**Unit 2: Creating and Presenting**

**Encountering Conflict: protest songs**

**Activity 1.**

‘But the point of protest music, or indeed any art with a political dimension, is not to shift the world on its axis but to change opinions and perspectives, to say something about the times in which you live, and, sometimes, to find that what you’ve said speaks to another moment in history…’ – Dorian Lynskey, *33 Revolutions Per Minute*

Share the protest song that you have listened to since our last lesson with the class.

**Activity 2.**

What is a protest song?

A protest song is a song which is associated with a movement for social change.

* Most social movements have an associated body of songs.
* Protest songs are frequently situational.

Protest music helps people realise they are not alone in feeling a spirit of dissent against certain injustices. Protest songs are effective in creating a sense of community and helping groups organise to affect change.

In *33 Revolutions Per Minute*, a book about protest songs, British writer Dorian Lynskey defines a protest song as a song that 'addresses a political issue in a way which aligns itself with the underdog'.

Click on the link my link mrsommersenglish@weebly.com

Listen to the songs featured on this page. Use the internet to research the featured songs.

Use the following questions to make notes about each of the featured songs:

* What is the song about?
* When was the song written? Who wrote the song? Who performed the song?
* Why is the song important?
* How does the song use language to convey its message of protest?

**Activity 3**

Prompt:One single voice can represent many in times of conflict.

Your task is to respond in an expository, persuasive or imaginative way to the selected prompt. Use a protest song as the basis of your response. Aim to write 350 – 500 words.