Respond to the following:

Discussion 3:

Statement One: *Great music is an investment: you must apply yourself to understand and appreciate it. Just as you’ll never gain mastery over anything without effort, you’ll never improve your ear or musical intelligence through easy listening.*

I agree with the statement in that you must apply yourself to truly understand the music. There is a lot of meaning and emotion behind the lyrics in music and you can take them any way you want. Music is a great way to express yourself and your feelings, for me I listen to different genres depending on what mood I am in. I also have certain songs I like to listen to when im sad or happy just because of what the lyrics say and I can feel the emotion in the song but that doesn't mean others do the same. Some people listen to music just because they like the beat or it sounds good they may not fully interpret what the song means but they still appreciate it and I think that is okay. I do think listing deeply to songs helps improve the understanding of music and everyone should have there choosing of what music they appreciate.

Discussion 4:

Musical Divides:

One of the more controversial rock groups of our time, Nickelback has received their fair share of insults and hate. But why is it that so many people dislike this group, so much so that Nickelback has become almost a permanent internet meme? Many people would say that it is due to their simple and somewhat confusing lyrics. Others might say it is because all their songs sound strikingly similar due to their resistance to try new things. In defense of the ladder point, this rock band may have adopted the belief of "if it isn't broke, why fix it?" According to BMG, since their debut in 1995, Nickelback has released 23 chart-topping songs and sold out 12 consecutive international tours. As someone who has grown up listening to Nickelback, I found that I enjoyed and paid more attention to the intonations and harmonies of the lead singer's voice than to what the lyrics actually were. Nevertheless, upon listening to them nowadays, I can certainly see where people are coming from in voicing their distaste.

Reference: <https://www.bmg.com/de/artist/nickelback>