



## Using Sound Discrimination with KRS-One's "Sound of Da Police"

- **Level:** All Levels
- **Time:** 15-20 minutes
- **Activity:** Listening
- **Activity Aim:**
  - differentiating between /f/ and /v/
- **Materials:**
  - Music video for "Sound of Da Police"
  - Gap Fill Worksheet

### Procedures

1. Write **police** on the board, and ask students to think of as many collocations in pairs. Some possibilities include *police car*, *police station*, *traffic police*, *police officer*. Check work as a whole class and write ideas on the board.
2. Drill the pronunciation of **officer** several times and ask students how many syllables it has. *Three syllables*.
3. Write the word **overseer** on the board ask ask students how many syllables it has. *Four syllables*. Drill the pronunciation of this word several times.
4. Explain to students that an **overseer** is a person who makes sure that people work. Explain that this word is old-fashioned and usually refers to American slave owners.
5. Tell students that they will listen to the song twice. For the first listening, student simply have to write the number of times they heard **officer** and **overseer**. Have them check their answers in small groups and then report back as a whole class.
6. Give students gap fill worksheet. They will listen to the song a second time and write either **officer** or **overseer** in the blanks. Have them check work in pairs and perhaps play the song again if time permits.



Woop, woop! That's the sound of the police.  
 Woop, woop! That's the sound of the beast.

Stand clear! Don man talk!  
 You can't stand where I stand. You can't walk where I walk.  
 Watch out! We run New York.  
 Policeman come. We bust him out the park.  
 I know this for a fact. You don't like how I act.  
 You claim I'm selling crack, but you be doing that.  
 I'd rather say 'see you' 'cause I would never be you.  
 Be an \_\_\_\_\_? You wicked \_\_\_\_\_!  
 You hot shot. Want to get props and be a savior?  
 First show a little respect. Change your behavior.  
 Change your attitude. Change your plan.  
 There could never really be justice on stolen land.  
 Are you really for peace and equality?  
 Or when my car is hooked up, you know you want to follow me.  
 Your laws are minimal. 'Cause you won't even think about looking at the real criminal.  
 This has got to cease. 'Cause we be getting hyped to the sound of the police.

Now here's a little truth. Open up your eyes  
 While you're checking out the *Boom Bap*, check the exercise.

Take the word \_\_\_\_\_, like a sample  
 Repeat it very quickly in a crew, for example:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Yeah! \_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_  
 You need a little clarity? Check the similarity.  
 The \_\_\_\_\_ rode around the plantation.  
 The \_\_\_\_\_ is off patrolling all the nation.  
 The \_\_\_\_\_ could stop you what you're doing.  
 The \_\_\_\_\_ will pull you over just when he's pursuing.  
 The \_\_\_\_\_ had the right to get ill.  
 And if you fought back, the \_\_\_\_\_ had the right to kill  
 The \_\_\_\_\_ has the right to arrest. And if you fight back they put a hole in your chest.

They both ride horses.  
 After 400 years, I've got no choices.  
 The police them have a little gun.  
 So when I'm on the streets, I walk around with a bigger one!  
 I hear it all day.  
 Just so they can run the light and be up on their way.

Check out the message in a rough styling.  
 The real criminals are the C-O-P.  
 You check for undercover and the one P.D.  
 But just a mere black man. Them want to check me.  
 Them check out me car for it shine like the sun,  
 But them jealous or them vexed cause them can't afford one.  
 Black people still slaves up till today. But the black police \_\_\_\_\_ never see it that way  
 Him want a salary. Him want it.  
 So he put on a badge and kill people for it.  
 My grandfather had to deal with the cops.  
 My great-grandfather dealt with the cops.  
 My great, great-grandfather had to deal with the cops.  
 And then my great, great, great, great. When it's going to stop?