



Name:  
Section:



Date:  
Score:



# The History of Rap

Read the paragraph about rap music and predict the meanings of the the underlined words. Then look up the definitions in the dictionary to see how accurate your predictions were. After that, practice using your vocabulary words by answering the questions given.

Rap music, a (1) genre with a rich history, emerged during the late 20th century. What makes it unique is that instead of singing, artists use spoken words or "rap" to a rhythmic beat. Its (2) origins can be traced back to African and African-American traditions, where storytelling and rhythmic speech were (3) vital forms of expression. In the 1970s, the Bronx (in New York City) became a key (4) hub for rap's development, thanks to pioneers like DJ Kool Herc and Grandmaster Flash. Rap stands out for its powerful lyrics, addressing issues like social justice, (5) inequality, and personal experiences. Over time, rap has (6) diversified into various styles, including conscious rap and gangsta rap, becoming not just a musical genre but also a cultural movement influencing fashion, language, and global discourse.

1) Predict the meaning of "genre."

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Write the actual definition of "genre."

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What genre of music is your favorite? (Write 4 sentences or more)

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2) Predict the meaning of "origins"

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Write the actual definition of "origins."

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What are your ideas on the origins of the universe? (Write 4 sentences or more)

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3) Predict the meaning of "vital"

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Write the actual definition of "vital"

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Why is it vital for students to consistently read and write? (Write 4 sentences or more)

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4) Predict the meaning of “hub.”

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Write the actual definition of “hub.”

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If you owned an airline, which city would be a good choice to be your your hub? (Hint: which city do you think is centrally located and makes sense for many flights to fly out of? Write 4 sentences or more.

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5) Predict the meaning of “inequality.”

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Write the actual definition of “inequality”

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In your opinion, what can be done to improve economic inequality? Write 4 sentences or more.

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