

# **Breakers, Rappers, Scratchers, & Burners**

(dancers, singers, deejays, and graffiti artists)

Humanities 7

Name \_\_\_\_\_

While violent crimes went down in US neighborhoods they skyrocketed in the inner city "hoods" along with homelessness and AIDS.

By mid 1990's American kids, mostly Black were dying from gunshot wounds faster than GI's did during the Vietnam War.

**Rap** rose from urban folk music in the 1970's to one of the most commercially successful and highly controversial styles of the 90's.

Descended from a tradition known as the **DOZENS** (exaggerated boasting, sometimes "yo mama" jokes)

**Rappers**-journalists of youth culture in the inner cities.

Together with **Break Dancing** and **spraypaint graffiti** became **Hip Hop** in the Black/Hispanic group youth subculture.

*Grandmaster Flash- two turntables, mixin' and scratchin' with chants of ghetto life.*

*L.L. Cool J.- first rapper to appear on MTV's Unplugged*

*Run DMC- popularized rap to white audience by collaborating with Aerosmith on Walk This Way.*

*Queen Latifah and MC Lyte- emerged as leading voices of women rappers.*

*Beastie Boys and House of Pain- white rappers who have mastered the style.*

**Gangsta Rap**-uses a harder edged, an unadorned beat and rampant profanity to tell stories of gang bangers, hookers, and hustlers who deal in drugs and weapons and run ins with the police.

Run into a lot of controversy regarding:

glorification of violence

" " drug abuse

degradation of women

**Has come full circle- defenders will note that the blues were once attacked on similar grounds!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

*NWA (Niggaz Wit Attitude*

*Ice T(concerned with the correction of youth violence)*

*Dr. Dre*

*Easy E*

*Snoop Doggy Dogg*

**Modern Rap utilizes covers and an overlay of original rap lyrics:**

Puff Daddy

Ma\$e

Of concern now is the violence these performers are **involved in.....**which emulates the violence they rap about.