

Bill Wolff
Protest Music, Spring 2026
1970s British Punk

Names: _____

Please answer the below questions as a group. One computer can be open so you can listen to the songs and/or get the lyrics.

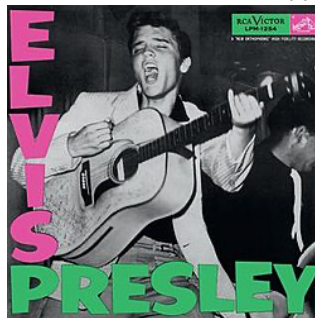
1. Looking back to our discussion from Monday, what might you say are some of the differences between festivals like Woodstock or the Harlem Cultural Festival and the Rock Against Racism gigs and the carnival in East London's Victoria Park? Can you think of festivals or major concerts that have continued the legacy of the Victoria Park carnival?

2. Moving on to the British punk songs for today, generate a list of 10 subjects the bands sing about.

3. What arguments are the punk album covers (on the right) making in comparison to the ones to their left? How might that be made real in Damned's cover of "Help" and The Clash's "London Calling"?



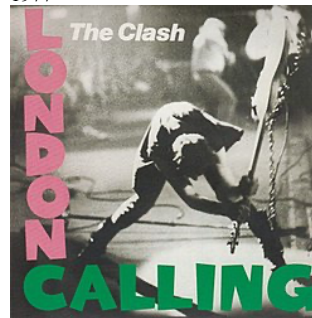
1964



1956



1977



1979

4. Considering the lyrics, subjects, and goals of some of the songs we listened to for today, could the songs be considered an extension of the folk music of the 1940s and the folk revival of the 1960s? If so, how? Refer to 2 or 3 punk songs/sets of lyrics and how they exist in that lineage?

5. Considering the lyrics, subjects, and goals of some of the songs we listed to for today, could they be considered an extension of the music of the Civil Rights Movement, the Black Power Movement, or a combination of both? If so, how? Refer to 2 or 3 punk songs/sets of lyrics and how they exist in that lineage?

6. I'd like you to consider the relationship among the lyrics and the music (the instruments, the sound, the volume, the live and studio performance). Do the two reinforce one another? If so, how? What else about punk and the punk movement reinforces those ideas?

7. How might the whole of the punk movement be seen as a form of communication?