

Direct Orders: Rock out like...

Name _____

Period _____ Due Date ____/____/____

Instructions: Using “Direct Orders” by Anis Majgani as a guide, create your own “Rock Out” poem. Here are the guidelines...

Content:

- The first sentence *may* be something similar to the original “You’ve been given orders to rock out!”
- The words “Rock out like...” (or whatever you choose, see above) should begin every line of your poem (except the first)
- It’s okay if the poem does *not* rhyme
- You may reference songs and other contemporary culture
- Try to convey a deep, personal meaning – not shallow, clichéd references
- Connect your poem to your own life
- **Must** be school appropriate; no profanity; no silly clichés (*yawn*)
- May have an overall theme
- Be as specific and detailed as you can – *show don’t tell*

Format:

- A minimum of 10 lines, a maximum of 40 lines
- Do not repeat a verse/line; repeated lines do not count toward the minimum

Other:

- Be creative; don’t be repetitive
- Please do not copy lines from Majgani (or any other poet)
- Your target audience members are your colleagues in the other E9H classes, teachers and other poetry café guests
- You will read the poem for the class; likely to be recorded (audio)
- See the back for sample student poems

Rock Out Like...

By Riley Zucker

Rock out like you're a 5-year-old on a sugar high
Rock out like your favorite song just came on the radio and all you've got is a
hairbrush for a microphone
Rock out like it's the 4th of July and the fireworks spell out your name
Rock out like there's a shark in the water, but you know you can swim faster than
everyone else there
Rock out like Santa Claus is real
Rock out like you were blind, but one morning you woke up and saw the sun
Rock out like the Beatles never split up and they were all still alive
Rock out like you had the power to back in time, but only to save lives
Rock out like you discovered a new species and named it after yourself
Rock out like you never again had a bad hair day
Rock out like you had the power to freeze the world, but you could keep moving
Rock out like tomorrow was a gift and you've got all of eternity to figure out what
to do with it
Rock out like your life is guaranteed to have a storybook ending

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Rock Out Like...

By Joe Walrath

Rock out like John Lennon just told you to let it be
Rock out like school's out for the summer
Rock out like you would treat the dream that money can't buy
Rock out like you went down on one knee and she just said yes
Rock out like James Brown showed you the light
Rock out like your amp goes up to eleven
Rock out like it's Newport 1956
Rock out like it's Carnegie Hall in 1938
Rock out like it's Woodstock
Rock out like you never want to stop

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