

# Create a Soundtrack for your Book!

Summer Reading Assessment Option

JCNGA and JCHS 2009

(Sources: [http://www.readwritethink.org/lessons/lesson\\_view.asp?id=861](http://www.readwritethink.org/lessons/lesson_view.asp?id=861) and <http://www1.ncte.org/store/books/media/106296.htm>)

Pretend that your summer reading book is going to be made into a movie and the director wants you to design a “soundtrack” for the movie. The songs you pick should represent various aspects of the book. For example, you could have theme songs for individual characters, songs about the themes of the book, songs about various events, songs that match the book’s plot, tone, or mood. You will be required to explain your choice of songs through the use of textual evidence from both the songs and the books. If your book has already been turned into a movie, you must not use the soundtrack that has already been created for the movie.

When you are ready to create your soundtrack, record the songs onto a tape or burn them onto a CD. If this is not possible, you will have to bring in the individual CDs/tapes. If you choose not to use the chart provided to explain your choices, you **must** write a paragraph description for each song telling why it represents a part or parts of the book. You **MUST** have **at least 5** songs. Also, create an album cover for your soundtrack. You may use hand-drawn or computer-generated graphics for the cover.

Some thoughts about what will earn a good grade:

- Do your connections demonstrate an in-depth analysis? (In-depth means that you **fully** explain the connections.)
- Do you make insightful connections between your book and the songs?
- Do you develop your ideas clearly and consistently?
- Do you cite a wide variety of relevant and specific details from the book? (You **must** quote passages from the book.)
- Do you cite specific lyrics from the songs?
- Does your soundtrack demonstrate exceptional originality?

You may use the chart on the next page to help you organize your thoughts. There is an example to give you ideas.

Passage from your book:	Song title:	Specific song lyrics:	Aspect of the book that the song matches and your explanation:
<p><b>Example:</b> (for <i>The Secret History</i> by Donna Tartt) “The last week of school was a flurry of packing, typing, plane reservations and phone calls home, for everybody but me. I had no need to finish my papers early because I had nowhere to go; I could pack at my leisure, after the dorms were empty.”</p>	<p>“Yesterday” by The Beatles</p>	<p>“Yesterday, All my troubles seemed so far away, Now it looks as though they're here to stay, Oh, I believe in yesterday.</p> <p>Suddenly, I'm not half the man I used to be, There's a shadow hanging over me, Oh, yesterday came suddenly.”</p>	<p>This is one of the songs I've always associated with this book, mainly because the <b>mood</b> of the song fits so well with the <b>mood</b> of the book and of the character of Richard. Christmas break is approaching, the others are leaving, and Richard has nowhere to go, so he finds a place to stay in Hampden. This song evokes for me the feelings I think Richard has, being left behind. All of the song doesn't fit, but the beginning lyrics do.</p>

<b>Passage from your book:</b>	<b>Song title:</b>	<b>Specific song lyrics:</b>	<b>Aspect of the book that the song matches and your explanation:</b>

<b>Passage from your book:</b>	<b>Song title:</b>	<b>Specific song lyrics:</b>	<b>Aspect of the book that the song matches and your explanation:</b>