

Lesson Plan

Compare and Contrast

Series: Music Genres

Level: Beacon

Objective

To help students practice finding the similarities and differences between music genres.

Supplies

- Two or more books in the Music Genres series
- Comparing Music Genres worksheet (attached)
- Pencils

Before the Activity

Divide students into groups of two or three. Print a copy of the Comparing Music Genres worksheet for each group.

Activity

Divide students into their groups. Pass out a copy of the Comparing Music Genres worksheet to each group. Explain that the worksheet focuses on finding the similarities and differences between two music genres. Then, let each group choose two books from the Music Genres series to compare. Students should read both books. As they read, they should look for answers to the questions on the worksheet. One student in the group should write the answers down. Each answer should use complete sentences.

Evaluation

Collect each group's worksheet at the end of class. Use the following system to give each group up to 10 points:

- 1 point for each question that is answered correctly
- 1 point for each answer that uses complete sentences

Standards

This lesson may be used to address the Common Core State Standards' reading standards for informational text, grade 3 (RI 3.1), and the National Council for Social Studies standard 1.

Comparing Music Genres

1. What instruments do both music genres use? What instruments are different?
2. Do these music genres sound similar? If yes, how so? If not, how are they different?
3. Which music genre started first? Where and how did it begin? How is the other genre different?
4. When and how did each music genre grow and become popular? Do they have similar histories? If not, how are they different?
5. Which genre do you think has more listeners today? Why?