Making Inferences…Sing me a song

We have been studying inferences and literary devices. You have listened to songs and identified literary elements and made inferences from the lyrics. I selected those songs. Now it is your turn.

1. Choose a song you feel strongly about. Does it remind you of someone or some event that is special?

Does is represent how you are feeling or have felt in the past? Does it make you happy or sad? Is it just

a great anthem that inspires you?

2. Get a copy of the lyrics of your chosen song. [www.lyrics.com](http://www.lyrics.com) is just one website that is an option.

3. Analyze the song lyrics. First, and foremost, the song **MUST** be school appropriate. The topic,

language, message and yes, even the inferences must be appropriate. If you are not sure, it is not

appropriate-choose a different song. This may, very well, be the most difficult part of this assignment.

4. Print a copy of the lyrics if you have access. If not, write the lyrics down on paper. You must get a clean

copy of the lyrics to me. You can email the document to [www.jstanaway@wcskids.net](http://www.jstanaway@wcskids.net) and/or

[www.jai.vaca@gmail.com](http://www.jai.vaca@gmail.com) or just turn in a written copy.

5. Identify literary elements in your song. Find and label as many as you can from the list below.

* simile
* metaphor
* personification
* onomatopoeia
* hyperbole
* alliteration
* rhyme
* allusion

6. Select a portion of the song from which an inference could be made. What is the author tying to say

without actually stating it?

7. Download the song onto you device if possible to share with the class. This will be worth some extra

points if you bring in the song for us to hear and analyze together.

**Example: “Counting Stars” by One Republic**

I see this life I feel the love

Like a swinging vine And I feel it burn

Swing my heart across the line Down this river every turn

In my face’s flashing signs Hope is a four letter word

Seek it out and ye shall find Make that money

The old, but I’m not that old Watch it burn

Young, but I’m not that bold

And I don’t think the world is sold Take that money and watch it burn

I’m just doing what we’re told Sink in the river the lessons I learned.

I, feel something so right

But doing the wrong thing

I, feel something so wrong

But doing the right thing

I could lie, could lie, could lie

Everything that kills me makes me feel alive

Lately I been, I been losing sleep

Dreaming ‘bout the things that we could be

Baby I been, I been prayin’ hard

Said no more counting dollars

We’ll be counting stars

Lately I been, I been losing sleep

Dreaming ‘bout the things that we could be

But baby I been, I been prayin’ hard