

Mining The Hits - Show 9

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Developed for the Music Circle - "Hits and Hooks" podcast

Produced by Every One's A Star Records

Mining The Hits

Here are this weeks minings from the hits to use as inspiration for your vocabulary practice...

Vocals

- "A Change Would Do You Good", Sheryl Crow
- 0:00 to end. As mentioned in this week's show, the lyrics are delivered with a staccato style. That is, the sung notes are cut off early before the next sung note, not all the time, but a lot of the time.

Beat

- "Stir It Up", Bob Marley
- 0:06 to 0:18 The kick is providing the backbeat, rather than defining beat 1 as it usually does in other genres. **Bass**
- "Stir It Up", Bob Marley
- 0:19 to end The bass defines beat one. It's quite loud in the mix. It is playing a different riff patterns in verse and chorus sections. Both patterns move up though after the root note on beat 1.

Keyboards

- "Havana", Camila Cabello
- 0:00 to 0:30 Right hand triads on the off-beat answering to the single note bass run. The bass run is performed in the songs on a bass guitar. But the part could be played with piano left hand providing the bass run on the beat

Guitar

- "Tequila Sunrise", Eagles
- 0:00 to 0:18 Acoustic guitar, might be a 12 string, with an interesting strum pattern. It's a two bar strum phrase that includes a strong hit on beat 1 of the first bar, and an anticipation into beat 1 of the second bar

Solo

- "When Love Comes To Town", U2, B. B. King
- 1:40 to 1:57 Very simple and slowish riff that's repeated 4 times. The reverb and long sustain of the notes contribute a lot to the sound. Longs sustain is characteristic of playing an electric guitar.

Melody

- "Angry", Rolling Stones
- 0:00 to 0:47 Melody starts high, stays high, then drops at the end of the phrase

- 0:47 to 1:06 Melody starts low, then goes high, and continues up and down, with part of it staying flat in the second half
- 1:06 to end Same basic structure continues for verse and chorus but with more variation

Story

- "Diamonds And Rust", Joan Baez
- Main idea: We were a thing, but it's water gone under the bridge now
- Supporting ideas: No hard feelings. I loved you then. It ripped my heart out but I managed to move on. I'm hesitant to invest emotionally again. I remember this and that and this. You and the time we spent together still mean a lot to me

Songwriting (Lyrics)

- "Handy Man", James Taylor
- James take the language of home repair and applies it to love. Metaphor

Production

- "Fairytale Of New York", The Pogues, Kirsty MacColl
- Two distinct sonic treatments in the song
- 0:00 to 1:23 Smooth, like a movie sound track
- 1:23 to 2:40 Traditional Irish pub song sound
- 2:40 to end A mix of the two

Song Form

- "The Rose", Bette Midler
- Classic A A B A song form.
- 0:07 to 0:21 First A Section
- 0: 21 to 0:38 Second A Section
- 0: 38 to 0:54 B Section
- 0: 54 to 1:07 Return to A