I gotta go pay these bills, I got a show to do, you know?
One time, for your mind

[Chorus]

Let's go to sleep in Paris
Wake up in Tokyo

Have a dream in New Orleans
Fall in love in Chicago, man
Wherever I go she go

I love her, and I hate to leave her lonely
Ring-ring went the iPhone, it was my homie
He said, "Let's hit Japan, if we can make 'em jam
We can make a hundred grand, spend it in the south of France"
Nothing further; I jumped, grabbed my Goyard trunk
Got ready to walk it out like Unk in my John Lennon Chucks
That's when I heard murder
"You're killing me, you're filling me with sorrow
Sunrise, goodbyes, and missing you tomorrows"
I turn to see my dream, love supreme queen
Meanest thing on the scene cry
I drop my bags in a flash, that's faster
Than 180 on that dash, shirt to dry her tears
And wipe the rain from my dear like Dasher
You's the dame who's the username to all my passwords
The reason I get fly is Ibn Jasper
I even keep your picture in my passport
Love, love

You might also like
Streets on Fire
Lupe Fiasco
Sunshine
Lupe Fiasco
You're Losing Me (From The Vault)
Taylor Swift

[Chorus]
Let's go to sleep in Paris
Wake up in Tokyo
Have a dream in New Orleans
Fall in love in Chicago, man
Then we can land in the motherland
Camel-back across the desert sand
And take a train, to Rome, or home
Brazil, for real
Wherever I go she goes
Wherever I go she goes

So let's keep it real, all in together, "Free Chill"
Tell the stewardess to throw a movie on the reel
Heat up my kosher meal, exchange my dollar bills
Lean back in my first class seat and sleep

Don't wake me 'til I land
Where they barely understand what I speak
But they nod to my beats
I tell my fans who I am and they stand
And they clap, they applaud, they love me, my God
Otsukaresama deshita, or maybe au revoir
A spree on Saint-Honoré, then back to Charles de Gaulle
So I can get home and tell her everywhere that I been, and
Everything that I done, and
Tell her that she's the one, and, umm

Lyrics *Brooklyn* by Fabolous

Brooklyn! Brooklyn! Brooklyn! Brooklyn! Brooklyn! Brooklyn! Brook! Brook! Brook!
Where Brooklyn at, Brooklyn at? Where Brooklyn at, Brooklyn
Where Brooklyn at, Brooklyn at? Where Brooklyn at? Brooklyn
Where Brooklyn! Brooklyn! Brooklyn! Brooklyn! Brooklyn!
Brooklyn! Brooklyn! Brook! Brook! Brooklyn at!

I'm right here, big; ya boy sittin' on top like a hair wig, Benz style fly
Bush wick sick, East New York walk the Brownsville grill, ill
You see, I got a Fort Green lean, Clinton hill the chill red-hook look, man
Ain't no shook hands in Brooklyn; son, yo' life can get took, man
And threw off bridges; one hard top, two soft bitches
Ride through the borough with two four fizez
Phantom open up like two door fridges
I'm makin' change to New York digits from seven-one-eight to one-eight-seven
The two-one-two to two-one-one, ya boy's back
With a new one, son
[Chorus]

I'm right here, Fab, wavin' the flag, comin' from Nostrand Ave.
I came to take the game in my Daddy Kane chain; niggas gave it up smooth
They ain't wanna hear the bang; bang, I'm back on my bully shit
That flat bush, bush wick, black hoody shit
Half a billi in the bankroll, bank stop anybody
Bank stop anybody - what you bank ho? Big B's on the wheels
Spread love the Brooklyn way; B, how's it feel?
I'm on my Robin Thicke shit; shit ever gets thick, back to robbin' niggas quick, trick, click
Ante up, all you niggas is Brittney - pull ya panties up
Whole borough is wit' me, hold ya cannons up
Buck one for Bucktown, Brooklyn; what the f*ck?
[Chorus]

I'm right here, Hov
East New York, Uncle Murda feelin' good; I hooked up wit' jigga

