

If I Was President: Brainstorming

Imagine you were elected as the next president. Before you begin writing lyrics for your song, use the prompts below to brainstorm ideas for how you would lead this country.

What kind of change would you want to create?	What kind of leader would you hope to be?
What barriers would you face?	How would you break down those barriers?
How would you impact others?	Other ideas...

If I Was President: Build Your Song

Answer the questions below to create the building blocks for your song.

1. How do you want listeners to feel after listening to your song? What do you want them to think about?

2. In writing, *tone* refers to the author's attitude. Based on your answer above, what kind of tone do you want to achieve in your song? *Examples: hopeful, urgent, ironic, serious*

3. As a songwriter, you can develop tone in your lyrics through word choice. Go back and circle 5-10 words or phrases from your brainstorming and freewrite that fit your tone. You'll want to use as many of these words as possible in your lyrics.

4. What genre(s) of music are you considering? *Examples: hip-hop, pop, Cumbia, etc.*

5. Along with the lyrics, the beat and rhythm of a song help to create a feeling for the listener. Jot down ideas for how you want your song to sound: think about beat, rhythm, speed, melody, etc.

6. Songwriters often build rhythm through repetition — what phrase(s) or line(s) do you want to repeat? Use these lines to build a hook or chorus!
