



# music studio

## LESSON PLAN

### storytellers

#### VH1 Storytellers: Wyclef Jean

A VH1 Save the Music Special

VH1 Music Studio

Cable in the Classroom

Lessons for High School School Music Classes

Lesson 1 of 4

*(Note to teachers: Please view this videotape for appropriateness for your classes. Some of the lyrics have sexual innuendo and others mention a violent end to the life of a drug dealer.)*

#### Objective

Students will identify and describe the elements of music and techniques they hear in performances in different styles.

*National Standards: Content Standard 6--Listening to, analyzing, and describing music: Students analyze aural examples of a varied repertoire of music, representing diverse genres and cultures, by describing the uses of elements of music and expressive devices.*

#### Materials

Videotape of VH1 Storytellers Wyclef Jean.

- Television and VCR
- Worksheet printed out from the end of this lesson
- Recorded examples of two or three guitar styles unfamiliar to students, from, for example, The Guitar Player Presents: Legends of Guitar (Rhino R270563), which includes two volumes for most styles: classical (one volume), jazz, electric blues, country, surf (one volume), 50s rock, 60s rock, 70s rock
- Audio-playback equipment.

## **Prior Knowledge and Experiences**

Students have listened to many guitar recordings in different styles.

## **Procedures**

1. Have students view and listen to the first segment of the video Wyclef Jean: Storytellers. Wyclef performs a classical guitar riff and then segues into a ballad "Gone Till November."
2. Have students listen and watch for techniques used on each piece. Then distribute the worksheet, and using the listening as a point of reference, review the elements of music and the guitar techniques listed on the worksheet.
3. Have students view the tape segment again. Have them write terms (not sentence) that identify the unique features of the music; that is, uses of elements of music and guitar techniques. Discuss and replay as necessary.
4. Play one or two additional selections from the recordings suggested in Materials or recordings in your school's library. Have students listen to them and analyze them as in step 3.
5. Have students, using their individual handouts, summarize the similarities and differences between the styles they have heard. Technical

### **Indicators of Success**

Students accurately analyze and describe the musical elements and techniques in guitar performances.

### **Follow-up**

Have students identify the use of different techniques and of elements of music in the career development of a particular guitarist.

Have students listen to performances on guitar (and on related string instruments) from different classical periods and styles. Ask them to analyze and identify what they hear.

### **Guitar Listening Worksheet**

1st example      2nd example      3rd example

#### **Expression**

accurate tempo

appropriate dynamics

correct phrasing

consistency of all of the above

## Technical

accurate pitch

accurate rhythm

"clean," coordinated finger work

correct hand and body position

consistency of all of the above

## Nonmusical

stage presence (if applicable)

VH1, in partnership with Cable in the Classroom, collaborated with MENC: The National Association for Music Education to develop this series of lessons.



## National Standards for Music Education

1. Singing, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music.
2. Performing on instruments, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music.
3. Improvising melodies, variations, and accompaniments.
4. Composing and arranging music within specified guidelines.
5. Reading and notating music.
6. Listening to, analyzing, and describing music.
7. Evaluating music and music performances.
8. Understanding relationships between music, the other arts, and disciplines outside the arts.
9. Understanding music in relation to history and culture.