

**Title of Session:** Learning From Lyrics

**Moderator:** Johnathan Chase

**Guest Speaker:** Christopher Chase

**Title of File:** 20070821lyrics

**Date:** August 21, 2007

Room: Learning From Lyrics Group

**BJB2:** John, can we start with introductions?

**ChristopC:** Where do you teach, BJB?

**BJB2** . o O ( and a reminder to go to the Actions menu in the top right of your chat and click on DETACH )

**BJB2:** I teach in south central Pennsylvania, Chris

**ChristopC:** Cool.

**JohnathanC:** I teach in central NY 7/8 social studies

**BJB2:** Chris, do you teach?

**ChristopC:** I teach ESL culture and communication classes to University students, in Japan...

**BJB2:** how cool!

**BJB2:** do you know about the Webheads?

**ChristopC:** Right now my son and I are visiting here in NY, we have to catch a plane back on Thursday... and no, I don't know about the Webheads.

**BJB2:** [www.webheads.info](http://www.webheads.info)

**ChristopC:** ;^)

**JohnathanC:** I'll take a look too

**BJB2:** webheads are an international group of EFL/ESL teachers

**BJB2:** they're currently doing a lot of work in Second Life

**ChristopC:** Great, yeah, I will check it out...

**JohnathanC:** Was planning to pick up where I left off last month and also share some of Chris's work with music

**BJB2:** I'd love to see some of Chris's work...and always happy to see your information, John.

**JohnathanC:** Ok, Chris has a young child with him and may be away from his computer occasionally

**JohnathanC:** I did add a new file today that references his work

**JohnathanC:** Shall we?

**BJB2** nods enthusiastically

**JohnathanC:** try InMyLife.doc and Chris is back!

**ChristopC:** Hi. Yeah, there are two there, an html version and a word version...

**DavidW** joined the room.

**DavidW** waves

**ChristopC:** Hi David

**DavidW:** Hi

**ChristopC:** Are you a teacher?

**BJB2:** David, we're looking at InMyLife.doc under featured files

**DavidW** nods to BJ

**DavidW:** I work with teachers, Chris, actually. I help them learn more about educational technology - things like Tapped In

**ChristopC:** Cool! I've been doing a lot of work with cross-cultural communication and telecollaboration, as well as music and cultural things. This InMyLife doc is a webpage I created for my students, with info on the songs I put together on a CD and pass out to the class.

**ChristopC:** It's kinda funny really, John and I have been doing similar stuff but tonight is the first time we are coming together like this, online.

**DavidW** smiles

**JohnathanC:** I've taught him well.

**DavidW:** Where in Japan are you?

**DavidW** . o O ( near )

**ChristopC:** Fukuoka, its in Southern Japan. A bit too far from NY, but a great place to live.

**DavidW** smiles

**ChristopC:** Where do you live, David?

**BJB2:** one of our helpdesk volunteers, Keiko Schneider, is from Japan, but now lives in Texas.

**DavidW:** close to New York City, in New Jersey

**ChristopC:** Cool!

**JohnathanC:** did you get a chance to read the introduction to InMyLife?

**MicheleLa** joined the room.

**BJB2:** Michele is joining you to learn a little about Tapped In and the discussions we have

**JohnathanC:** great!

**BJB2:** Michele, what foreign language do you teach?

**MicheleLa:** French and Spanish

**BJB2** . o O ( Christopher teaches EFL in Japan )

**JohnathanC:** Hola!

**BJB2:** and Johnathan teaches kids to communicate in NY

**JohnathanC:** ...and music is the universal language!

**DavidW** . o O ( in "various" languages )

**MicheleLa:** Hola. So true

**BJB2** . o O ( different languages, but same ultimate destination )

**DavidW** smiles

**ChristopC:** Do you guys use music with your students?

**BJB2** . o O ( only if I can make it loud enough to drown them out )

**DavidW** gets BJ bigger speakers

**ChristopC:** LOL

**ChristopC:** I use DVDs and YouTube music videos a lot.

**DavidW** wonders if Christopher knows about the WebHeads

**JohnathanC:** I use music to introduce historic documents and also help my students make cross curricular connections!

**BJB2:** for average kids, music is great..but when you're dealing with LD, mental health, etc, music just acts as an abrasive

