

Parody Writing Exercise

Example: The Moment I Saw Your Eyes (a.k.a. “The Moment You Need a Spy”)

THEME: Lustre - Spies for Hire!

Original Lyrics	Syllables	New Lyrics
Never really thought it could happen to a gal like me	14	Never really thought you would need us, but it's plain to see
Gosh it seems so contradictory	9	You need help to solve a mystery
Like a bit of abracadabra magicality	14	Don't have time to take your own photo, that's our specialty
Presto, change-o	4	Call on Lustre
See a different me (ba dum bum bum bum)	10	Confidentially (ba dum bum bum bum)
I made it to heaven beyond paradise	11	you need the best agents that money can buy
The moment I saw your eyes, your adorable eyes	13 (12)	the moment you need a spy (affordable spies)
A roll of a seven, a lucky surprise	11	surveillance or stakeouts, we're always nearby
The moment I saw your eyes	7	the moment you need a spy
Friends are starin' mumblin' swearin' who the ___ is she	14	We'll go sneaking, softly creeping, silent as can be
(who is she)	3	(As can be)
Once was acting down and under	7	keeping on the down and under
Now she's moving out like thunder	8	got the picture, it's no wonder!
Well when did it happen, I'm tellin' no lies	11	We'll tell you what happened, we'll tell you no lies
The moment I saw your eyes	7	The moment you need a spy
(eyes those great big flirty eyes)	7	(spy, your local Private Eye!)

Make it easy for your audience to follow along

- Adhere to the same number of syllables, and the same stress syllables as the original
- Adhere to Intro / Verse / Chorus structure to “Set The Scene” / “State Your Point” / “Amplify Your Point”
- Use words that are easy to sing, and practice and perfect your diction
- Adhere to original rhyme structure (www.rhymezone.com to find rhyming options)

Now you try:

Theme: _____

Original Lyrics	Syllables	New Lyrics
Take me out to the ball game	7	
Take me out with the crowd	6	
Buy me some peanuts and Cracker Jacks	9	
I don't care if I never get back	9	
Let me root root root	5	
for the home team	4	
If they don't win it's a shame	7	
For it's one,	3	
Two	1	
Three strikes you're out at the old ball game	9	