



Inquiry Question: What are the effects of on-line music piracy on music and the music industry?

SEARCHING FOR DETAILS

I read the sources closely and mark words and phrases that help me answer my question.

SELECTING DETAILS

I select words or phrases from my search that I think are the most important for answering my question. I write the reference next to each detail.

Detail 1 (Ref.: Source #4)

"From 2004 through 2009 alone, approximately 30 billion songs were illegally downloaded on file-sharing networks...the annual harm [of piracy is] at \$12.5 billion dollars in losses to the U.S. economy as well as more than 70,000 lost jobs and \$2 billion in lost wages to American workers."

Detail 2 (Ref.: Source #6)

"Record companies successfully sued sites like Napster and helped develop formats like iTunes, where customers can legally download music for a small fee. (Piracy is still a problem, however)...But although more people are paying for music again, few are spending \$20 on full-length albums, as they used to. Most are either buying singles on services like iTunes for \$1.29 or legally streaming music for free on sites like Spotify and Pandora."

Detail 3 (Ref.: Source #9)

"But I have learned that 'accessing' music and actually listening to it are two different things. Free downloading has created a kind of collector or hoarder who is unique to the digital age."

ANALYZING AND CONNECTING DETAILS

I re-read parts of the texts and think about the meaning of the details and what they tell me about my question. Then I compare the details and explain the connections I see among them.

What I think about the details and how I connect them:

The definition provided by the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA) makes it clear just how much people have stolen from the musicians and companies that make and produce music. However, the solutions to combat piracy and encourage legal listening of music - sites like iTunes, Pandora and Spotify - are not getting much money back to the musicians. Finally, according to Ostertag, with so much access to music (often free), the young generations simply "hoard" their music but do not really take the time to enjoy it.

MAKING A CLAIM

I state a conclusion I have come to and can support with evidence from the texts after reading them closely.

My claim that answers my inquiry question:

While music piracy led the industry to create innovative ways to charge the consumer for music, it also created a generation of music listeners more intent on collecting rather than listening to music. As a result, people download few albums or simply stream music on Pandora, so the majority of artists still experience little profit.