

**Due Date:** 11:59 pm EST **Sunday** of Unit 7

**Points:** 100

**Overview:**

For each week in our course, you will consider music as a cultural artifact and be assigned either a piece of music or a specific musical artist to explore and analyze for the week. This week, you will be listening to music by Black Pop artist, Michael Jackson. Michael Jackson is a direct link between the Motown Music we listened to previously, and 1980s pop music. He came from a musical background, and the vocal group he was in, The Jackson 5, were considered Motown's last great act.

We will also shift gears some, and listen to some of the neotraditional trends of the 80s and 90s, such as the renewal of Rock and Roll, the Blues Revival and socially aware female singer-songwriters.

Please be sure to read through the entire assignment, as there will be several parts to it again.

In addition to your etextbook, you should expect to complete some research online to respond to these questions. Be sure to use vetted resources—if you aren't sure what a reliable source is, remember, you can use the [CRAP test](#) to determine if your source is reliable!

**Instructions:**

**Part 1: Michael Jackson's Thriller**

- On the internet or your phone, look up the official music video for Michael Jackson's *Thriller*.
- After watching this music video, answer the following questions in a word document:
  - Describe this video and explain why you believe it became such a mega hit.
  - Share a brief biography of Michael Jackson.
  - Thriller is considered characteristic of post-1980s pop music. Describe what makes it characteristic. Be sure to include information about the rhythm, use of electronic instruments and conventional instruments and Jackson's voice.

## ***Part 2: The Renewal of Rock and the Resurgence of Blues Music***

- On the internet or your phone, listen to **ONE** the following:
  - The Traveling Wilburys, “Handle With Care”
  - The Rolling Stones, “Start Me Up:
  - Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers, “I Won’t Back Down”
  - Stevie Ray Vaughn, “Voodoo Child”
  - Robert Cray, “Strong Persuader”
  
- After listening to your selection, answer the following questions in a word document:
  - Is your choice representative of a resurgence of rock music or blues music? Explain why you made this determination.
  - Share a brief biography of each of the band/artists you chose.
  - Name the members of each of these bands.
  - Examine the lyrics and share the lines which are your favorite and/or made an impression on you.
  - What are the ideas being addressed in each of these songs?
  - What is the date that the original music was written? What is the date that this original recording was made/released ?
  - Has anyone else recorded the song you have chosen? If so, find one YouTube recording of a “cover” of the song you have chosen if it is available. If nothing is available, please indicate that as well.
  - List the instruments you hear in these recordings. Are each of these songs the same or different instrumentation?
  - What was your favorite thing about the performances/recordings?
  - What emotions did the performances/recordings make you feel when you heard it?

## ***Part 3: Socially-conscious Female Singer-Songwriters***

- On the internet or your phone, listen to **ONE** the following:
  - Suzanne Vega, “The Queen and the Soldier”
  - Tracy Chapman, “Fast Car”
  
- After listening to your selection, answer the following questions in a word document:
  - Share a brief biography of each of the artist you chose.
  - Examine the lyrics and share the lines which are your favorite and/or made an impression on you.
  - What are the ideas being addressed in each of these songs? How does the song you chose illustrate the artist’s social-consciousness?
  - What is the date that the original music was written? What is the date that this original recording was made/released ?
  - Has anyone else recorded the song you have chosen? If so, find one YouTube recording of a “cover” of the song you have chosen if it is available. If nothing is available, please indicate that as well.

- List the instruments you hear in these recordings. Are each of these songs the same or different instrumentation?
- What was your favorite thing about the performances/recordings?
- What emotions did the performances/recordings make you feel when you heard it?

**Requirements:**

- Three to four pages in length, excluding the Reference page.
- APA format, including an in-text citation for referenced works.
- At least four resources.

**Be sure to read the criteria by which your work will be evaluated before you write and again after you write.**

## Evaluation Rubric for Guided Listening Assignments

<b>CRITERIA</b>	<b>Exemplary</b>	<b>Proficient</b>	<b>Needs Improvement</b>	<b>Deficient</b>
	<b>54-60 points</b>	<b>48-53 points</b>	<b>36-47 points</b>	<b>0-35 points</b>
<b>Content</b>	Subject matter is thoroughly addressed. Arguments are well elaborated and fully supported by scholarly research and specific examples.	Subject matter is fairly well addressed. Arguments are supported by scholarly research but could be further elaborated with specific details.	Subject matter is adequately addressed. Arguments are partially supported by scholarly research.	Subject matter is minimally addressed. Opinions are offered, but arguments lack scholarly backing
	<b>9-10 points</b>	<b>8 points</b>	<b>6-7 points</b>	<b>0-5 points</b>
<b>Musical Selections</b>	Incorporates all required musical selections	Incorporates some musical selections	Incorporates one of the musical selections	Missing musical selections requirements
	<b>9-10 points</b>	<b>8 points</b>	<b>6-7 points</b>	<b>0-5 points</b>
<b>Scholarly Sources</b>	4 or more resources	3 resources	2 resources	0-1 resource
	<b>9-10 points</b>	<b>8 points</b>	<b>6-7 points</b>	<b>0-5 points</b>
<b>Paper Length</b>	3 pages	2 pages	1 page	0 pages or more than three pages
	<b>9-10 points</b>	<b>8 points</b>	<b>6-7 points</b>	<b>0-5 points</b>
<b>Clear and Professional Writing with APA Format</b>	Writing and format are clear, professional, APA compliant, and error free.	Few errors that do not impede professional presentation.	Significant errors that do not impede professional presentation.	Errors impede professional presentation; guidelines not followed.