



LISTENING GUIDE

“LAST CHRISTMAS” BY WHAM!

Meets National Core Arts Standards 5, 7, 9, and 11

OBJECTIVES

- Develop and refine artistic work for presentation (*Pr5*)
- Perceive and analyze artistic work (*Re7*)
- Apply criteria to evaluate artistic work (*Re9*)
- Relate artistic ideas and works with societal, cultural and historical context to deepen understanding (*Cn11*)

MATERIALS

- *MusicAlive*/magazines (December 2018)
- Computer or mobile device with Internet access
- “Last Christmas” worksheet
(available at musicalive.com/december-2018-lesson-plans)

START

Ask your students to read “Listening Guide” on pages 18-19.

DEVELOP

► **1. Play** Wham!’s “Last Christmas” (Hear the Music **track 2** on musicalive.com) while having the students follow along with the timeline.

ASK

- **How would you describe the rhythm of this song?** (Medium tempo, unchanging, basic.)

- **How many measures are in the intro?** (Eight.)

- **How would you characterize Michael’s vocals?** (“Breathy,” smooth, delicate)

- **In your opinion, does the song take a shift in mood when the sleigh bells enter the rhythm?** (Subjective -- oftentimes, sleigh bells make songs “happier”.)

- **Do the sleigh bells stop abruptly or fade out?** (Fade out.)

- **The drum beat stays consistent throughout the song. Does this add to or take away from the song’s interest?** (Subjective, but perhaps the song would benefit from a slight variation in rhythm.)

- **What musical instruments do you hear?** (Bells, drum kit, synthesizer, sleigh bells.)

- **Do you like this song? Why or why not?** (Subjective.)

CLOSE

Hand out the “Last Christmas” worksheet. Ask students to circle which word they think goes in the blank, then play the song through again so students can check their answers.

ASSESS

Did the students read the Listening Guide?

Did they listen to the song using the timeline?

Did they answer the supplemental questions?

December 2018 QUIZ ANSWERS

This month’s quizzes are available at musicalive.com/the-quiz-zone-november-2018. Here are the quiz answers:

THE SINGING SERIES, PT. 3

1. High quality tone and pitch.
2. The right song with the right voice.
3. He has limited training and poor pitch, however, he is constantly changing up the melody and tonality in each performance. He has a sound that no other person is able to match. His attitude and character create a persona that is enjoyable simply because of the sound of it.
4. Ann Wilson.
5. His incredible range (from very low to high operatic notes).
6. A higher frequency and irregularity in his vibrato.
7. “What a Wonderful World.”
8. Trumpet.
9. Autotune.
10. Find a song that matches your ability, and understand what kinds of emotions and sensations your voice evokes.

HAVE YOURSELF A MODERN LITTLE CHRISTMAS

1. Straight No Chaser
2. 1998
3. Rock
4. “White Christmas”
5. “Carol of the Bells”
6. Cold December Night
7. 2011
8. Ariana Grande
9. “My Old Santa Claus” and “Puppies Are Forever”
10. Elvis Presley

KANE BROWN

1. Carrie Underwood and Jason Aldean
2. The X Factor and American Idol
3. Facebook
4. Closer
5. He had a difficult childhood, between moving around a lot and being bullied. He wanted to connect with kids who may be going through similar experiences.
6. Family struggles and learning about forgiveness and acceptance.
7. *Rolling Stone*
8. They told him they weren’t looking for another Scotty McCreery
9. Footage from his wedding to Katelyn Jae
10. “Homesick”