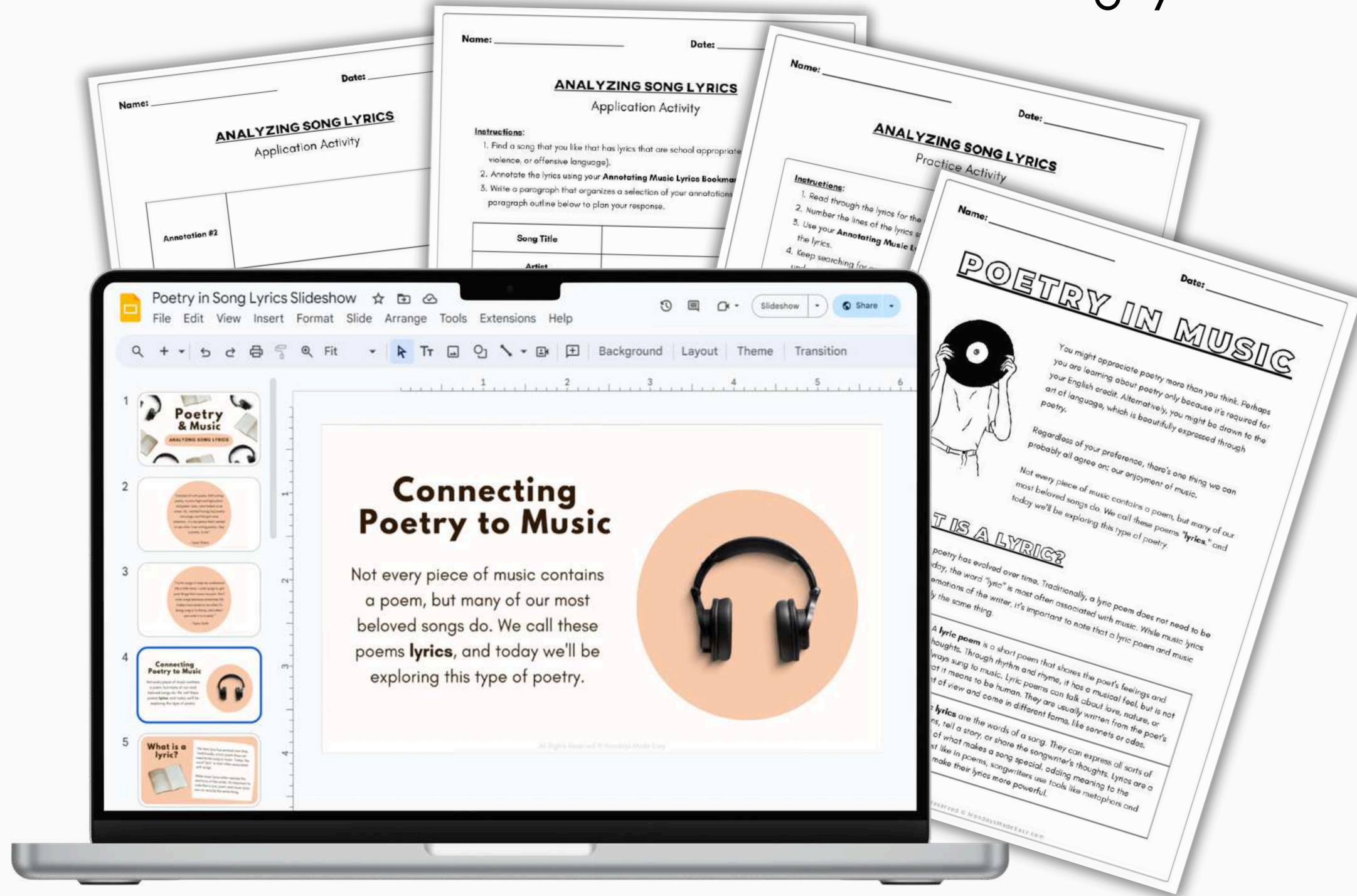


Teach Poetry with Song Lyrics

This song lyric analysis lesson introduces poetry analysis through your students' favorite song lyrics!



