

Student Handout: Unit 3 Lesson 5



American Cultural Influence

Suggested time: 2 Hours

What's important in this lesson:

It has been suggested that Canada has a love-hate relationship with the United States. Some historians have suggested that a part of our Canadian identity is being “anti-American”, yet we embraced and accepted much of the American culture. This lesson will examine one way American culture has had an impact on the Canadian identity.

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Complete these steps:

1. In 1955, a Halifax radio announcer said the following:
“The popularity of blaring, bouncing and bashing rock and roll has a limited audience. It’s very popular among the younger set, but that’s it. Only a rare selection becomes a favourite with everybody.”

Write a response to the quotation. Do you agree or disagree with it? Give reasons for your answer.
2. Use the internet and the scrapbook to research Rock and Roll in the 1950’s and 1960’s. Create a “Rock and Roll Organizer”.
 - a) On one side of your organizer put the heading Rock and Roll.
 - b) On the other side, the heading Not Rock and Roll. List information from your research in the appropriate column.
 - c) If possible, listen to music from the 1950’s and 1960’s. Your teacher may be able to play some music or you can hear music on some internet sites.
 - d) On your organizer list the bands, groups, or solo singers that would be classified as rock and roll. List all others in the Not Rock and Roll section.
3. Traditionally, most of the music from this era was from the United States. Give two to three reasons for this. Write this down on the back of your organizer.
4. Continue your research on the impact and influence of American Rock and Roll on Canadian teenagers using *The Canadiana Scrapbook*, any available text, the internet, or any other resources.
5. Create a Rock and Roll Poster. Your poster can do one of the following:
 - Promote a band from the 1950’s or 1960’s OR
 - Warning of the dangers of rock and roll. This one is sponsored by a parents’ group.Refer to the Rock and Roll Rubric for a sense of how the poster will be evaluated.

Hand-in the following to your teacher:

1. Rock and Roll Organizer
2. Rock and Roll Poster

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Questions for the teacher: