



Protest Music



Protest music has been used throughout history. A **protest song** is a song that is associated with a movement for social change and therefore creates lots of *topical* songs (or songs connected to current events).
Songs have been written for various topics including the human rights movements, civil rights, anti war, feminism, gay rights, animal rights, gun control and many more.

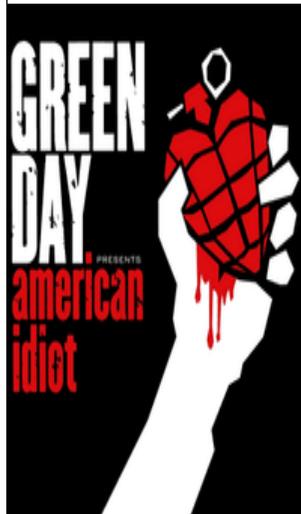
Protest music is important as it brings social injustices into popular culture and promoting awareness of the topic to a wider audience. During 2020, some artists promoted the “Black Lives Matter” protest. An example of a protest song that was written for “Black Lives Matter” is the song “American Reckoning” by Bon Jovi.

<u>Key Words</u>	<u>Meaning</u>
Lyrics	Words in a song
Protest	a statement or action expressing disapproval of or objection to something.
Simile	Comparing one thing to another using “as” or “like” e.g. White like snow.
Metaphor	a figure of speech in which a word or phrase is applied to an object or action to which it is not literally applicable. e.g. a blanket of snow.
Lyrical Hook	Catchy lyrics in a song
Musical Hook	Catchy music in a song e.g. the hook in shape of you
Song Structure	The layout of the song.

American Idiot- Green Day

Billie Joe Armstrong was listening to Lynyrd Skynyrd song that had talked about how proud Skynyrd was to be a southern American.

Armstrong was repulsed by the idea of that sort of patriotic message, which is where he got the idea for this song. This was during a time when the war in Iraq was going nowhere and soldiers were dying by the thousands. To make things worse, people were watching the war on TV as if it was a source of entertainment. Armstrong hated that and as he wrote "American Idiot" he made sure that it would be clear that his point of view was that he was frustrated with the media and how horrible the shallowness of some Americans can be.



Where is the love? – Black Eyed Peas.

The Black Eyed Peas are simply trying to spread awareness of everything that is going on around us and in the world that isn't healthy or beneficial. The song questions whether there can be love in a society full of hate and violence.

The issues that are mentioned in this song are very broad. Multiple worldwide problems are pointed out that began to occur post 9/11 and during the war in Iraq. Some of these problems include terrorism, war, U.S. government, hypocrisy, racism, gang crime, pollution, and intolerance/violence against the LGBT community.

Strange Fruit – Billie Holiday

In the 1930s, Billie Holiday released Strange Fruits protesting the racism and lynching that occurred in the South of America



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Major Pentatonic Scales

- C pentatonic: C, D, E, G, A, C
- C# pentatonic: C#, D#, F, G#, A#, C#
- Db pentatonic: Db, Eb, F, Ab, Bb, Db
- D pentatonic: D, E, F#, A, B, D
- Eb pentatonic: Eb, F, G, Bb, C, Eb
- E pentatonic: E, F#, G#, B, C#, E
- F pentatonic: F, G, A, C, D, F
- F# pentatonic: F#, G#, A#, C#, D#, F#
- Gb pentatonic: Gb, Ab, Bb, Db, Eb, Gb
- G pentatonic: G, A, B, D, E, G
- Ab pentatonic: Ab, Bb, C, Eb, F, Ab
- A pentatonic: A, B, C#, E, F#, A
- Bb pentatonic: Bb, C, D, F, G, Bb
- B pentatonic: B, C#, D#, F#, G#, B

Creating a melody using pentatonic Scales

Once you have created a chord sequence, use the below pentatonic scales to help you if you are struggling for melody ideas.

E.g. if you are playing a C chord, use note from the C pentatonic scale. If you are playing an F chord, use notes from the F pentatonic scale.

Rhyming dictionary: www.rhymezone.com

Minor Pentatonic Scales

- A minor pentatonic: A, C, D, E, G, A
- Bb minor pentatonic: Bb, Db, Eb, F, Ab, Bb
- B minor pentatonic: B, D, E, F#, A, B
- C minor pentatonic: C, Eb, F, G, Bb, C
- C# minor pentatonic: C#, E, F#, G#, B, C#
- D minor pentatonic: D, F, G, A, C, D
- Eb minor pentatonic: Eb, Gb, Ab, Bb, Db, Eb
- Em pentatonic: E, G, A, B, D, E
- F minor pentatonic: F, Ab, Bb, C, Eb, F
- F#m pentatonic: F#, A, B, C#, E, F#
- G minor pentatonic: G, Bb, C, D, F, G
- G# minor pentatonic: G#, B, C#, D#, F#, G#

Use these notes if your chord has an 'm' after the letter, e.g. Am, Dm etc.

Recommended You tube Videos

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How to write a song – top ten tips, uploaded by 'The Coloured Scribblers'

10 ways to write a melody, uploaded by 'Andrew Huang'

Soloing w/patterns on pentatonic scales, keyboard lessons, uploaded by 'Howcast'