- Explore poetry through popular culture by **analyzing song lyrics**, making close reading relevant and engaging for students
- Explore a slideshow lesson and informational handout to facilitate understanding of the **relationship between music lyrics and poetic elements**
- Teach the close reading processes through the use of **graphic organizers** and **annotation bookmarks**

Introduce poetry analysis using students' favorite song lyrics!

PURCHASE HERE

See what others are saying...

Here's what teachers like you are loving about this **Song Analysis Lesson!**

 **Extremely Satisfied**

From the moment I downloaded this resource, I could tell that the seller put a great deal of thought and effort into its development. The content is not only comprehensive but also incredibly engaging, making it a perfect fit for my diverse group of students. The materials provided are well-organized and easy to implement, saving me precious planning time.

– Get Lit with Vee (TPT Seller)

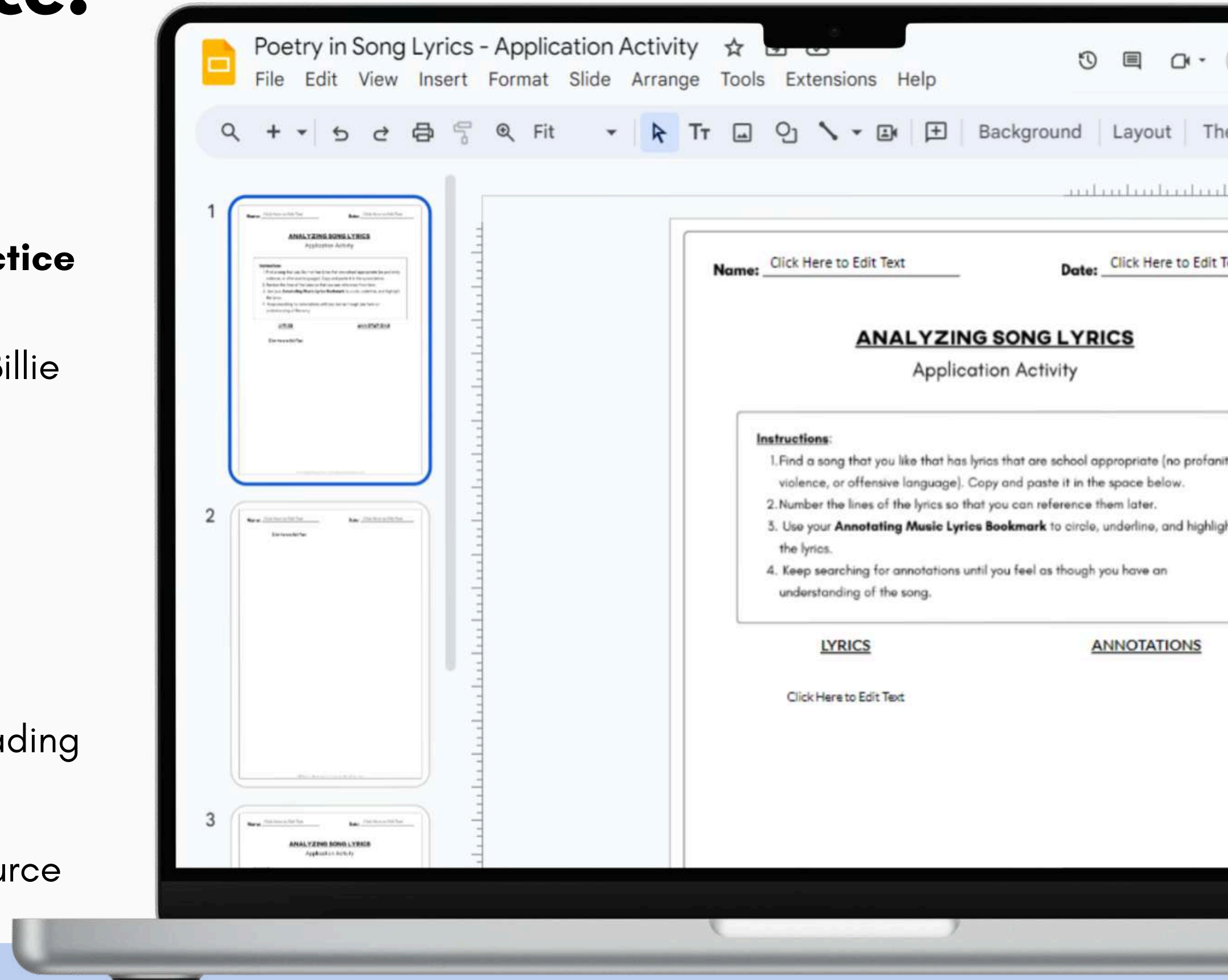
 **Extremely Satisfied**

This is such a great way to end the school year for seniors! Allowing for them to analyze songs of their time, my time and throwbacks! They absolutely loved this and this was perfect for my students with special needs to use!

– Ms. Ricci

Included with this resource:

- ✓ Poetry in Song Lyrics **Slideshow Lesson**
- ✓ Poetry in Song Lyrics **Informational Handout**
- ✓ Practice **Close Reading** and **Annotation Practice Activity**
 - Model the analysis of “Therefore I Am” by Billie Eilish
- ✓ **Application Activity** for Any Song Lyrics
- ✓ Song Analysis Paragraph **Graphic Organizer**
- ✓ Annotating Music Lyrics **Bookmark**
- ✓ Annotated **Answer Key** for Practice Close Reading Activity
- ✓ **Teacher Instructions** for how to use this resource



Includes Digital Version for Google Drive®

Poetry in Song Lyrics Slideshow Lesson

This lesson explores the connection between poetry and music, showing its relevance to culture, history, and students' lives

Practice

Read through the lyrics of a song called "**Therefor**

Number the lines of the lyrics that you can refer to

Poetry & Music

ANALYZING SO

How do we read song lyrics?

Lyrics as similar to poetry and line fits complete thoughts and emotions and are immediately relatable.

Connecting Poetry to Music

Not every piece of music contains a poem, but many of our most beloved songs do. We call these poems **lyrics**, and today we'll be exploring this type of poetry.

Practice

Use your **Annotating Music Lyrics Bookmark** to circle, underline, and highlight the lyrics.

Keep searching for annotations until you feel as though you have an understanding of the song.

ANNOTATING Music Lyrics BOOKMARK

PARAGRAPH RESPONSE
State the meaning of the song in the topic sentence and use annotations as supporting points.

ESSAY RESPONSE
State the meaning of the song in your thesis statement and group annotations together to explore in body paragraphs.

DISCUSSION
Share your annotation a partner or with a group. peers to determine shared understandings.
Create a presentation of your annotations each one will be shared.

Step 1: Initial Read
Read through the lyrics out loud or in your head to get a general sense of the meaning.

Step 2: Initial Reaction
What is your emotional response to the lyrics? Write down your questions and thoughts.

Step 3: Vocabulary
Circle any words or terms that you don't know. Look them up in the dictionary and write down their meaning.

Step 4: Poetic Devices
Search for any similes, metaphors, imagery, etc. Note their effect on the poem as a whole.


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Poetry in Song Lyrics Informational Handout

Students can refer to the informational handout to review the material while completing the lesson's activities

Name: _____ Date: _____

POETRY IN MUSIC



You might appreciate poetry more than you think. Perhaps you are learning about poetry only because it's required for your English credit. Alternatively, you might be drawn to the art of language, which is beautifully expressed through poetry.

Regardless of your preference, there's one thing we can probably all agree on: our enjoyment of music.

