

Verse Assignment 2

Sketch a prose description of a new song which would demonstrate an obvious and blatant use of each of the following:

Physical/Physical location. Verse describes a particular place.

Physical/Time Change. The verse indicate passage of time, either forward or backward.

Narrative/Character. Verse makes it clear who is singing the refrain, or about whom the refrain is referring. Subsequent verses, therefore, might change characters.

Narrative/Narrator. An entirely different narrator sings a subsequent verse, allowing us to understand the meaning of the refrain differently.

Narrative/Declamatory. The verse consists of a narrator “I have to tell you something.” Often, the purpose of a verse is merely declamatory, an *intro* is used instead, and there are no subsequent verses.

Narrative/Storytelling. As the story progresses via a series of verses, the refrain in between the verses either gives us respite during which to contemplate the consequences of the story, or perhaps the refrain gains in irony or drama in context of the new circumstances described in the story.

Interpretive/Point of View. Subsequent verses might set up a different way of looking at things, casting a whole new light to the meaning of the refrain.

Interpretive/Double Entendre. Subsequent verses might lead us to interpret words with a sexual tone which is not apparent in the first instance of the refrain.

Interpretive/Opposite. Subsequent verses lead us to understand that the exact opposite meaning of the refrain is intended.

Interpretive/Mood. The verse shifts mood of the lyric.

This needn't be very formal prose; even bullet points will suffice. The point of this assignment is to demonstrate an understanding of the several variations of verse, rather than “how to outline a song,” so please don't feel the need to polish your actual text. Just make it clear what the content of each verse would be. In most instances, this will mean sketching out ideas for additional verses as well.

Don't be subtle. Demonstrate a obvious and blatant use of the verse.

Optional: If you're particularly inspired by one of your ideas, write the full lyrics for the song.