**MicheleLa:** I think that depends on the kid. remember music soothes the savage beast:-)

**JohnathanC:** I was working this summer as a youth employment counselor...very needy kids

**ChristopC:** That could be true. Depends on the kids, and the songs...

**BJB2:** very true, Michele.

**BJB2:** what was your experience like, John?

**JohnathanC:** I used music and videos to bring the students together

**JohnathanC:** we talked about risk taking and depression/suicide

**MicheleLa:** country music? LOL

**BJB2:** how many kids did you have in the group?

**JohnathanC:** the music/lyrics actually helped to stimulate discussion ....34 students

**ChristopC:** ((country music)) ha.. LOL

**BJB2:** were you alone with the students or did you have other adults with you?

**BJB2** is very impressed that John would approach such a volatile topic with such a large group

**JohnathanC:** Other counselors were in the room

**DavidW:** what music?

**ChristopC:** What songs did you use John?

**JohnathanC:** We started to talk about the topic of risk taking by watching the video for "Warning" by Green Day and tried to identify all the risky behaviors in the video

**ChristopC:** <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FnwnWMtTNJE>

**MicheleLa:** was it just guys in your group?

**JohnathanC:** Guys and girls. click on Chris's link to watch...

**DavidW** smiles

**ChristopC:** I often introduce Eric Clapton to my students, tell them about his life and problems, drug addiction, failed relationships, then I play Tears in Heaven for them, after relating the story of how his son died and how it totally changed him.

**ChristopC:** Tears in Heaven, with subtitles: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VRsJIAJvOSM>

**ChristopC:** He gave up both alcohol and drugs after that.

**MicheleLa:** how did his son die?

**ChristopC:** He fell out the window of a building in NYC, 50 plus stories up...

**MicheleLa:** oh, God...now I remember

**ChristopC:** I tell them the story or show them this...  
<http://www.snopes.com/music/songs/tears.asp>

**ChristopC:** It's really heavy though, so you gotta know your class. I always ask them to write essays responding, sometimes finding out that kid's have known someone who died, which gives them a chance to tell their story, their experience.

**ChristopC:** I also share a lot of upbeat songs.

**BJB2:** as does John...if you would like to read past transcripts of John's Learning From Lyrics, go to [www.tappedin.org/transcripts](http://www.tappedin.org/transcripts)

**JohnathanC:** Music makes smart!

**JohnathanC:** Different type of session tonight

**ChristopC:** Thanks BJB (smile)

**ChristopC:** I hope I can join you guys again, after I get back to Japan.

**JohnathanC:** me too

**BJB2:** I hope so also, Chris!

**DavidW:** Good to meet you, Chris. Safe travels

**ChristopC:** Thanks guys.

**BJB2** . o O ( long trip with a young child...good luck! )

**ChristopC:** John and I have been talking this trip about trying to get some of his older students together with my college kids, using a Moodle discussion board.

**BJB2:** how cool

**ChristopC:** Have you all thought about setting up an asynchronous board?

**BJB2:** you could also use Tapped In

**DavidW:** We have discussion boards here in Tapped In, Chris

**ChristopC:** Yes, definitely.

**BJB2:** the threaded discussion boards are asynch

**ChristopC:** Great! I will check them out.

**ChristopC:** I've been doing a project for the last three years with a teacher in Korea, connecting our class online.

**BJB2:** Thanks, John, for bringing someone to show and tell ;-)

**DavidW:** Check out [www.webheads.info](http://www.webheads.info)

**ChristopC:** I will. Thanks.

**DavidW** . o O ( WebHeads - group of international ESL/EFL teachers - meet here on

Sundays at 12pm GMT )

**MicheleLa**: cool. what have you been doing Chris?

**JohnathanC**: thanks everyone

**ChristopC**: We just try and get them to communicate, using English

**ChristopC**: Will the lights be turned out, John?

**ChristopC**: Those ESL/EFL teachers meet here or at Webheads, David?

**ChristopC**: So many questions, so little time.... (smile)

**DavidW**: they meet here, Chris

**DavidW**: They ARE the WebHeads - they use a variety of online tools for interactions

**ChristopC**: Cool. I will try to sync into that...

**DavidW**: they have a web site so you can learn a bit more about them

**DavidW**: very cool group

**BJB2**: The next Learning From Lyrics discussion will be on September 18

**ChristopC**: Be there or be square.

**DavidW** smiles^2

**BJB2** groans

**JohnathanC**: bye all

**DavidW**: Thanks, you guys

**ChristopC**: You are very welcome. Do you join that Sunday group, David?

**DavidW**: just login

**ChristopC** joined the room.

**BJB2** waves goodnight and heads for bed. SOME of us have to go to school in the morning ;-)

**DavidW** hugs BJ

**ChristopC:** Take care BJB