

BARACK OBAMA'S PLAYLIST

Transcript

"Do you like hip-hop?"

"Of course!"

"What do you like?"

"You know, I have to admit, lately I've been listening to a lot of Jay-Z, I mean this new *American Gangster* album is stunning"

"What do you like about it?"

"You know, it tells a story and you know as Jay would say it got flow. Kanye I like. But I have to admit I am still an old-school guy. I'm still Stevie, Marvin you know. If you look at my I-pod, it's Earth, Wind and Fire, Isley Brothers, Temptations, I mean have a lot of that old-school stuff. I enjoy some of the newer stuff and you know, honestly, I love the art of hip-hop, I don't always like the message of hip-hop. There are times where, even with the artists I named, the artists I love, there is a message that is not only sometimes degrading to women, not only uses the N-word a little too frequently, but also, it's something I'm really concerned about, is always about talking about material things, you know always talking about how I can get something, how I can get more money, more cars."

ANSWERS:

1. Watch the video and pick out who Barack Obama's favourite artists are.

Barack Obama really likes Jay-Z because his album tells a story and has "flow". He also listens to Kanye West. However, he adds that he is still an "old-school guy" and that his I-pod playlists mostly include artists from the 1960s and 1970s like Stevie Wonder, Marvin Gaye, Earth, Wind and Fire, Isley Brothers or The Temptations.

2. Explain why Obama has mixed feelings about hip-hop.

Obama has conflicting feelings about hip-hop: he likes the art of hip-hop but he doesn't always approve of the message that hip-hop conveys. He thinks that some songs or video clips objectify women. Also, he doesn't like artists using the N-word because it is degrading to the African-American community. Lastly, he dislikes the materialistic attitude promoted by some hip-hop artists who always rap about how they can get more things, more money, more cars...