



Listen and Appraise

- Do you like the song?
- How many singers are there?
- What instruments can you hear?
- Is there a 'hook'?
- The texture: is it thick, thin or inbetween? Are there many layers of sound, or just one/two?
- Do the dynamics (volume) of the sound change?
- Is the tempo fast or slow?
- What is the style of this music? How do you know?
- How is the song put together? What is its structure?
- What is the style of this song?
- What features of old-school hip-hop can you hear?



Synthesizer



Drums



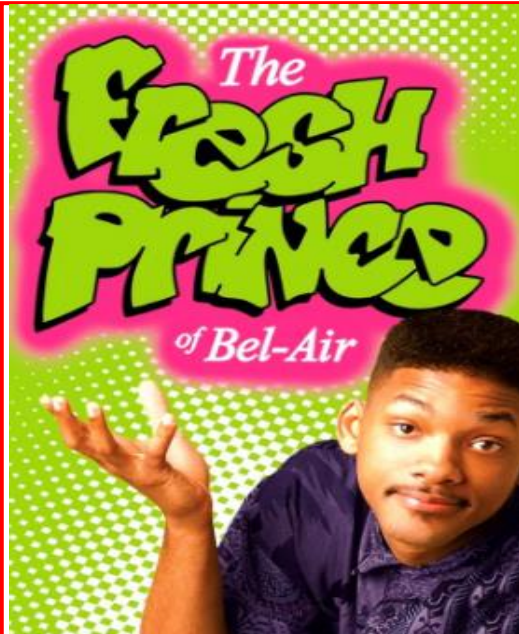
Bass



Decks



Rapper



Willard Christopher "Will" Smith, Jr. (born September 25, 1968), also known by his stage name The Fresh Prince, is an American actor, producer, and rapper.

In the late 1980s, Smith was known as a rapper under the name The Fresh Prince. In 1990, his popularity increased dramatically when he starred in the popular television series *The Fresh Prince of Bel Air*.

The show ran for nearly six years (1990–1996). The theme song, 'The Fresh Prince of Bel Air', was written and performed by Smith, as The Fresh Prince and the music was composed by Quincy Jones.

Key Vocab	Definition
Hip-hop	a style of popular music of US black and Hispanic origin, featuring rap with an electronic backing.
Urban contemporary	musical genre of the 1980s and '90s defined by recordings by rhythm-and-blues or soul artists
Funk	a style of popular dance music of US black origin, based on elements of blues and soul and having a strong rhythm
Interlude	a short piece of music that is played between the parts of a longer one
Syncopation	when the offbeats in a metre - eg beats 2 and 4 in 4/4 time - are more emphasised than the main beats
Offbeat	to put a note on the weak part of the song and a rest on the strong part