

## TEACHER'S GUIDE

# The Cheetah Girls – “One Love” Songwriting Skill – Brainstorming Ideas

### STUDENT OBJECTIVES

- Use brainstorming strategies
- Select and use strategies to understand words and text
- Make and confirm inferences from what is read

### RESOURCES AND PREPARATION

- Guided Lyrics – Songwriter Strategy
- Student Activity – My Life Strategy

#### *Additional Online Support:*

- [www.holtmcdougal.hmhco.com](http://www.holtmcdougal.hmhco.com)
- [www.BlueNoseEd.com](http://www.BlueNoseEd.com)

## Teach

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1. **Brainstorming** is an activity that allows students to quickly generate a list of topics for any type of writing, such as a song.

- Tell students that professional songwriters find their ideas for songs from a wide variety of sources, including their own experiences, other people’s stories, and even local or world events.

**EXAMPLE:** In interviews, members of The Cheetah Girls have said that they get much their inspiration from their fans. They want their fans to receive positive messages about the importance of respecting themselves, and to pursue their dreams, whatever they may be.

2. **Teaching Brainstorming:** Remind students that when they are brainstorming, they should let their ideas flow without criticizing or editing them. Point out that there is no wrong way to brainstorm. The important thing is to overcome internal blocks and come up with as many ideas as possible. Students can use the strategies below to get started.

#### *Songwriter Strategy*

Ask: Has a song you’ve heard recently stuck in your mind more than others? What words, images, or feelings in the song caught your attention? What did they remind you of in your own life? Explain that these song lyrics can inspire students’ own ideas for a song.

**EXAMPLE:** Draw the following chart on the board, filling in the headings. Ask students to volunteer songs they like. Then ask what words, images, or feelings stand out for them in each song and what the song reminds them of in their own lives.

### Songwriter Strategy

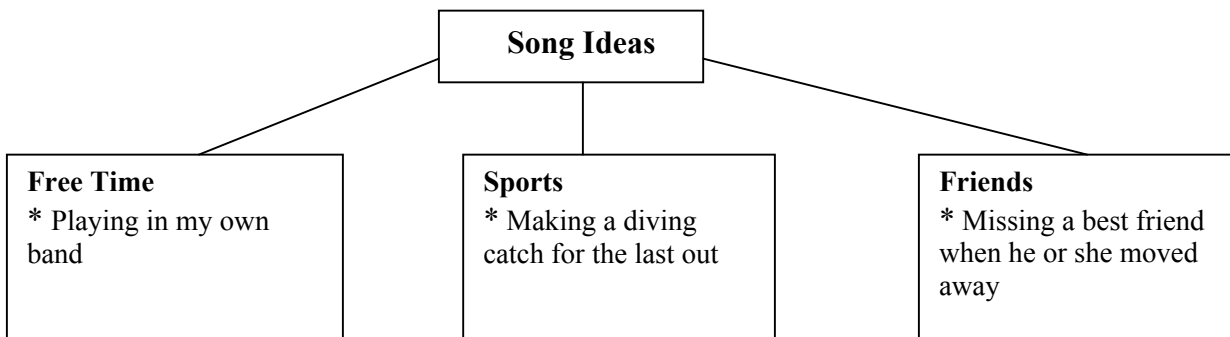
Brainstorming	The Cheetah Girls	“One World”
<b>Words, Images, Feelings</b>	<b>My Own Experiences/Feelings/Ideas</b>	
<p>“now, we see who we are in a different light we're not so far apart and anything is possible”</p> <p>“we're gathered here today everything is right cause when you give from the heart the things you do come back to you”</p>		

### My Life Strategy

Point out that students can also brainstorm ideas by drawing on their own experiences. They can use categories such as “School,” “Home,” “Sports,” “Free time,” “Family,” or “Friends” to help them generate ideas.

**EXAMPLE:** Draw the following diagram on the board, filling in the headings. Ask students to help brainstorm ideas for each box by asking questions such as:

- What do you love to do with your free time?
- What was your greatest moment in sports?
- What is your most memorable experience with a friend?



