Music Recording Analysis Worksheet

Step 1. Pre-listening
A. Whose voices will you hear on this recording?

B. What is the date of this recording?

Step 2. Listening
A. What is the tone or mood of this recording?
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___________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________

B. What kind of instrumentation does the song have? (Check all that apply)

   ___ Percussion (drums, cymbals, etc…)
   ___ Guitar
   ___ Bass Guitar
   ___ Strings (violins, violas, cellos, etc…)
   ___ Wind instruments (clarinets, flutes, oboes, etc…)
   ___ Keyboards (piano, synthesizer)
   ___ Brass instruments (trumpet, trombone, French horn, etc…)
   ___ Other (list: ______________________)
   ___ Other (list: ______________________)
   ___ Other (list: ______________________)

Step 3. Post-listening (or repeated listening)
A. Read through the lyrics and write a three sentence summary of the main idea of the song:
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___________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________
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___________________________________________________________________________
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B. Choose two phrases from the song that you find interesting and explain why you find them so.

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C. What evidence in the recording helps you to know why it was made? Be as specific as possible.

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D. List two things this sound recording tells you about life in the United States at the time it was made:

1. ___________________________________________________________________________

2. ___________________________________________________________________________

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E. Write a question to the singer/songwriter that is left unanswered by this sound recording.

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F. What information do you gain about this event that would not be conveyed by a written transcript? Be specific.

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This analysis sheet is an adaptation of the sound recording analysis worksheet designed and developed by the Education Staff, National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, DC 20408 and the music analysis worksheet designed by Patricia Baron Carlson and Cathy Bonneville Hix for their lesson, Stand Up And Sing: Music And Our Reform History at The Library of Congress Learning Page (http://memory.loc.gov/learn/lessons/99/sing/analysis.html)