Got my grandma out the hood; ROC is back, now look at niggas
Now they can't say J ain't signed a Brooklyn nigga
Where Brooklyn at? Where Brooklyn at?
Shootin' somebody up, or gettin' off them packs, or go into the club
Lookin' for somethin' to cap or runnin' up in ya crib like, where the safe at?
East New York'll shoot ya; they'll gat ya, homey
Brownsville rob ya; they'll clap ya, homey
Benz style, I'll get you killed for a hundred grams
Get a Coney Island nigga to pull the trigga, man
Ask Flex, he used to run the turf
Brooklyn had dudes scared to rep their borough
Uncle Murda - I'm a rep to the fullest
Like shine in the club, I throw bullets, bullets
[Chorus]

A'ight, son, it's a like it or not thing, know what I mean?
This one is for Brooklyn
I'm in ma Benz style fly, you know? Bushwick sick
I walk that East New York walk
Brownsville grill, got ma Fort Green lean
Ha ha, Clinton hill shill, red hook look, that flat bush push, know what I mean?
Cypress Hill feel, crown heights tight wit' it
The Williamsburg swerve, Coney Island stylin' on 'em
Canarsie flawsy, Park slope dope, you know?
Ya dig? This fa Brooklyn; it's young Brooklyn

Song Lyric -Map Rubric

Name: _____

Date : _____

Title of Work: _____

Directions: Circle one of the point values for each of the four grading categories listed below.

POINT VALUES					
CATEGORY	5	4	3	2	1
COMPLETENESS	Everything completed.	Most items completed. Missing 1	Most items completed. Missing 2-3	Missing 4 items	Incomplete
ACCURACY	Everything is located accurately. Spelling correct.	Most items located accurately 1 off . Most spelling OK	Location not sure on 2-3. Spelling unsure.	4 or more items out of place. Poor spelling.	Incomplete
NEATNESS	Exceptional Color/Orderly/Legible Ink labels	Good Color/Orderly/Legible Ink & Pencil labels	Satisfactory Color/Orderly/Legible Pencil labels	Poor Color/Orderly/Legible	Incomplete No color No labels
INCLUDES: Place, Relative Location, Formal Region, and image to represent the location.	ALL items present.	Missing One	Missing Two	Missing Three	Incomplete
				SCORE:	___/25

Peer Review: another student needs to evaluate your map briefly:

1. Quality: Is the map "readable" and complete? (10 best) 10 9 8 7 6

2 . Positive suggestions (praise or ideas for improvement):

Original Song/Rap or Poem Rubric

	Developing 18 pts	Intermediate 21 pts	Mastery 23 pts	Exemplary 25 points
Lyrics	Song lyrics are difficult to understand. They don't follow the power or place theme.	Song lyrics are somewhat original. The writer tries to include the power of place theme.	Song lyrics demonstrate understanding of rhythm, lyrics, beat and include the power of place theme.	Song lyrics show complete understanding of rhythm, lyrics, beat, rhyme and make the reader experience the power of place theme.
Creativity	The song/poem lacks originality. The message is not conveyed, and less than 2 poetic elements are used.	The song/poem has minimal originality. The message is somewhat conveyed, and 2-3 poetic elements are used.	The song/poem is original. The message is clearly conveyed, and 4-5 poetic elements are used.	The song/poem is original. The message is clearly conveyed highlighting the theme, and 5 or more poetic elements are used.
Setting or Description of Place	Includes at least 1 place, thing, or historical landmark of the place they are describing.	Includes 2 places, things, or historical landmarks of the place they are describing.	Includes 3 places, things, or historical landmarks of the place they are describing.	Includes 4 or more places, things, or historical landmarks of the place they are describing.
Organization	The song/poem was unorganized and difficult to follow.	The poem/song offered detail but needs restructuring to understand the message.	The poem/song shows structure and focus but yet at least one suggestion can be offered to make it exemplary.	The poem/song is clearly organized where information flows in a logical manner.

____/100 points