3. **Guided Practice:** How to use the Guided Practice Worksheet

Step 1 Hand out a copy of the worksheet to each student

Step 2 Guide students through the call-out questions. Encourage them to come up with more than one answer to each question.

Step 3 Brainstorm! Have students fill in the Songwriter Strategy.

**QUICK CHECK** Ask students to explain how to use at least one method for brainstorming ideas. (*Sample: Songwriter Strategy—write down the images, ideas, or feelings of a song they like and what it reminds them of in their own lives; My Life Strategy—create categories for different areas of their lives and generate ideas under each category.*)

## GUIDED PRACTICE

# The Cheetah Girls – “One Love” Songwriting Skill – Brainstorming Ideas

### ACADEMIC VOCABULARY

**Brainstorming:** Ideas can come from anywhere—a remark someone makes, a news event, your own experiences, or even other songs you hear. Brainstorming allows you to tap into all these sources. Just let yourself generate ideas without judging or criticizing them.

**DIRECTIONS** Read the lyrics to “One Love” by The Cheetah Girls. What images, ideas, and feelings do you get from the lyrics? How do these relate to your own experience?

## The Cheetah Girls

### “One World”

hey  
yay  
love always finds a way  
every single time  
once we learn to trust our heart  
and look inside, it feels like  
now, we see who we are  
in a different light  
we're not so far apart and anything is possible

with all the differences, we're stronger here  
now the truth has been discovered, oh yeah  
after all we've been through, now it's clear  
that all of us, we share

one world, one love, one all  
we're a circle together  
one world, one heart, one song  
now and forever

everybody celebrate  
bring on the party, bring on the dance  
time to let the music play  
the party never ends  
every guy and every girl  
stand up and shout, say it loud  
everyone around the world, come on and join in

#### **1: Songwriter Strategy— 1st verse**

What images stand out for you in this verse? What ideas and situations do you find inspiring?

#### **2: Songwriter Strategy--Chorus**

What key thoughts are expressed in this chorus? What ideas of your own do you think the song captures?

we're gathered here today  
everything is right  
cause when you give from the heart  
the things you do come back to you

there to be strong and brave  
not afraid to try  
that's when we see who we are  
the best of friends and that's when

with all the differences, we're stronger here  
now the truth has been discovered, oh yeah  
after all we've been through, now it's clear  
we're all, right here, to share

one world, one love, one all  
we're a circle together  
one world, one heart, one song  
now and forever

ooohhhh i never knew that love  
would find a way to bring together both of us  
now inside, i know it's true  
cause what we have is meant to be  
you let me be the real me  
together here is where we belong

(dancing)

one world, one love, one all  
we're a circle together  
one world, one heart, one song  
now and forever  
one world, one love, one all  
we're a circle together  
one world, one heart, one song  
now and forever  
we're a circle together  
now and forever  
one world

**3: Songwriter Strategy— Final verse** What feelings does this verse express? When have you felt or observed similar feelings in yourself or others?

## Songwriter Strategy for Brainstorming

**DIRECTIONS** Now use The Cheetah Girls' lyrics to help you brainstorm ideas for your own lyrics. Use the chart to help you. After you have brainstormed a few ideas, circle the idea that appeals to you the most.

Images, Ideas, Feelings	My Own Experiences/Song Ideas
1.	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.
4.	4.
5.	5.
6.	6.
7.	7.
8.	8.

# YOU TRY IT!

## Songwriting Skill – Brainstorming Ideas

### GOAL

**Brainstorming** can help you find a great song idea. By freely tapping into your own experiences, you can discover the ideas, feelings, and images that mean the most to you. Great songwriters often recommend that you write songs that “come from the heart.”

### “My Life” Strategy for Brainstorming

**DIRECTIONS** Which categories from the list below appeal to you the most? Choose three ideas. Write each idea in a box. Under each idea, list events, feelings, or images from your life that might be topics for a song. If you don’t see a category you like, feel free to make up your own. After you have brainstormed a few ideas, circle the idea that appeals to you the most.

Family	Free Time	Sports	Music/Movies	Friends	School
Nature	Pets	Fitting In	World Events	What I Love/Hate	Travel

