

War and Music Topic: Songs Stories

2. Holiday by Green Day

This song by Green Day is an anti-George Bush political song, which uses symbolism to protest about the war in Iraq. The song suggests a comparison between George Bush, the President of the USA when this song was written, and Adolf Hitler, the leader of Germany during the 2nd World War. The song suggests that both leaders used big business in their reasons for justifying their wars and that the soldiers of those countries died for nothing because both leaders misled their people about the reasons for the wars.

Aim: To recognise the characteristics of a political song; To understand musical terms connected with structure

Music Skills: Listening; Using Music Notation; Learning about Music and Musicians in context

Resources: A recording to listen to; the score of the song

Activities: Listening; score-reading; sorting out the structure

Listen to the song and look at the music. Answer these questions as you listen:

Lyrics

★ Finish off these lines of lyrics:

There's a _____ wrapped around a score of men.

Hear the drum _____ out of time

Trials by fire _____ fire.

★ Whom does the song suggest in bars 58-59?

George Bush Arnold Schwarzenegger Bill Clinton Tony Blair Adolf Hitler

★ Whom does the song suggest in bar 61?

George Bush Arnold Schwarzenegger Bill Clinton Tony Blair Adolf Hitler

★ Whom does the song suggest in bar 62?

George Bush Arnold Schwarzenegger Bill Clinton Tony Blair Adolf Hitler

Music - the notes

★ What's the first note that is sung in the song on the word "Hear" (bar 5)?

A B C D E F G

★ What's the note that is sung on the word "name" (bar 11) ?

A B C D E F G

★ What's the first note in the whole piece (bar 1) ?

A B C D E F G

★ What's the last note of the whole piece (bar 97) ?

A B C D E F G

★ What's the key of this music?

A B C