



## SONGWRITING TASK (18<sup>th</sup> March 2020)

### Hello Musical Connections Gang!

Please see a video I have recorded for you here: [https://youtu.be/TgZE\\_3REXCQ](https://youtu.be/TgZE_3REXCQ)

As musicians and songwriters we can be inspired by all sorts of things around us. Other art forms, like painting, illustrations, dance, theatre and spoken word. We can take inspiration from nature and the world outside. We can write about the way that we feel or the way other people feel. We can write songs about the space that we're in.

The last point feels very poignant right now with many of us spending more time in our homes.

So my instructions for your songwriting session are as follows:

1. Find one or more objects in your home. They could be completely mundane or very sentimental. The likelihood is that there will be lots of things around our homes that make us feel happy! Maybe things that we've forgotten about!  
*Examples: Photograph, a plant, a toy, an item of clothing, a book, an instrument.*
2. Write down all the words and phrases that YOU feel towards that object.
3. Examine your object(s) and write down all of the words that come into your mind as you look at that item. Descriptions, colours, as many mundane things or completely abstract things that you can think of.
4. Next try to personify that object. How is it feeling right now? Maybe your plant is pleased that you'll be spending more time at home with it because it's sometimes neglected and not watered enough? (I know mine are!) If it could speak - what would it say? Write everything down!
5. You should now have lots of words and phrases written down on your paper. Choose out some of your favourites and use these to create a title or theme for your song.
6. Once you have a title or a theme, spend a few minutes writing down everything that comes into your head on that subject - words, phrases and ideas.
7. By now you should have a lot of material and a clear idea of what your song will be about! Start writing some lyrics for a verse or chorus.
8. Listen to (or play) the chords that I've included below. I've recorded them as well so you can listen here: [https://soundcloud.com/quench\\_arts/musical-connections-group-song-](https://soundcloud.com/quench_arts/musical-connections-group-song-)

[backing-track-april-2020](#). See if you can sing a melody with your words to this backing track. Make a recording on your phone or another device if you get this far and if you can!

9. Wherever you get up to, send recordings or lyrics back to Quench Arts ([info@quench-arts.co.uk](mailto:info@quench-arts.co.uk)) so we can all see what we've created and, with your permission, we may share some online or develop them in the next session. All of the ideas will have come from nothing but what's inside our homes - that should make us feel a little more inspired if we do end up being inside for longer than we would like!

Here are the chords if you want to play along with an instrument!

Verse: C, Bb6, Gm7

Pre-Chorus: Am, C, Am, Fmaj7

Chorus: C, F, Am, Bb  
C, F, Am, Bb, Bbm

Middle 8: Am, C, Am, Fmaj7

Enjoy!

James