

# Jam of the Day

There are many purposes to this activity. The first is to give you a chance to share and appreciate music and how its related to other genres you listen to and we study. The second is to gain some skills and practice toward interpreting and thinking more critically about the music we consume, how it affects us, and what it all means.

On your jam day, you must bring the following items to class to successfully complete the assignment:

- Song on CD, tape, flash drive (i.e. mp3 data/music file), or digital music player (make arrangements with me well ahead of time if you need help)
- A completed JOTD form saved to a disk or storage device to bring to school. You can also email the document to Mr. G at [sam.greene@camas.wednet.edu](mailto:sam.greene@camas.wednet.edu)

We use the SOAPS-tone strategy to analyze musical lyrics in class and encourage us to think more deeply about the music we listen to. See the document on the next page for an example of a completed Jam of the Day.

*What to look for:*

1. **Speaker**
2. **Occasion**
3. **Audience**
4. **Purpose**
5. **Subject**
6. **-tone**

*How to find it:*

1. **Speaker:** Is there someone identified as the speaker? Can you make some assumptions about this person? What class do they come from? What political party? A gender?
2. **Occasion:** What prompted the author to write this piece? What event led to its publication or development?
3. **Audience:** Does the speaker identify an audience? What assumptions can you make about the audience? Is it a mixed racial/gender group? What social class? Political party? Who was the song created for? Are there any words or phrases that are unusual or different? Does the speaker use language that is specific for a unique audience? Does the speaker evoke God? Nation? Liberty? History? Hell?
4. **Purpose:** What is the speaker's purpose? In what ways does he convey this message? How would you perceive the singer delivering the song? What is the document saying? What is the emotional state of the speaker? How is the speaker trying to spark a reaction in the audience? What words or phrases show the speaker's tone? How is the document supposed to make you feel?
5. **Subject:** What is the subject of the piece? How do you know this? How has the subject been selected and presented by the author?
6. **-tone:** What is the author's tone? How is the author perceived by the audience? What is the author's mood? What is the author's point-of-view?

## **Special Situations & Miscellaneous Notes:**

If for some reason you are absent on the day of your jam, you may makeup your points for the assignment within one week of your return by doubling up on another day or by making an appointment to come in after school during the conference period or at lunch for a special makeup JOTD session.

Though you may hear worse walking through the halls of Camas High School, *the language in the lyrics must be appropriate for the classroom environment*. Those failing to heed this note of caution will lose their points for the JOTD and face possible further disciplinary action. If you have questions or concerns about specific language or thematic content, talk with me well in advance of your jam day to insure your success with this assignment.

# Jam of the Day

**Name:** Sam Greene

**Date:** 01/01/06

- Though you may hear worse walking through the halls of Camas High School, the language in the lyrics must be appropriate for the classroom environment. Talk to me if you have questions/concerns.
- Don't forget to paste your song lyrics into the second page of this document
- Save this file onto a disk or storage device to bring to school OR email the document to Mr. G at [sam.greene@camas.wednet.edu](mailto:sam.greene@camas.wednet.edu)
- See Mr. G for make scheduling a make up JOTD.

Artist	Everclear
Song Title	"Brand New Skin"
Album	Sparkle and Fade
Year Issued	1995
Genre	Post Grunge Hard Rock?
Key Lines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Strong and happy with the sound of the rhythm inside</i></li> <li>• <i>I can see the future when she tells me how it's going to be</i></li> </ul>
Factoids	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Art Alexakis has famously struggled with drugs and alcohol in his own life.</li> <li>• He is currently sober.</li> <li>• Everclear started in Portland and is still home to the band.</li> </ul>

SPEAKER (1)	Art Alexakis, the singer (a recovering addict/alcoholic who wants to be more than he is but doesn't know if he can).
OCCASION (3)	A moment of reflection on his early sobriety
AUDIENCE (4)	Himself? Other alcoholics/addicts? Kathy?
PURPOSE (5)	Talking himself (and others) through what he was and what he could be with her as an example. Kind of like a self-affirmation so he can keep going on ...
SUBJECT (2)	A sober friend of his, perpetual Kathy, who is a guru of sobriety to him
TONE (6)	Self-doubt, being timid, admiration

***Paste Song Lyrics Below Here:***

## **Her Brand New Skin**

She is everywhere I am  
Yeah when I don't want her to be there  
I kinda want to leave in a hurry  
She's walking on the city  
Heavy in her monster boots  
I hear her calling my name  
I hide behind the people that I want to be  
I hear her calling my name  
I can see the future when she tells me how it's going to be  
She is perpetual Kathy  
All shake and happy in her brand new skin  
She is perpetual Kathy  
She is always the same  
She is everything that I'm not  
Strong and happy with the sound of the rhythm inside  
I do not want to be a broken record,  
But I don't want to live in the shadow of a twelve-step  
I hear her calling my name  
Next thing you know I think I'll want to be a better man  
I hear her calling my name  
Yeah, I used to be a devil but they never seemed to give a damn