Not every piece of music contains a poem, but many of our most beloved songs do. We call these poems "**lyrics**," and today we'll be exploring this type of poetry.

WHAT IS A LYRIC?

The term *lyric* in poetry has evolved over time. Traditionally, a lyric poem does not need to be sung to music. Today, the word "lyric" is most often associated with music. While music lyrics often express the emotions of the writer, it's important to note that a lyric poem and music lyrics are not exactly the same thing.

Lyric Poem	A lyric poem is a short poem that shares the poet's feelings and thoughts. Through rhythm and rhyme, it has a musical feel, but is not always sung to music. Lyric poems can talk about love, nature, or what it means to be human. They are usually written from the poet's point of view and come in different forms, like sonnets or odes.
Music Lyrics	Music lyrics are the words of a song. They can express all sorts of emotions, tell a story, or share the songwriter's thoughts. Lyrics are a big part of what makes a song special, adding meaning to the music. Just like in poems, songwriters use tools like metaphors and rhymes to make their lyrics more powerful.

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Name: _____ Date: _____

HOW DO WE READ SONG LYRICS?

Song lyrics, similar to many other forms of poetry, may not be immediately understood. This is because their meaning is not always straightforward. We can think of song lyrics as similar to puzzles: each word and line fits together to create a complete picture, conveying emotions and stories that might not be immediately obvious at first glance.

Since song lyrics are like puzzles, we might need to read closely to gain a better understanding of the song's message. To do this, we can engage in a process called **annotating**.

Annotating involves reading through the lyrics, highlighting or circling important parts of the poem, and writing our thoughts in the margins of the song.

Important parts of the poem may include words, phrases, or lines that stand out to us, as well as literary devices or words whose meanings are not yet clear to us. The **thoughts** that we note can include questions, definitions, reactions, and commentary on the poetic elements or figurative language used throughout the poem.

Try not to get frustrated if song lyrics don't make sense immediately. Solving the puzzle within each song is what makes poetry so exciting. Remember to be patient and have fun!

*"I started off with poetry. With writing poetry, in junior high and high school. And poets, I saw, were looked on as wimps. So, I started turning [my] poetry into songs, and that got more attention... It is my opinion that I started to rap when I was writing poetry... Rap is poetry, to me."
- Tupac Shakur*

