



Local Heroes: Singers and Songwriters

Name of Artist / Band:	<u>Skyclad</u>	
Style of Music:	<u>Folk Metal</u>	
When they started releasing songs:	<u>1990</u>	
Top Five Hits	<u>Name of Song</u>	<u>YouTube Link</u>
1.	<u>Spinning Jenny</u>	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ffqkA6rSz80
2.	<u>Inequality Street</u>	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hM5pHnCVSkM
3.	<u>Parliament of Fools</u>	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IVJkVCWXe9Q
4.	<u>Change is Coming</u>	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-YjaMhB857I
5.	<u>Thinking Allowed</u>	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lvNDYI8x0Jc

Suggested Tasks

Four blue speech bubbles containing the following tasks:

- Create a fact file about this singer or band.
- Pick one of the top five songs and answer listening questions
- Complete the comprehension task
- Learn to play a song or piece by this band or artist

Useful Websites:

- <http://www.skyclad.band/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/officialskycladpage>
- <https://www.instagram.com/officialskyclad/>
- <https://www.youtube.com/SkycladOfficialChannel>
- <https://open.spotify.com/artist/3CgDRO3wUoner5eZocDuQN>

Photograph of Performer:



Listening Task

Pick one of the “top five” songs and answer the following questions:

Name of song:

1. Name the instruments and voices you can hear:

2. Is this piece in a major (sounds happy) or minor (sounds sad) key?

3. How would you describe the mood of the music? You can talk about how the music makes you feel, or the lyrics if the piece is a song.

4. How is the piece structured? Does it have a clear beginning, middle and end? How would you describe the sections of the music? The piece might be divided into verses / choruses if it is a song, for example.

5. Describe the dynamics (the volume) and the tempo (the speed) of the music. Is it loud or quiet? Fast or slow? Do the dynamics and tempo change at all?

Local Heroes: Skyclad

Skyclad are a folk metal band based in Newcastle. They are considered to be the pioneers of this style of music. The band was founded in 1990 by Martin Walkyier and Steve Ramsey whose previous bands were Sabbath and Satan.

Skyclad have recorded 13 studio albums, 6 compilation and live albums and 6 singles/EP's.

Their current line-up is Steve Ramsey (guitar), Graeme "Bean" English (bass, acoustic guitar), Dave Pugh (guitar), Georgina Biddle (violin, keyboard and piano), Kevin Ridley (vocals) and Arron Walton (drums).

Research Questions (between 5 and 10 questions)

1. What is the meaning of the band's name and where does it come from?
2. What does Widdershins mean?
3. Which record labels were each of the songs on?
4. Name three other Folk Metal bands.
5. Skyclad use a lot of puns in their lyrics and titles. What is a pun?
6. "No daylight, no heal taps": what does this mean?
7. Skyclad is famous for the genre folk metal. What is folk metal?
8. Skyclad have recorded 6 singles and EP's. What is an EP?
9. What does "compilation" mean?
10. What is the name of their latest album?

Did you know?

One of the band's early videos for the song "Thinking Allowed" features the famous Georgie comedian Ross Noble, riding a unicycle wearing a top hat and tails.