

Hands, Feet, Heart

Listen and Appraise Step 6

Hlokoloza by Arthur Mofokate

Listening

Play the song, find and move to the pulse. Use the on-screen questions (see below) as a focus. Scroll through the questions when you are listening to the song, talk about them after listening. The answers are below.

- Do you like the song?
- What can you hear?
- What is the style of this music?
- How is the song put together?

Some extra listening ideas:

- Perhaps watch a clip of the original on YouTube?
- Listen to 'Hands, Feet, Heart' again
- Look for similarities and differences between the songs

Appraising

After listening to the song, answer the on-screen questions, discuss the song and what you can hear in it. Encourage the use of correct musical language when responding.

The detailed answers below will provide you (the teacher) with more than enough information to use flexibly with children of all abilities. You may not use all the information given but it will equip you with the necessary musical knowledge and understanding.

Hlokoloza by Arthur Mofokate

Information about the Song

Arthur Mafokate is a South African Kwaito musician and producer. He is considered to be one of the pioneers of Kwaito music. The song Hlokoloza is about a new dance craze in South Africa with the same name.

Do You Like the Song?

It doesn't matter if you like or don't like a song or a piece of music. Think about the reasons why you do or don't.

What Can You Hear?

Ideas for listening include:

- The vocal line: how many singers? Male/female? *Female vocals and male rapping in South African street language.*
- The backing/accompaniment: how many instruments? Which ones? *Electronic beats.*
- Which instruments plays the solo? *No solos.*
- Is there a hook? *Yes, "Hlokoloza" the name of the song which is a dance.*
- The texture: is it thick, thin or inbetween? Are there many layers of sound, or just one/two? Are there many voices singing/instruments playing, or just one/two? *The texture changes mid way when all the backing drops out as we are lead to believe that we are at a boxing match! There are times when the backing reduces and builds again.*
- The tempo: is it fast, slow or inbetween? *Quite fast dance tempo.*
- The dynamics: is the music loud, quiet or inbetween? Is it the same throughout or does it vary? *Where the texture is thick, the dynamics are louder.*

What is the Style of this Music?

1. Is it Pop/Rock/Blues/Gospel/Ballad/R&B/Rap/Soul? *South African Hip Hop style dance music: Kwaito.*

2. What are the style indicators of South African music? *This is a difficult question as there have been many styles through the years.*

- *Traditional South African music generally uses voices only or voices and drums. This is sung in a language such as Zulu or Xhosa.*
- *Choral music is similar but can have a religious meaning.*
- *Singing will consist of call and response, call by one singer and response by lots.*
- *Afropop has changed over the years but generally uses electric guitars that weave in and out of each other plus some traditional instruments such as the penny whistle, keyboards, bass and drums. It has a strong dance or swing beat.*
- *Generally South African music has a strong dance beat.*
- *Often only three chords are used as a basis for songs.*
- *South African jazz uses the above instruments but may also use a sax or trumpet.*
- *South African music is full of energy.*
- *The most up-to-date pop style is called Kwaito and is influenced by Hip Hop.*

3. What are the style indicators in this song, ie how do I know this is Kwaito?

- *A strong dance Hip Hop beat.*
- *South African languages used.*

- *Rapping.*
- *Electronic beats.*

How is the Song Put Together?

What is the structure/form/shape of the song?

The structure of the song is:

- *Introduction that includes talking*
- *Sung verse*
- *Chorus - “Every day we Hlokoloza...”*
- *Rapped verse x2*
- *Chorus*
- *Rapped verse x2*
- *Spoken interlude - “Ladies and gentlemen..”*
- *Chorus - “Hlokoloza..”x2*
- *Instrumental interlude*
- *Sung verse - “Everyday we...”*
- *Chorus with outro - “Hlokoloza..”*