



NEW WRITING
NORTH
YOUNG WRITERS

WRITING
FROM
HOME



Inspirational Lyrics

Warm Up:

List 3 songs that you like. Next, answer these questions about each song:

- 1) Subject - what the song is about?
- 2) POV (point of view, is it about themselves or another person?)
- 3) Most memorable lyric

Get Inspired:

[Watch the video 'Inspirational Lyrics with Jennie Brewis'](#)

Give it a Try:

In the video I describe key elements that make the lyrics interesting. You are now going to use these elements as a template to map out a song idea.

Decide on a situation you would like to describe. This might be something that has happened to you, an imaginary character or someone in a book/news article/computer game etc

- Try to come up with a striking/ interesting title (maybe that has a double meaning)
- A strong first line that makes you want to find out more about the story
- Imagine a detail from the situation and zoom in on it (describe what is happening, what can you/they see, feel, hear?)
- Write your own metaphor (a figure of speech that can't be literally true, see below for examples)

Challenge Yourself:

Think about a song that you find inspirational and make a list of the things you like about it, as I did in the video earlier. Have a go at using it as a template to map out a new song.

Explore Further:

Uses of metaphor in pop songs

<https://www.jamcampus.com/metaphors-pop-songs/>

Types of rhymes

<https://www.isotope.com/en/learn/5-types-of-rhymes-you-can-use-in-your-song.html>

Explanation of different rhyming structures

<https://www.isotope.com/en/learn/mastering-rhyme-schemes-in-lyric-writing.html>

This workshop was devised by Jennie Brewis for New Writing North Young Writers.



Jennie Brewis is a musician, songwriter and cultural producer. She is a co-founding member of The Cornshed Sisters, whose two albums (released on Memphis Industries) fuse together pop, folk, protest, ballad and gospel into their own unique style. As well as gaining widespread radio-play for their singles, (including Elton John's Rocket Hour) The Cornshed Sisters have played live sessions on BBC 6 Music, Radio 4, BBC Television and on Glastonbury Festival's acoustic stage. As well as supporting Elbow they have toured the UK with The Futureheads and Slug and are currently recording their third album. Jennie has lectured in music at Newcastle College and currently works as a project producer for New Writing North and is a Pop Choir Project leader.

New Writing North Young Writers is a programme for young people aged 12-19. We run creative writing groups, masterclasses and programmes in schools across the North East. We support young people to express their ideas, to work with professional writers and artists, to create and share new work, and to meet other young writers.

We would love to read your writing! Share it with us on social media using #writingfromhome or by emailing youngwriters@newwritingnorth.com. Search for New Writing North Young Writers on Instagram, Facebook or Twitter, where we will also be sharing regular writing prompts. Each week we will select a Young Writer of the Week whose work will be shared on our channels.

Find other writing workshops and much more on our website www.newwritingnorth.com

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