

CHINESE HIP HOP- “EXPRESSING IN RHYTHM & RHYME”
LESSON PLAN for 9th -12th Grade
(UNIT 1-lesson 1: Exploring Chinese Hip Hop and Rap)

Class/Age: 9th-12th Grade

Lesson Time: 90 minutes

Leading Questions: How can music and poetry express cultural values and perspectives?
How are ways Chinese rap and hip hop can battle for social justice?
How do hip hop & rap explore positive relationships between East & West ?
How can rhythm or rhyme express culture and political ideologies?
What can you do with rap and hip hop to promote social themes that matter?

Objective: Students will be exposed to Chinese hip hop and rap forms and explore the cultural underpinnings and history behind this culture.
Students will create their own rap forms in response to the social justice themes this repertory developed.

Unit Critical Vocabulary: cadence, delivery, rap battle, timbre, tonal color, rhyme, alliteration, assonance, call-and-response, backronym, hyperbole, double entendre, dialect, tone, freestyle, beatbox, flow, griot

Content Standard:


- **New York State Standard #1.** Creating, Performing, and Participating in the Arts. Students will actively engage in the processes that constitute creation and performance in the art
- **National Standard #2.** Performing on instruments, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music.
- **National Standard #6:** Listening to, analyzing, and describing music
- **National Standard #7:** Evaluating music and music performances

ELA Standards:

- **Standard RL:** Craft instruction; determine meanings through figurative use of language.
- **Standard L:** Use of knowledge of language and conventions.

National Standards for Music: 2. Performing with voice, instrument, alone or with others, a varied repertoire of music.
5. Reading and notating music.
6. Listening to, analyzing and describing music.
9. Students will improvise with instruments and voice.

On Board: Objective worded as “How does the Chinese language showcase hip hop and rap in special ways and how does this express cultural values?”

Do Now: Play  Learn Chinese with Rap: "I want this/I want that" in Mandarin as warm-up to topic with student participation.


Lower-order thinking prompts: How do different languages show meaning and express sound?

Higher-order thinking prompts: How might different languages or music express a social or political message?

How does rap or hip-hop have the power to shape mood, tone, and aesthetic?

What other features in music and language express a cultural aesthetic and how?

Students turn and talk focusing on these prompts. Substantiate your hypotheses with supporting details and back these up with secondary proofs speaking to actual linguistic elements and sonic or musical features that might express culture and social messaging.

Students listen to  Higher Brothers - Empire (Official Music Video) with rap lyric sheet below and individual access for analysis exercise

Procedure:

1. Students identify a phrase from “Empire” and write an analysis of the message and how this might relate to a similar message
2. Students jot down a summary of their analysis of the phrase and why they chose it
3. Teacher plays video of “Empire” inviting student discussion and shareout of individual analyses
4. Students break into groups of four and choose one phrase to analyze further
5. Groups write their own 2-line phrase that expresses a similar idea and meaning to the phrase chosen
6. Student groups improvise possible beats, rap versions, and hip hop melodies for their chosen phrase

Ongoing Peer-to-Peer and Self Assessment in Instruction:

1. In pairs, students will evaluate the success of their own and their partners’ improvised work.
2. Small groups model their improvised phrases to small group, to teacher, and then finally in selected share-backs to class.
3. Self-selected students perform for class and based on teacher assessment of individual group work.
4. Class reflection on role of rap and hip hop in expression and Chinese culture.

Written Reflection: For homework, write a reflection of two well-reasoned coherent and substantiated paragraphs on the underlying meanings and rhetoric of “Empire”.