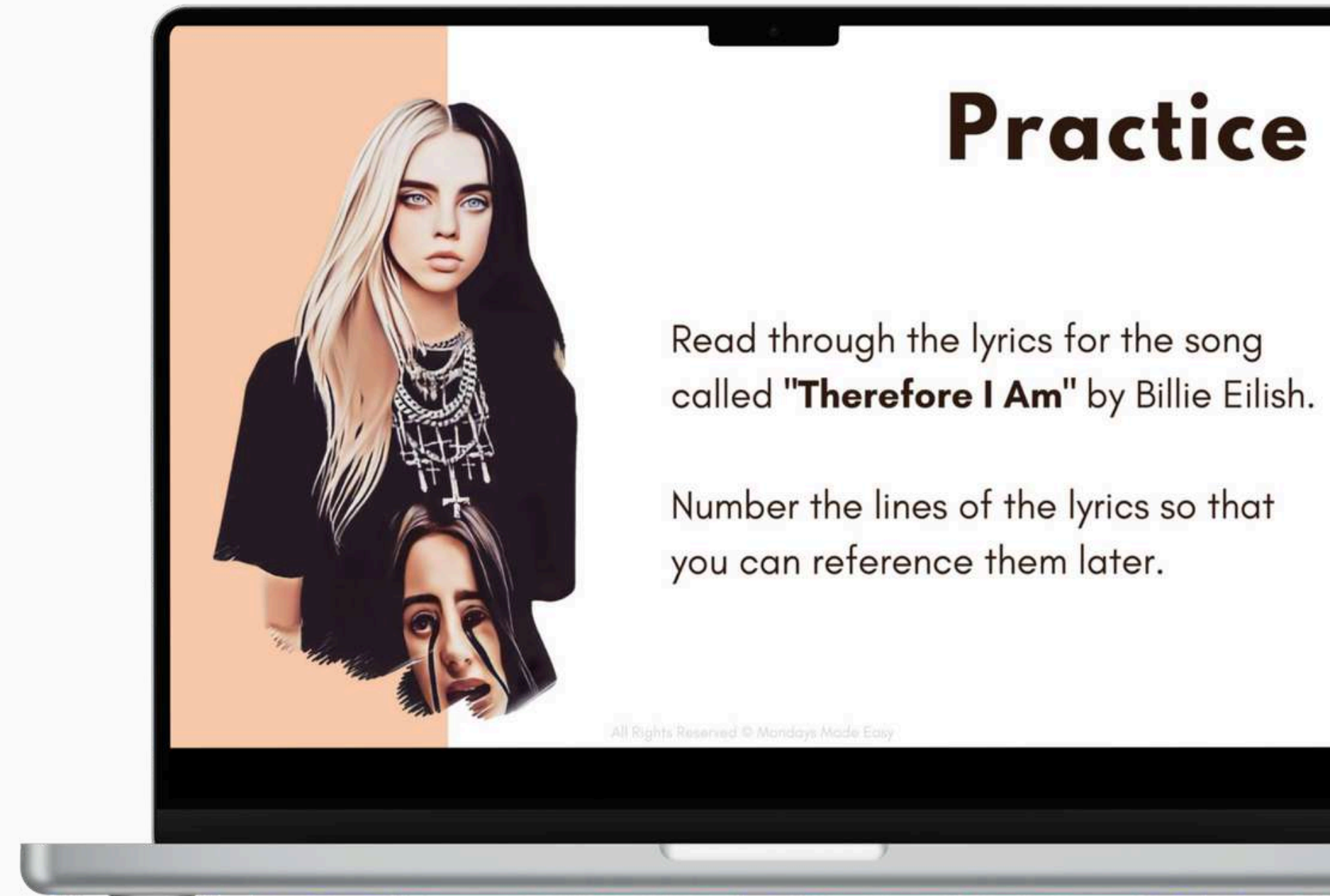
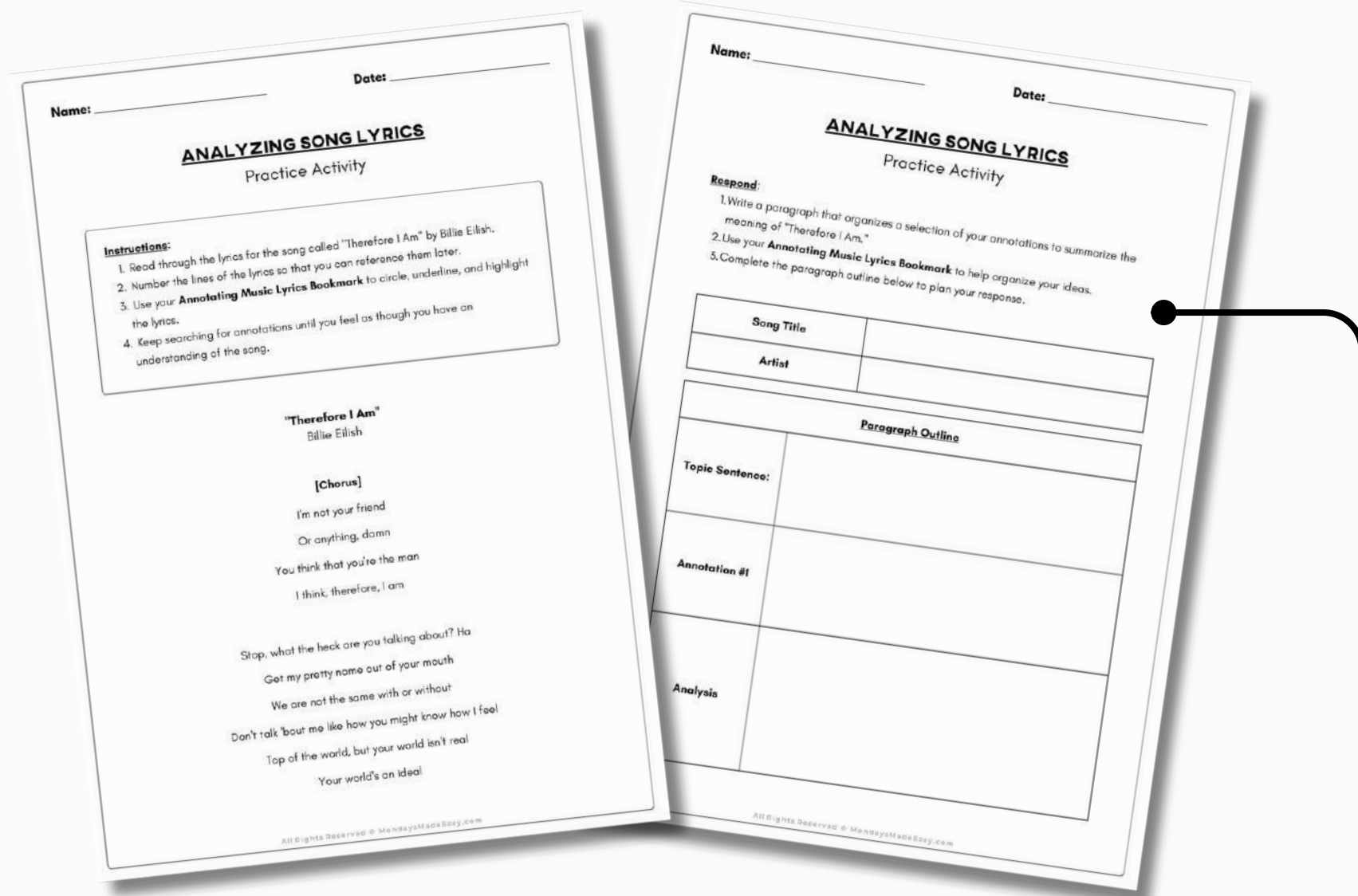
*"I write songs to help me understand life a little more. I write songs to get past things that cause me pain. And I write songs because sometimes life makes more sense to me when it's being sung in a chorus, and when I can write it in a verse."
- Taylor Swift*

