



Handout 3 - Debating the Inspiration Behind Rumble

Writing Prompt:

Without lyrics, it is difficult to prove what a song may be about, or what feelings inspired it. In the second clip you watched, author and filmmaker Antonio D'Ambrosio argues that "Rumble" came about due to Wray's difficult upbringing and his bitterness at being treated badly as a Shawnee. But in the first clip you watched, Wray does not draw such a connection, rather saying that the song came to him by a sort of divine inspiration while he was on stage.

Drawing upon what you learned from the activity, write about the ways Wray's life might have led to the song "Rumble," but also the ways "Rumble" might have been otherwise inspired. Do you find one explanation more convincing than the other? Why?