

# Hip-Hop and Rap

Hip-Hop culture originated in the Bronx, New York City. In the 1970s, this area was very run down and Hip-Hop became a way for the younger generation to express themselves.

The term “Hip-Hop” covers more than just music; it is an entire culture that includes fashion, street art/graffiti and break dancing.

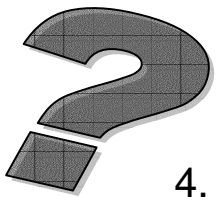
Some of the earliest Hip-Hop musicians were Grandmaster Flash, DJ Kool Herc and Run DMC. This music became popular to the masses in America through MTV and Hollywood films. Hip-Hop is now one of the most successful and widespread types of music in the world.



**How is Hip-Hop made?** You will all recognize a DJ standing in front of 2 turntables or “decks”. On these decks are 2 records playing at the same time. Often, the records are old funk or soul records. Using parts of other records is called “sampling”. The DJ finds a small chunk of the song he wants to use, called a “break” and he repeats it by moving the record back to the start of the break with his hand. This is known as “scratching”. This is the musical basis of Hip-Hop. Usually you will find an MC who raps over the top of this, often making up complex rhymes on the spot – “free styling”.



Ok – so that’s a basic introduction to this type of music, now have a go at answering the questions below - BEWARE! Not all the questions have answers on this sheet; you will need to use your own knowledge or opinions for some!



1. Where did Hip-Hop start?
2. Give one reason why Hip-Hop started.
3. Apart from rap music, name some other aspects of Hip-Hop culture.
4. Name 2 of the earliest Hip-Hop musicians.
5. Name 3 recent Hip-Hop musicians?
6. Do you like Hip-Hop? Why / Why not?
7. What is “sampling”?
8. Can you write a brief description of how Hip-Hop is made?
9. Give 2 musical reasons why Eminem’s music is different than the Sugababes’.

**Homework** – listen to some rap and find out some information about who performed it. Bonus marks if you find something that is not Eminem, 50 Cent etc.

