Media Literacy: Song, Poetry, and Video

Listen to the song “Video Killed the Radio Star” by the Buggles.

1. What is the theme of this song? Give evidence for your response.

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1. Do you agree or disagree that music videos changed the way people consumed music? Why or why not?

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After viewing “I Knew You Were Trouble” by Taylor Swift, respond to the questions below.

1. What is the story that is portrayed by the music video? Identify the characters and what happens to them in the course of the song.

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1. Describe the mood of the music video. How is this mood created visually? What kinds of images are presented that create the feelings expressed?

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1. Even if this video does not appeal to you, in your opinion what makes this video and song popular?

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1. What is the theme presented by this video?

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1. Who do you think the target audience is for this video? Why do you think so?

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Read Pages 206-209 in Crossroads 8

1. What seems to be the overall theme in both the poem “The Path of our Sorrow” and the song “Ride Forever”?

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1. The poem and song are illustrated in our text. How do the images presented, fit with the theme of the poem and song?

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1. How are the settings similar? How are they different?

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1. The narrator of “Ride Forever” speaks of his “Korean reward.” What is he referring to? Why is this ironic?

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1. What images are created in the poem and the song? What words or expressions help to create the images important to the overall theme of each work?

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1. How would the writer of the poem and song respond to the word progress?

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