Materials: Piano/keyboards, pitched percussion/drums, drumsticks, videos and Powerpoint of Chinese rap and hip hop samples, selected video clips from “The Rap of China”;

https://www.iq.com/play/the-rap-of-china-2023-2023-7-24-267dgadpr84?lang=en_us, Rap Lyric Sheet for “Empire”

Rap Lyric Translation Sheet

black tee, uh black screen

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black hair black cat black eyes

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Put a row of cameras in front of me

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The style exuded in the bones

骨子里散发的范儿

Look where I am, there is the sexiest girl

你看我在哪里 哪里就有最性感的妹儿

We Higher Brothers like H-O-T F4 Beatles and B2K

我们Higher Brothers像H-O-T F4 披头士 和B2K

EOD team Tiandihui MVP attack target like Flying Tigers

排爆部队 天地会 MVP 进攻目标 like飞虎队

Four Heavenly Kings Liming Aaron Kwok Jacky Cheung I want to be Andy Lau

四大天王 黎明 郭富城 张学友 我要当 刘德华

I want to be Andy Lau, shoot a movie and release an album, put some pomade on my hair

我要当刘德华 拍电影发专辑头发上抹点发蜡

Put some pomade on my hair At three o'clock in the morning Lan Kwai Fong parked my Ferrari

头发上抹点发蜡凌晨三点钟兰桂坊停着我的法拉利

I am brother, you are younger brother, we maintain a higher popularity in the entertainment industry

我是哥你是小弟娱乐行业里面我们保持着更高人气

Hip-hop empire I'm snowballing bigger and bigger My peers are facing bankruptcy at any time

嘻哈帝国我把雪球越滚越大我的同行随时面临倒闭

Forget it, how old are you? Punchline hits you in the temple enough to knock you over

算了吧 你算老几? Punchline 打中你的太阳穴 足够让你倒地

It's enough to make you fall to the ground, as long as I'm with you, you won't be able to get up

足够让你倒地 只要我在你们爬都爬不起来

Don't have to expect anymore, the whole hip-hop market is occupied by us

不用再抱有期待 整个嘻哈市场都被我们霸占

Like a tornado blowing to Mars

像场龙卷风刮到火星

Scratching to Mars, the signals received by aliens are all our rap music

刮到火星 外星人收到的信号都是我们发射的说唱音乐

The target was very precise and they were locked on at Tongzilin's base

目标非常精确在桐梓林的基地被他们锁定

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The only way to get close to me is through TV

和我近距离接触只能通过电视

I'm holding the ace of spades and tossing my braids

我拿着黑桃A 甩着我的辫子

Put a row of cameras in front of me

在我面前摆一排摄影机

Show off my jewels pull my pants down

炫耀我的珠宝把裤子拉的低

The style exuded in the bones

骨子里散发的范儿

Look where I am, there is the sexiest girl

你看我在哪里 哪里就有最性感的妹儿

Wear a top hat like a cowboy

礼帽戴头顶就像牛仔

See us go out, trash, go away

看到我们出门垃圾们快走开

Man, Man Han banquet as an appetizer

满, 满汉全席当做下酒菜

Lafite in 1982 served with prime steak

八二年的拉菲配上顶级牛排

Pour into a crystal glass

倒进水晶玻璃杯

Tipping two bottles for the price of one

一瓶酒的价格给两瓶的小费

This is Tong Zilin's less playful style, you will definitely arrange it for you when you see it

这就是桐梓林玩儿少的风格你看到了绝对会给你们安排到位

Arrangements are in place and never backsliding to drive consumption in the regional economy

安排到位 从不倒退 带动地区经济的消费

earn more

赚得多

Like the little cooperation between Jordan and Pippen

Like乔丹和皮蓬的小配合

The keyboard man is still typing Enter

键盘侠还在不停地敲回车

The diamond on the wrist watch is too flashy to see what time it is now

手手表上带钻太闪 看不见 到底 现在 几点钟

24 hours is not enough

24 hours不够用

I'm the biggest hole in the system

我是系统里最大的漏洞

no time no time and world tour no time

没有空 没有空 还有全球巡演没有空

It's useless for you to learn my style of dressing because you're not me

你学我的穿搭风格没有用 因为你不是我所以没有用

It's useless, when I exist, it's the first choice, don't prepare for plan B

没有用 当我存在 就是第一选择不用准备做 plan B

I can't get through the phone, I'm not in the service area, I'm working on a new album in the recording studio

电话打不通 不在服务区 录影棚里做着新专辑

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