



Unit VI Louisiana's Musical Landscape
Lessons 1 and 2

Found Poem - Found Song

Name _____ Date _____

TOPIC: Louisiana Music

TASK: A **Found Poem** is made with words and phrases from something you read. It uses someone else's language, but the poet combines it in a new way. Write a **Found Poem** following these directions.

1. Your teacher will assign one of these articles for you to read:

- **The Treasured Traditions of Louisiana Music**, by Ben Sandmel
- **Cajun Music: Alive and Well in Louisiana**, by Ann Savoy
- **Cajun Music as Oral Poetry**, by Carolyn Ware
- **Hayride Boogie: Blues, Rockabilly and Soul from the Louisiana Hill and Delta Country**, by Mike Luster
- **North Louisiana String Band**, by Susan Roach
- **Since Ol' Gabriel's Time: Hezekiah and the Houserockers**, by David Evans

2. As you read, choose ten main key words or phrases that give the meaning of that music genre to you, and jot them down.

3. Arrange these words or phrases in a pleasing and meaningful way to make a poem.

4. Write or type the poem and illustrate it with drawings or pictures you have collected for this lesson.

5. Read or recite your poem to the class.

6. Work with your group to choose a song in the genre you have read about, then arrange words and phrases to make a song about the genre. Use the **Tempo, Dynamics, and Rhythm** that are unique to the genre. If possible, locate some of the instruments used in that genre to accompany the singing.

7. Sing and play your *Found Song* for the class.



Found Poems Examples

Mississippi River Blues

Something for everyone
Indigenous, alternative, mainstream
Dirty rhythms on cymbals, toms, snare, and bass
Boogie lines on guitar
Short, punchy phrases on harmonica
Long-held blasts on trombone
Short riffs in call-and-response
The sound of
Hezekiah and the Houserockers.

Written to accompany **Since Ol' Gabriel's Time: Hezekiah and the Houserockers**
<http://www.louisianafolklife.org/LT/Articles_Essays/since_ol_gabriels_time.html> by David Evans.

Musique Acadien / Cajun Music

Prairies and porches
Family gathering
Remember the days when neighbors sat together and shared songs.
Ballads
Fiddle tunes
Accordions
String bands
Dancehalls
Elders teach us through the example of their lives.
Listen, learn, and have a good time.

Written to accompany **Cajun Music: Alive and Well in Louisiana**
<http://www.louisianafolklife.org/LT/Articles_Essays/creole_art_cajunmusic_aliv.html> by Ann Savoy.