

Music in Religion

Summary

The activity is a discussion about the use of music after listening to different religious songs.

Description of the activity

The teacher can use the websites used in Paragraph 3 of Chapter 3.

Christian songs (lyrics are available):

<http://www.songsforteaching.com/religious/childrensreligiousinspirationalsongs.htm>

Islamic songs:

<http://www.assabile.com/anasheed>

Religious songs from India:

<https://folkways.si.edu/religious-music-of-india/sacred-world/album/smithsonian>

The teacher plays different songs from these websites (for the Christian songs he chooses, he can use the lyrics available on the website).

Following the listening, the teacher introduces a discussion with the class about the role of music in religion. Why is music important? What messages does it convey? How can religious people use it? What are the benefits of music in a religious context? The teacher can also suggest an analysis of lyrics.

Activity structure

- **Preferred premises of the activity:** the activity should be held in class or outside if the teacher can carry the resources outside. The best idea is to have an open and non-formal environment for the students to feel safe to express their thoughts.
- **Resources needed:** A computer with an internet connection and loudspeakers.
- **Recommended number of people participating:** between 15 and 20 students
- **Previous knowledge of participants necessary:** none
- **Activity duration:** The activity can be held as one time event during class.

Learning Objectives

The students will think and discuss about the use of music in religion and the role of music.

Expected Outcomes

The aim of the activity is to have a non-formal (a rather “casual”) discussion about music. After the listening, they can think about what this kind of songs bring to religious people.

Target group

Students between 12 and 17 years of age.





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Subject of the curriculum in which the activity could be implemented

Music
Philosophy
History

Learning objects to be used with this activity

The following websites:

Christian songs:

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<https://folkways.si.edu/religious-music-of-india/sacred-world/album/smithsonian>



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