**Discussion #1** [**What the heck is popular culture MUSIC?!**](https://actx.blackboard.com/webapps/blackboard/content/launchLink.jsp?course_id=_23046_1&content_id=_1158675_1&mode=view)

Popular Culture music pervades every aspect of our modern society.  You are bombarded with it on a daily basis.  Every time that we use a term to describe a genre in music, something must change from a previous genre and all music that fits said description must fall into said genre.  As in a past discussion, you might be surprised to know that "Classical Music" is just music from the Classical Era of Western history.  In the same light, what is Popular Culture music?  It is not what you think that it is.  It has a simple form and harmonic structure that has not changed since it was born from Elvis Presley and Jerry Lee Lewis.

So, please answer the following:

1- How does one define the term "popular?" (Not music related!!!!)

2- What is "Popular Culture?" (Everything, not just music.  Also, popularity has nothing to do with it.  You cannot purchase what is not available to you, the consumer.)

3- How do we define and recognize the form and harmonic structure of "Popular Culture Music?" (Hint- it has NOTHING to do with being popular!) (at least 3 source for each discussion)

**Discussion #2** [**Romanticism? Kissy Kiss...No!**](https://actx.blackboard.com/webapps/blackboard/content/launchLink.jsp?course_id=_23046_1&content_id=_1158676_1&mode=view)

What is Romanticism?

What is Romantic Music?

When was the Romantic era?

What are the traits of style within Romantic music? (What makes it different from the previous era of "Classical Music?") (at least 3 source for each discussion)

**Discussion #3** [**Can music make you smarter?**](https://actx.blackboard.com/webapps/blackboard/content/launchLink.jsp?course_id=_23046_1&content_id=_1158677_1&mode=view)

We have all heard that listening to Mozart while taking tests increases the scoring outcome. Now, being smart or intelligent, means many different things. If we look at Dr. Gardner's models of intelligences, we can see that it utilizes both hemispheres of the human brain in sync. This increase is what is known by Dr. Gardner's model, as spatial intelligence. Many studies have shown that people studying music have increased intelligence and also score much higher on standardized testing in their nonmusical counterparts. Other than this silly "listening to Mozart makes you smarter" example, do some research and find some answers to this question:  
"Does music make you smarter?" (at least 3 source for each discussion)