

W209 Usability Test - Historical Trends in Popular Music
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Instructions:

Users will answer a list of questions using the dashboards we have provided. Interactions may include clicking, hovering, dragging, highlighting, and typing.

1. Please open the following links to the dashboards in separate tabs:
 - a. [Dashboard 1](#)
 - b. [Dashboard 2](#)
 - c. [Dashboard 3](#)
2. Please answer the questions in writing in the order they are asked, using information from the dashboards.
3. At the end, please answer the debriefing questions.

Tasks:

1. Is the percentage of rock songs increasing or decreasing over time?
2. What was the percentage of pop songs in 2018?
 - a. List the values of their audio features:
 - i. Danceability:
 - ii. Energy:
 - iii. Speechiness
 - iv. Acousticness
 - v. Liveness
 - vi. Valence
3. Which year has the most number of hits?
 - a. What genre has the most hits?
4. How has the average duration of songs in the rap genre changed over time?
5. Compare and contrast two genres in a year of your choice.
6. Compare and contrast how the different audio features have changed over time for R&B and pop music.
7. Find the valence and energy score for “We Are Never Getting Back Together” and “Cool For The Summer.”
8. Which song has the lowest valence and highest energy?
9. Look at two of your favorite artists that are in the database & Compare the average valence and energy
10. Look up the valence and energy for your favorite song and find 3 closely related songs and compare how different their valence and energy values are.
11. Compare the audio feature values of one genre for hit songs vs non-hit songs from 1980 to 2020.

Debriefing Questions:

1. What was your overall impression of the dashboards?
2. What was the best and worst part of the dashboards?

3. Are there any changes you would make?
4. Is there anything else you would like to share?

Thank you for your participation!

MoSCoW Prioritization:

Must Have:

- Have checkbox for genres and have some instructions (1st viz)
- Remove “average” in front of audio features (1st viz)
- Get rid of liveness and loudness (1st + 2nd + 3rd vizs)
- Splitting up first viz charts to separate pages
 - Audio features of songs by genre - this is too big and it should be its own blown up (1st viz)
- Lots of data on one page → may cause page to freeze (2nd viz)
 - Add genre filter / song year filter
 - Initialize pop songs of last 5 years
- Average Valence Tooltip bug fix (2nd viz)
- Write instructions for hover over songs (2nd viz)

Should Have:

- Have dropdown for artist, in addition to song name search (2nd viz)
- Percentage instead of number of hits by genre (1st viz)
- Percentage instead of number for songs released by genre (1st viz)
- Have dropdown for artist, in addition to song name search (2nd viz)
- Artist name in the tooltip as well (2nd viz)
- Get rid of average on the reference lines (2nd viz)

Could Have:

- Modify noisy/choppy lines to be smoother (3rd viz)
- Have filter zoom in once a person selects a song for easier viewing and finding related songs (2nd viz)
- Show related songs once selection has been made (maybe through filter zoom or a table) (2nd viz)
- Get rid of “all” in selection (3rd viz)

Will Not Have:

- Trend line for hit and non-hit songs to add to line charts (3rd viz)