English 1201 Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

# POetry and Music

We can express ourselves artistically in various ways - music, dance, poetry, painting, etc. These artistic expressions can be related, connected or inspired by the other. For example, a music piece can inspire a choreographer to come up with new dance moves, or a painting can inspire someone to write poetry. Through the years we've heard songs that have been partly or greatly inspired by poems. These two art forms possess certain similar elements, such as meter and rhyme.

Your task is to generate a playlist that may help a friend who is experiencing a concern similar to what the poets of “ I Perform all my Duties” and “Cardboard World” have experienced.

1. Write a list of 10 songs- Song name and artist or band
2. Choose what you consider the best song, fitting the overall mood and themes expressed and explain why. Your explanation should be at least 1 paragraph long (typed) and refer to the overall message of the song and how it connects to the message in the poem(s), and speak to any figurative language, or other literary devices used that make the song effective. Provide your rationale for including this song. Include the song lyrics with your paragraph to hand in.
3. Mini-presentations: students will present their lyrics and rationale in small group setting. Those wishing to present to the entire class may do so as well.

**Waiting on the World to Change**

One, two, one, two, three

Me and all my friends

 We're all misunderstood

 They say we stand for nothing and

 There's no way we ever could

 Now we see everything that's going wrong

 With the world and those who lead it

 We just feel like we don't have the means

 To rise above and beat it

So we keep waiting (waiting)

 Waiting on the world to change

 We keep on waiting (waiting)

 Waiting on the world to change

It's hard to beat the system

 When we're standing at a distance

 So we keep waiting (waiting)

 Waiting on the world to change

Now if we had the power

 To bring our neighbors home from war

 They would have never missed a Christmas

 No more ribbons on their door

 And when you trust your television

 What you get is what you got

 Cause when they own the information, oh

 They can bend it all they want

That's why we're waiting (waiting)

 Waiting on the world to change

 We keep on waiting (waiting)

 Waiting on the world to change

It's not that we don't care

 We just know that the fight ain't fair

 So we keep on waiting (waiting)

 Waiting on the world to change

And we're still waiting (waiting)

 Waiting on the world to change

 We keep on waiting (waiting)

 Waiting on the world to change

One day our generation

 Is gonna rule the population

 So we keep on waiting (waiting)

 Waiting on the world to change

 No we keep on waiting (waiting)

 Waiting on the world to change

 We keep on waiting (waiting)

 Waiting on the world to change

Songwriters

 JOHN MAYER

***Rationale:***

*The song “Waiting on the World to Change” by John Mayer is a song that connects directly to the poem “Cardboard World” that was studied in class. “Cardboard World” is about humanity and life, and illustrates that the symbols of the world represented in a simple symbol of cardboard sphere cannot truly represent the complexity of human life, all of its beauty, but also the lack of empathy, understanding and connectedness of the people of the world. “Cardboard World” explains that human suffering and a lack of connectedness to one another is a tragedy. In the song, John Mayer also expresses this same tone. His attitude is that people are generally apathetic about what is happening in the world around them, and need to do more and be actively engaged in life if they want to see the world change for the better. Both authors challenge us to take a look at ourselves and to educate ourselves and get involved to make the world a better place. John Mayer uses imagery of the yellow ribbons on the door, and people standing in the distance doing nothing, and watching the television where information is bent and manipulated to hide the truth. The song also uses repletion of the key phrase “waiting on the world to change” to reinforce the main idea.*