**LESSON PLAN**

Upper-Intermediate and Advanced Conversation

Veronika Sergeeva

**Topic: Music**

**Goal:** to have students practice speaking and listening skills; to introduce Russian music culture to students.

**Objectives:**

1. To provide students with the necessary vocabulary to enable them to discuss their interests in music;
2. To provide students with the opportunity to exchange different opinions and viewpoint on music styles and on the role music plays in society;
3. To lead the lesson plan to the conclusion that music can have personal, cultural, social, and even political significance.

**Content:**

1. **Warm-up:** Brief discussion on the upcoming Russian cultural event “Chirgulchin - Tuvan Throat Singers”: Are they interested? Do they want to go? Why? Why not?
2. **Transition to the topic:** Do they think this kind of events is important? Why are music events important and why people go to them? (1+2 = 5 min);
3. **Brainstorm:** Why do people need music? (I’m to write their ideas on the board) (5 min);
4. **Discussion:** What role music play in their lives? Would they be able to live without music? Why? Why not? (10 min)
5. **Discussion + Vocabulary (15 min):**
   1. What music styles do you like and not? Why? (I’m to write on the board those styles they mention);
   2. What other styles do you know? (I’m to add them to the list on the board);
   3. I’m to add those styles they didn’t mention at all; short discussion if they like them or not;
   4. If talking about classical music: what instruments they prefer? (to put this vocabulary on the board as well)

List of music styles:

Folk music

Ethno music

Church music

Classical music

Latin American music (salsa, tango, rumba etc.)

Blues

Jazz

Chanson

Romance

Bard songs

Electronic music

Rock music

Reggae

Pop music

Rap, hip-hop

1. **Listening (15 min):** Watching the 2,5-minute movie (part of a popular Russian TV show) about popularity of Russian rock in 1988, not long before the Perestroika (Restructuring) of the USSR: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LeSfj7MKcbU&feature=results_main&playnext=1&list=PL82BF0225A76FA2AF>
   1. I’m to explain about the TV show: what it is about, who is the anchorman, and what students will see in this movie;
   2. Watching for the first time, discussion on what they understood;
   3. I’m to give students handouts with difficult vocabulary; short discussion; I’m to answer specific questions;
   4. Watching for the second time, discussion;
2. **Follow-up discussion (10 min):** Why, do they think, Russian Rock influenced society a lot? What role this music played in Perestroika? Was it born by Perestroika or did it cause Perestroika? Do they think that music can have political significance? Are there similar periods in American history?

**Follow up:** Students will bring their favorite Russian songs + lyrics to the next class to share with everybody and will explain what they like about this songs and why. We will discuss their choices together.

**Resources:** Whiteboard, laptop + TV set, handouts.

**Vocabulary handouts for listening activity**:

1. Переполнять, переполняющий – to overcrowd, overcrowded
2. Дворцы спорта и стадионы
3. Впредь - henceforth
4. Единство нерасторжимо – indissoluble unity
5. Публицистичен – journalistic
6. Воспринимать – to percieve
7. Во главе - headed / led by smb
8. Девиз - motto
9. Оглушительный успех – deafening success (большой успех)
10. Смачный - fruity