

“Music as a tool for environmental awareness”

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Class 1i



Introduction

Environmental awareness involves being conscious of the natural environment and making choices that benefit the earth rather than cause harm. Music has been long recognized as a powerful tool to convey messages and evoke emotions. In terms of environmental awareness, music can play a significant role in educating people about critical issues, inspiring them to take action, and fostering a sense of connection to the natural world. It has the power to unite people, inspire change and promote environmental awareness. Whether it's through lyrics, performances, or events, musicians and music lovers can play a crucial role in protecting the planet and creating a more sustainable future.

Purpose of the project

The purpose of this project is to explore the role that music can play in promoting environmental awareness and inspiring action to protect the planet. Through this project, the students will examine how musicians and music lovers can use music to raise awareness about environmental issues, engage their audiences in environmental campaigns, and promote sustainable practices.

Aims

- * Recognise the important role of music as a tool to promote environmental awareness.
 - * Encourage students to become more aware of their impacts on the environment and foster an understanding of our planet.
 - * To explore how musicians and music lovers can use music to raise awareness about environmental issues, engage their audiences in environmental campaigns, and promote sustainable practices.
 - * Help students develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills by providing opportunities to explore and learn about environmental issues.
 - * Allow students to learn music by making and experiencing it.
 - * Allow students to show their creativity.
 - * Share and make music together.
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Project Outline

The class is divided into groups of four or five people

- * As an introduction, the students will engage in short educational videos that highlight the issue of environmental pollution.
- * The students will listen to 'Earth Song' by Michael Jackson. After listening to the song, they will complete a related worksheet.
- * Each of the groups must write their lyrics on a topic related to the environment.
- * The students are reading and discussing the relationship between music and the environment.
- * Each group is required to create their own 'Playlist of the Earth' by searching online.
- * The teacher explains AIVA (a software program that uses artificial intelligence to compose music).
- * The students must create a composition for a short video selected from a list, using AIVA.
- * Questionnaire.

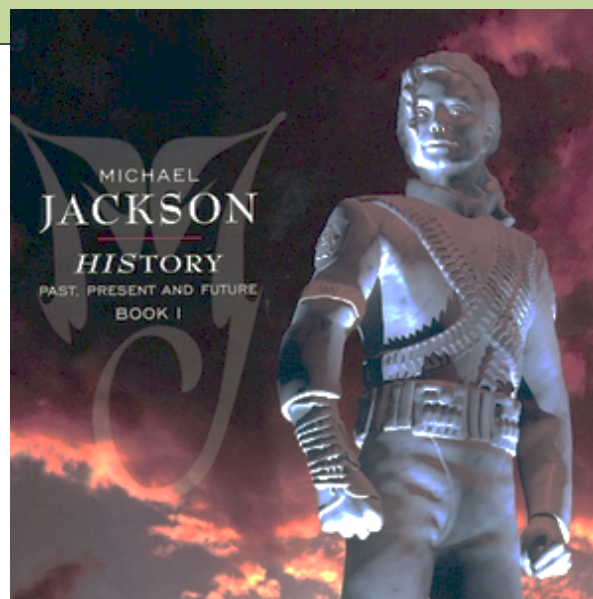


Earth Song



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XAi3VTsDTxU>

Artist: Michael Jackson
Released: 7 November 1995
Album: *HIStory, Past, Present and Future, Book I*
Written by Michael Jackson
Produced by Jackson, David Foster, and Bill Bottrell.



1. Listen to the song and fill in the blank spaces using the words from the box below.

What about -----? What about -----? What about all the things
That you said we were to gain?
What about killing -----? Is there a time?
What about all the things that you said was yours and mine?
Did you ever stop to notice all the -----we've shed before?
Did you ever stop to notice this crying -----, these weeping -----?
Ah-ah-ah-ah-ah Ooh-ooh-ooh-ooh-ooh (x2)
What have we done to the -----? Look what we've done
What about all the ----- that you pledge your only son?
What about ----- fields? Is there a time?
What about all the -----that you said was yours and mine?
Did you ever stop to notice all the children dead from -----?
Did you ever stop to notice this crying Earth, these weeping shores?
Ah-ah-ah-ah-ah Ooh-ooh-ooh-ooh-ooh (x3)
Ah-ah-ah-ah-ah
Hey, what about yesterday? (What about us?)
What about the -----? (What about us?)
The heavens are falling down (What about us?)
I can't even ----- (What about us?)
What about -----? (What about us?)
I need you (What about us?)
What about nature's worth? (Ooh)
It's our planet's womb (What about us?)
What about animals? (What about it?)
We've turned kingdoms to dust (What about us?)
What about elephants? (What about us?)
Have we lost their trust (What about us?)
What about crying whales? (What about us?)
We're ravaging the seas (What about us?)
What about forest trails? (Ooh)
Burnt despite our pleas (What about us?)
What about the holy land? (What about it?)
Torn apart by creed (What about us?)
What about the common man? (What about us?)
Can't we set him free (What about us?)
What about children dying? (What about us?)
Can't you hear them cry? (What about us?)

Dreams – world – sunrise – blood
war – rain – peace - fields
breathe – seas – shores – Earth!
apathy - flowering

Where did we go wrong? (Ooh)
Someone tell me why (What about us?)
What about baby boy? (What about it?)
What about the days? (What about us?)
What about all their joy? (What about us?)
What about the man? (What about us?)
What about the crying man? (What about us?)
What about Abraham? (What about us?)
What about death again? (Ooh)
Do we give a damn?
Ah-ah-ah-ah-ah Ooh-oooh-oooh-oooh-oooh (x2)

Read the text of the song and answer the questions.

1. After watching this video clip, what impressed you the most?

2. Did the song make you think of the eco – problems on our planet?

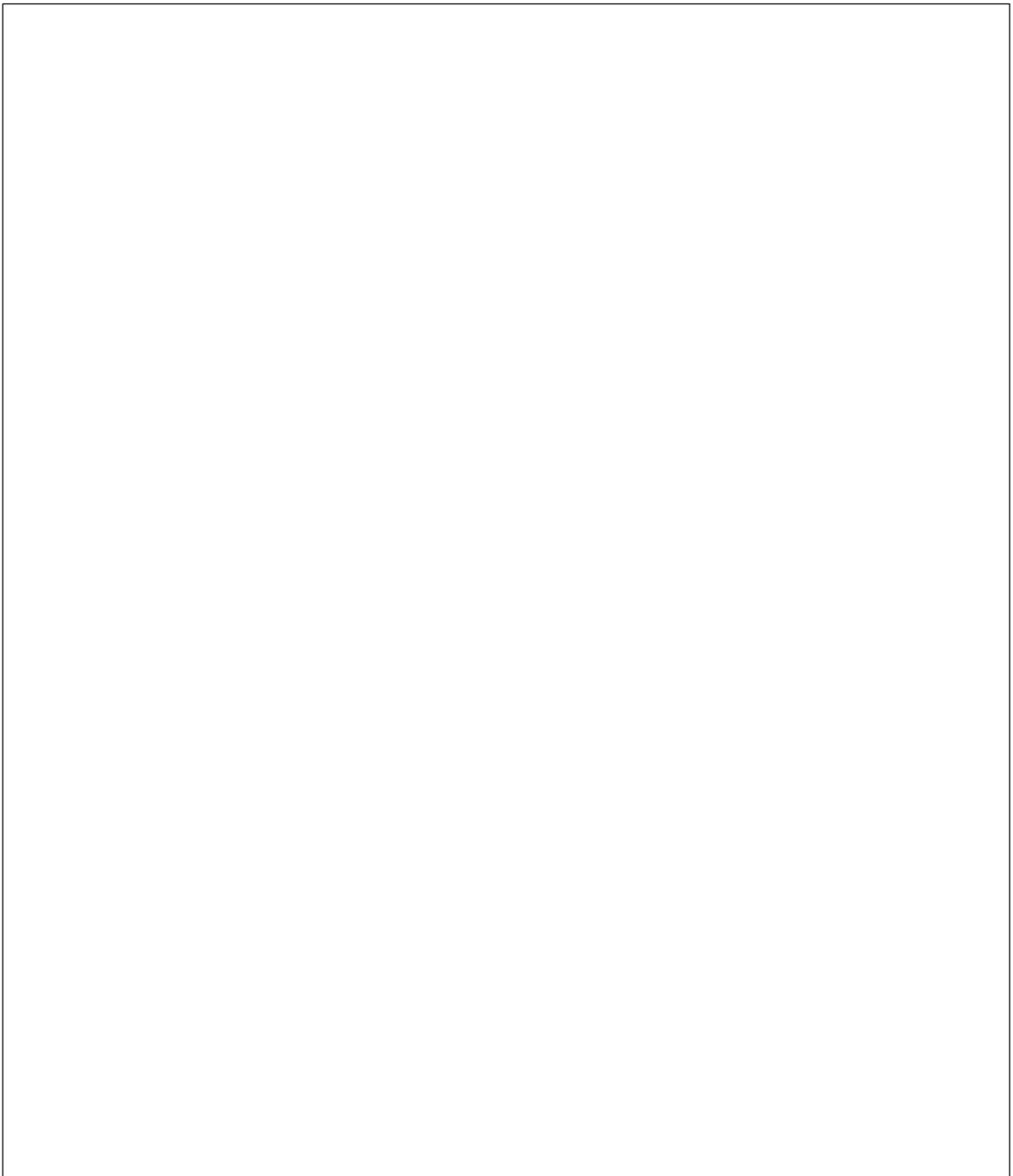
3. What must people do to make a better world?

