**Beef Jerky Part 2**

**The Beatles: Multitracking and the 1960’s Counterculture**

**Adapted from PBSLearningMedia**

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|  | Grade 9-12 |
|  | Approximately 60 minutes |
|  | * Internet access * Speakers * Journal or paper * Pencil |
|  | **CP10.1** Investigate techniques (i.e., instrumental, vocal or creative technologies) and the elements of music for solo and/or ensemble performances.  **CH2030.3** Examine the work and impact of influential local, Canadian and international musicians.  **CH102030.1** Identify characteristics of the different eras, genres and styles through listening to and/or performing the representative music. |
|  | **Goal:** Investigate how The Beatles’ use of cutting edge recording technology and studio techniques both reflected and shaped the counterculture of the 1960s?   1. We left off comparing two photos of The Beatles and now we’re going compare two songs of The Beatles that correspond to the times of the photos. Watch [Early Beatles Recording Sessions](https://www.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/early-beatles-recording-soundbreaking/early-beatles-recording-soundbreaking/). 2. Respond in your journal to the following questions:   How long does The Beatles’ drummer Ringo Starr say it took to record their first album in this clip? Why did it take so little time?  Judging by the commentary you’ve just seen, what was the goal of a recording session at this time?  In the sense that it is presented here, do you think that in 1963 The Beatles conceived of the recording studio as a tool to use to promote themselves or as a place to develop their music? Explain your answer.   1. The next clip “Tomorrow Never Knows,” was recorded three years later for The Beatles’ 1966 album Revolver. Take a look at [Multitracking and the Making of “Tomorrow Never Knows](https://www.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/multitracking-making-tomorrow-soundbreaking/multitracking-making-tomorrow-soundbreaking/).” 2. Respond in your journal to the following:   How does the process of making “Tomorrow Never Knows” we see in this clip contrast with the process we saw The Beatles using for their first album?  It is said that The Beatles used multitracking to “make the music that was going on in their heads.” In what ways do you think “Tomorrow Never Knows” might reflect that idea?  How did multitrack recording enable the making of “Tomorrow Never Knows”?  In what ways might this song reflect the ideas of counterculture we discussed earlier in Part I?  Next open up the [Mixing Board TechTool](https://apps.musedlab.org/soundbreaking/mix/#HJ76Modbx). Each channel on the TechTool represents a track from multitrack recording. Go through each channel on the mixing board and engage the mute button. What happens?  Now experiment with engaging the mute button on two tracks at a time. How does this change the way you hear this song?  Now move the sliders on each track, making the various channels louder and softer. What happens when you change the balance of tracks?  Having experimented with multitracking through the TechTool, and seen how The Beatles used the technology in the previous clip, why do you think producer Rick Rubin suggests that “Tomorrow Never Knows” made people rethink what music is? |
|  | * Share your notes & responses with another student over email, video, or phone, or discuss with another member of your family. Include your findings in your journal. (optional) |
|  | * Submit to your teacher photos of any parts of your journal responses you would like to share |
|  | * Teacher Feedback (formative) |
|  | * Studio Mains – Chef’s Choice * Wet Your Whistle For Discovery – Strawberry Fields Forever * Appreciation Appetizers – Music of the Day |