



Sing for Hull

With the Albemarle Broadband



Week 7 – Firework Listening Activities

Firework was written by Katy Perry as an inspirational anthem with the theme of self-empowerment. It featured on her 2010 album, *Teenage Dream*, and was released by Capitol Records. Listen to the original version of the song and answer these questions:

1. What genre do you think the style of the song is?
2. The song starts with the famous question '*Do you ever feel like a plastic bag?*' Look at the lyrics of Verse 1. What do you think the verse is actually asking you?
3. The mood changes throughout the song. Take a look at the lyrics of the verse, pre-chorus and chorus. Think of what they are saying in each section. How does the music match the mood in each section?
4. The song is called *Firework*. Listen to the pre-chorus (*You just gotta ignite...*). How does the music and instrumentation build up the suspense, leading into the chorus? How could this be similar to watching a firework?
5. The musical term *texture* describes the layers in music. Listen to the instruments in this song. Do any of them feature as a solo line or do they mostly play together?
6. Firework has featured in the soundtrack of a number of films and television programmes. Why do you think it is often chosen?
7. Do you like the song? Why?

Firework – Did you know?

Did you know that **similes** and **metaphors** are used in creative writing and poetry to compare things. **Similes** use the words '*like*' or '*as*' to describe something as being like something else. **Metaphors** describe something as actually being something else. Songwriters often use **metaphors** and **similes** in their lyrics to help paint a picture in your mind. Justin Timberlake uses the **metaphor**: '*I got that sunshine in my pocket...*', whilst Shawn Mendes uses the **simile** '*Just like a moth drawn to a flame...*'.

Can you find any metaphors and similes in *Firework*?