STUDENTS' TASK

After watching the video and listening to the song, write your song lyrics. (structure: verse 1, chorus, verse 2, chorus).

Your song must have an environmental theme.

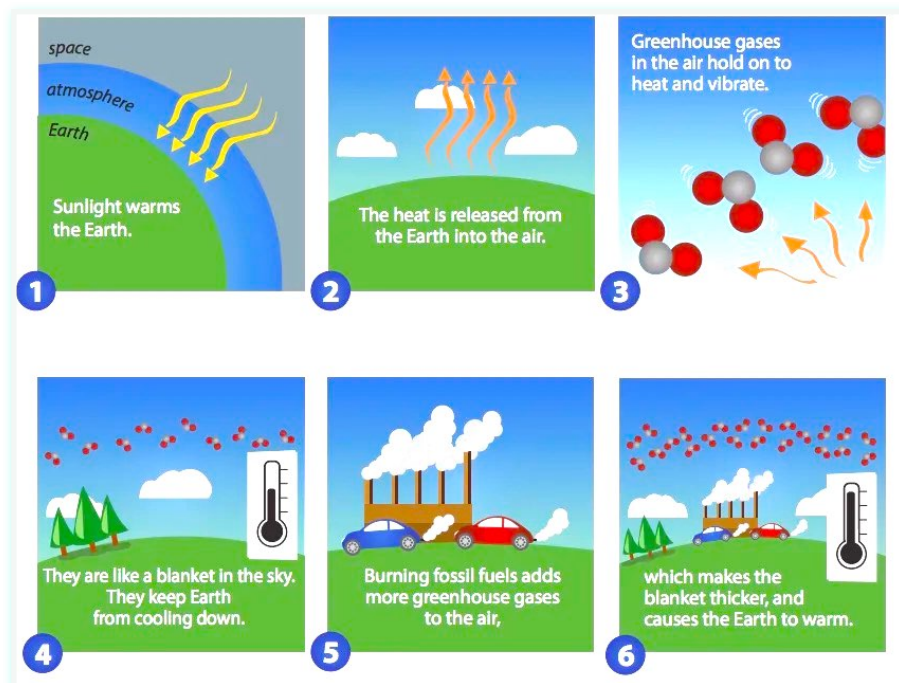
You can use words from the song above.



The Relationship between Music and the Environment



In December 2021, musicians all around the world signed the Music Climate Pact. It is a promise to do their part for our planet by reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Every year, the music industry releases a big amount of greenhouse gases – 540 million kilograms in the UK alone! Where do these harmful gases come from, what is the relationship between music and the environment, and what can we do to help?



Greenhouse gas emissions

<https://scied.ucar.edu/kids/interactive/clouds-rain-game>

Music Streaming

How do you listen to music? Many people listen to music online, but few have considered how it affects the environment. This is especially because we cannot always see its impact.

Every stage of music streaming requires energy, even the storage of music. Music streaming platforms store music as data in hard drives in server farms worldwide. Server farms need a lot of energy to power and cool thousands of computers, and to transmit data to users. r local network. Finally, when the song reaches your computer or phone, it uses energy from your device to play.

An hour of music streaming releases about 55 grams of **carbon dioxide**. That doesn't sound so bad, but some hit songs are played more than a billion times worldwide. This ends up releasing at least 2,000,000 kilograms of carbon dioxide.

Live Music

Live music is a big contributor to greenhouse gas emissions in the music industry. Scientists guess that live music in the UK releases **405 million kilograms of carbon dioxide every year**. A big part of that comes from transport. When musicians have concerts, they travel around the world on planes and buses. Fans also travel to watch them perform. Every concert also uses a lot of energy for light and sound.

Waste is also a big problem in concerts. Big music festivals can create up to 100,000 kilograms of solid waste daily! That's enough to fill up 8 rubbish trucks. A lot of it is plastic waste, such as single-use water bottles and packaging for merchandise.

What Can We Do?

Music streaming platforms can do their part for the environment by using renewable energy to operate. Music artists can do their best to tour on trains and buses instead of flights. Concert organisers can ban single-use plastic in concerts.

