

Pop-Songs to Political Speeches

(aka Make it Sing!)



Speeches should sing, even when the only instrument involved is the human voice. And speakers have a whole toolbox of techniques to employ to ensure that their speeches sing with a “MUSIC” that MOVES their audience.

Consider these choices:

- Specific words
- Length of sentences
- Pausing & "Pregnant" Pausing
- Pacing
- Intonation
- Volume
- Enunciation
- Vocal modulation
- Body Language (though not sound-specific, will influence HOW the audience hears)

All of these elements matter & speakers should consider each when approaching public speaking because they give a speech its “MUSIC”. But is it possible that these elements are SO important, we could rely on the MUSIC without worrying about MEANING and still make it MOVING for our audience? Let’s try!

For this assignment, your task is to select any pop-song, remove its music, and still make it sing.

Here are the specifics:

- Copy & Paste song lyrics into a document
- Mark-Up & Assemble those lyrics onto the page with VISUAL NOTATIONS & INDICATORS that help you know HOW you wish to speak it (see samples below)
- The goal is to make these words SOUND LIKE A POLITICAL SPEECH regardless of the meaning of the pop-song lyrics.

(NOTE: Use any of the resources provided on Google Classroom & TeacherMetzler.com, and consider any or all of the “toolbox” elements highlighted above.)

Move your audience with the MUSIC of your words regardless of their meaning!

50 Points

Round Here (excerpt)

By Counting Crows

Step out the front door
like a GHOST
into the FOG
where no one notices the contrast of
WHITE...ON...##... WHITE.

And in between the MOON and YOU
the angels get a better view
of the CRUMBLING difference between WRONG...and...##...RIGHT.

I walk in the air,
BETWEEN the rain,
THROUGH myself and
BACK...##...AGAIN.
WHERE?
I...##... DON'T...##... KNOW

Maria says she's dying.
through the door I hear her crying.

WHY?

I...##... DON'T...##... KNOW

Round here we ALWAYS stand up straight
Round here SOME-THING RAD-I-ATES!

Maria came from NASHVILLE...##... with a SUITCASE...##... IN HER HAND
She said she'd like to meet a BOY...##... who LOOKS...##... like ELVIS

She walks along the EDGE...##... of where the OCEAN...##... meets the LAND

(STACATTO): Just like she's WALK-ING on a WIRE in the CIR-CUS.

She parks her car outside of MY HOUSE And takes her clothes off,

says she's CLOSE to understanding JESUS.

She knows she's MORE than just a LIT-TLE MIS-UN-DER-STOOD,

She has trouble acting

(CRESCENDO): Normal...##... when...##...SHE'S...## NERVOUS!!

Round here we're CARVING OUT OUR NAMES

Round here we ALL LOOK THE SAME

Round here we TALK JUST LIKE LIONS, but we SACRIFICE LIKE LAMBS

Round here...##...she's...##

(CRESCENDO):

SLIPPING...

THROUGH...

MY...

HANDS!!!