**National 5 English & Literacy Listening Assessment**

TASK:

You are going to watch and listen to a talk given by the DJ Akala who is a member of

You can watch the talk as many times as you like. You can pause it or go back to look at any part of it again if you need to. You can make notes as you watch and listen if you find this helpful.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DSbtkLA3GrY>

**Section 0.00-4.30**

1. **Watch from 0.00-0.45** What technique does Akala use to get his audience engaged in his talk?

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1. **Watch from 0.45-4.30** Does Akala’s opening to his talk work successfully? How do you know?

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1. Why is he comparing hip-hop to Shakespeare? What ideas is he trying to challenge?

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1. Do you think this is an effective way to begin a talk? **Give two clear reasons why or why not**

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**Section 4.30-7.20**

1. **Watch 4.30-5.05** What is the difference between a grime and a hip-hop beat?

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1. **Watch 5.05-7.20** What point is Akala trying to make about rhythm and language by rapping Shakespeare’s sonnet 18?

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**Section 7.20-8.30**

1. How does he prove to the audience that the iambic (dee-dum) beat is intrinsic and important to humans?

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1. How does he use humour at this point to engage his audience further?

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1. What three things does he say the rhythm of the iambic pentameter duplicates?

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1. What is meant by ‘tonality’ in hip hop?

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**Section 8.30-12.00**

1. In your own words, explain what Akala has learnt about people’s perception (*what they think*) of Shakespeare.

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1. Does Akala agree with this view? **Quote** an example of his language (a phrase or word choice) **and explain** how that shows his agreement or disagreement.

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**Section 12-15.45**

1. **In your own words**, explain why he focuses on the concept of ‘knowledge’ in hip-hop. (What is it he is trying to suggest about hip-hop?)

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1. **Quote** an example of Akala’s language that makes it clear how he felt about the Wu-Tang Clan’s first album **and explain** how it does so.

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1. **Watch 15-15.45.** What does Akala think great art should do? (Quote)

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**Section 15.45-17.20**

1. Using **your own words** as far as possible, explain what he is trying to say about education and its purpose.

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**Section 17.20 – end**

1. How effective are his two raps at the end in conveying the point he was trying to make about hip-hop and hip-hop artists? Try to **link your explanation** to his earlier comments.

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1. The purpose of this talk is to help the audience appreciate that hip-hop is a valid form of cultural expression and should be valued as much as Shakespeare. By making reference to the text, explain how effective you feel Akala has been in achieving this purpose.

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