

In-class writing follow-up from May 1-5: Active Listening

Willingness

1. I think it depends on how the listener chooses to feel that way and give into the escape. They would have to let their mind go free of distractions and bad thoughts they might have and just sit back, relax, even close their eyes and just let the music take over.
2. I believe that the listener must be willing to let the music take him away, let the notes of the music take their imagination up on a ride.
3. The mindset in which allowing or trusting for something or someone else to take control
4. In some cases, if the listener has some expectation, also adding to the type of music, he has to prepare his mindset to receive something big and tremendous. If it is a situation where the listener has no knowledge that he will be listening to the music (which is rare in most cases), he then has to show an attitude of appreciation, freedom and recklessness since it is a surprise.
5. The listener has to be open-minded. The listener has to open to listen to big things, and to see the big picture.

The listener's listening skills

1. A good sense of imagery
2. The listener should be visualizing in their own what on what event the song is creating.
3. The listener needs to have an imagination. They need to relate the types of sounds they hear to something.

Having some background or baseline of knowledge about music

1. I think the listener has to understand or at least have an idea about the piece and what it represents.
2. There needs to be something I can relate to in a song.
3. The mindset that the listener must have is knowing that what you are about to hear is something that is not expected.

Listening in a focused or thoughtful way

1. I feel like as a listener you have to be in the right mindset to get to that point [of escape]. If you just put on music and leave it in the background then your mind isn't going to travel places. You have to be extremely focused on the music in order for you to feel like you're somewhere else or someone else in my opinion. You have to match the song's energy to have a feeling of escape.

2. I took the time and put all my attention towards this listening experience. It means that you have to really invest your energy into the music to really capture this “place” message hidden between the notes.
3. The listener has to think about what the piece reminds him of or what the piece causes them to think about to create a feeling of escape. If you think about what the music relates to, you can escape to that position or time period.