

**“Music and You” Questionnaire: The “Empathy Hook”
Teacher’s Copy**

Objective / For the Teacher:

The following handout is designed to help students better understand what they appreciate about their favorite music, and the impact it has on their daily lives, so that they may empathize with those Americans in the 1940s who not only loved jazz and swing, but used it as a vehicle for morale and hope. While some students may not initially enjoy this musical genre, they will attain an appreciation for the vital role it had on people’s daily lives during WWII.

Name of favorite band: _____

Meaning of band's / artist’s name: _____

Music genre: _____

Title of favorite song (choose a song with school-appropriate content): _____

Meaning of title: _____

Analyze Your Chosen Song’s Lyrics:

In the following space, quickly write down what you believe is the point of your chosen song:

Next, ask yourself the following questions after listening to the song again:

Who or what is being discussed? What is the location of the song? During what time period is the song taking place? Why did the artist feel the need to write this song / for what purpose?

With which aspects of this band / song / genre of music do you identify, and why?

Next--“The Empathy Hook”:

After students share responses with the class, ask the students:

Using your preexisting knowledge about the 1940s and WWII, list two ways in which music had an impact on people’s daily lives?

Homefront / examples

Troops overseas / examples

How do you think people felt about music during the 1940s / WWII? Why? In what ways do you think they may have expressed their beliefs through music in the 1940s era? Why? Think of a song about which you feel the same, and why? To which song do you feel a personal connection, and why?

Point of lesson: *Throughout history, music has always had a personal, profound, and even political impact on people’s daily lives.*