

Key concepts

- Ballads convey a range of emotions.
- Ballads have common features.
- Ballads tell a story through song.
- A song is made up of a melody and lyrics.
- A ballad usually consists of stanzas and a chorus.
- They lyrics in a ballad often rhyme.
- Sometimes in ballads (and in pop music) you will hear nonsense words, used to fill time.

Key Vocabulary

ballad	A song in short stanzas that tells a story
Melody	Tune
lyrics	Words that make up a song.
solo	A performance by a single person.
ensemble	A performance by a group.
stanza	Verse
chorus	A part of a song that recurs at intervals.
features	A distinctive attribute.

Features of a Ballad

Ballads can be humorous, romantic, or adventurous. They usually have a simple rhyme scheme, like couplets or abcb. In the English tradition, they are four line stanzas with alternating 4 and 3 beat lines. Features include:

1. Simple language
2. Stories
3. Ballad stanzas
4. Repetition
5. Dialogue
6. Third-person objective narration

Famous Modern Ballads

Sam Smith 'The Writing's on the Wall'



Rihanna 'Diamonds'

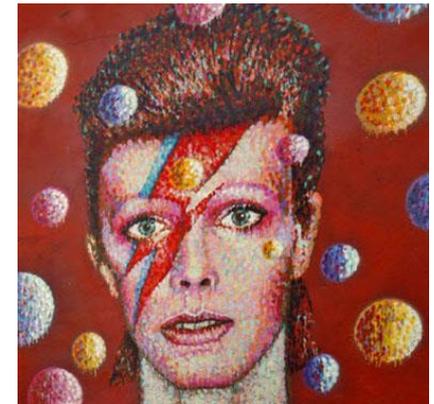
Leona Lewis 'Run'

Scorpions 'Winds of Change'

Adele 'Hello'

Things to do at home

Listen to 'Space Odyssey' By David Bowie



Can you identify the features?