



Online Musical Workbooks

Dyrol Pomare

Whitireia Community Polytechnic
Porirua, New Zealand

D.Pomare@whitireia.ac.nz

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ABSTRACT

The use of online workbooks to teach and test IT subjects have been used by major vendors such as Microsoft and Cisco for some time. Layout and formatting of these existing online workbooks follow a book or pdf format.

During 2001 I researched the use of lyrical form in text layout. as part of this research I investigated if No. 1's become popular due to melody or lyrical pattern. In deciding on a quantitative survey, No. 1 songs from top 40 song listings from 1957 (1st Elvis No.1) to the end of 1999 were randomly chosen.

Range an application programmed by Alex Heatley, Paul Nation and Averil Coxhead of the School of Linguistics and Applied Language Studies, Victoria University was used to sort words into family groupings and word patterns.

There were 3 main lyrical patterns that emerged Convex, Concave and Same Length.

A check was then made to ensure that these patterns did not hold true for non-No.1's and there appeared to be no apparent pattern. A convex pattern builds emphasis toward the middle of verses or paragraphs and then tapers off. A concave pattern has long sentences at the beginning and end of verses or paragraphs with the middles being shorter and louder. Same Length patterns come from either a blues meter or from the commonly termed lollipop songs that repeat consonants or syllables. Lyrical patterns can be used to phonetically add emphasis and timing via stanza to strategic words or subject matter,

For students, the online workbook could be viewed in karaoke mode. Karaoke format would be especially appealing to Pacific and Asian students.