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Offers an **overview of key concepts** from the lesson!

Practice Close Reading and Annotation Practice Activity

This activity models the close reading and annotation process using the song lyrics for "Therefore I Am" by Billie Eilish



Includes **graphic organizers** to help students structure and organize their writing!

Application Activity for Any Song Lyrics

This activity will assess and consolidate students' independent understanding of the skills taught in this lesson

Name: _____ Date: _____

ANALYZING SONG LYRICS
Application Activity

Annotation #2	

Analysis

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Name: _____ Date: _____

ANALYZING SONG LYRICS
Application Activity

Instructions:

1. Find a song that you like that has lyrics that are school appropriate (no profanity, violence, or offensive language).
2. Annotate the lyrics using your **Annotating Music Lyrics Bookmark**.
3. Write a paragraph that organizes a selection of your annotations. Complete the paragraph outline below to plan your response.

Song Title	
Artist	

Paragraph Outline

Topic Sentence:	
Annotation #1	
Analysis	

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Students will complete the activity by **finding their own songs** to analyze!

**PROMOTE
STUDENT
CHOICE!**

Annotating Music Lyrics Bookmark

This bookmark guides close reading with step-by-step lyric annotation instructions, plus extension activities and writing support

Students can use this bookmark as a **personal anchor chart** to **independently read, annotate, and write** about music lyrics!