Source: <https://kids.earth.org/climate-change/the-relationship-between-music-and-the-environment/>

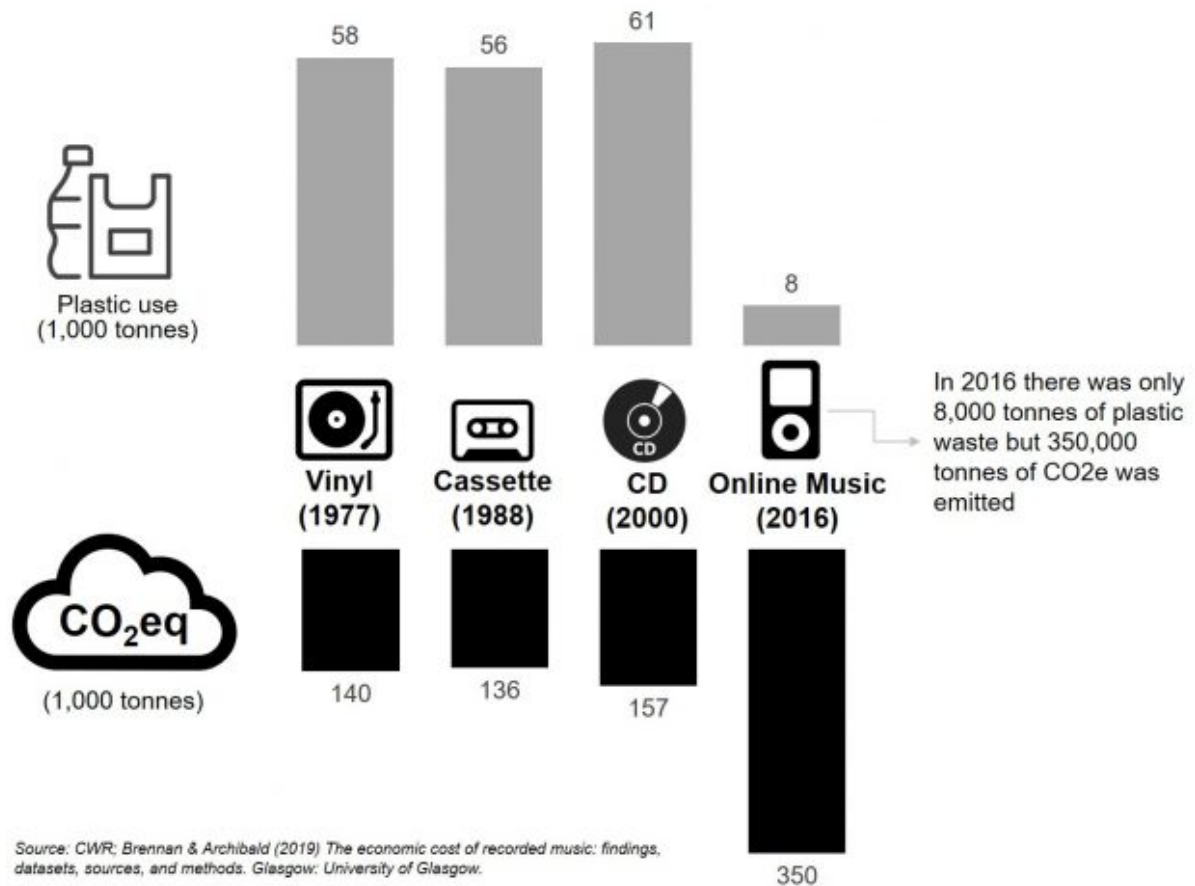
#:~:text=Music%20streaming%20platforms%20can%20do,can%20play%20our%20part%20too.

What we can do as listeners?... Any idea?



A study from the University of Glasgow shows that the plastic used in physical music production has dropped dramatically from 58,000 tonnes in 1977 (the US sales peak of the vinyl), to 8,000 tonnes by 2016 when downloading and streaming take over.

The annual environmental cost of music in the US during different era of audio formats



BUT...Online music has resulted in significantly higher carbon emissions than ever before from the industry

1977: 140,000t CO₂e

2016: 200-350,000t CO₂e

Questionnaire

1. How often do you listen to music?
 - a) Daily
 - b) Weekly
 - c) Monthly
 - d) Rarely
2. What type of music do you prefer?
 - a) Classical
 - b) Pop
 - c) Rock
 - d) Jazz
 - e) Other
3. Do you believe that music can influence your mood?
 - a) Yes
 - b) No
 - c) Sometimes
4. Have you ever attended a live music event in a natural environment (e.g., park, beach, forest)?
 - a) Yes
 - b) No
5. Do you think that music can help raise awareness about environmental issues?
 - a) Yes
 - b) No
 - c) Maybe
6. How can music be used to promote environmental awareness?
 - a) By including environmental messages in song lyrics
 - b) By organising concerts that raise funds for environmental causes
 - c) By creating awareness campaigns that use music as a central element
 - d) All of the above
7. Which of the following is a benefit of using music as a tool for environmental awareness?
 - a) It can reach a wide audience and create emotional connections to the cause
 - b) It can be a fun and engaging way to learn about environmental issues
 - c) It can provide a platform for environmental activists and organisations
 - d) All of the above