Revising – Music Questions

1. Are there too many chords in my chord progression? Do I need all the chords in the chord progression?

2. Does the melody wander too much? Does it overwhelm the words?

3. Does the melody sound familiar? Is it an earworm or derivative of something else? Do you need to fix it or will it work as is?

4. Do your sections change texture to match the emotional, narrative, or imagery elements of the song?

5. Does your chorus groove? Does it have a "sing-songy" element that would be catchy to people? Does it differentiate from the verses?

6. Is there one unique musical thing in your song (i.e. a hook line, interesting chord change, musical hook, unusual melodic line, etc.)? Could you add something?

7. Could you substitute any chords to make the textures different?

8. Does the chord progression match the feel of the song? Is the texture correct? Do you know another song that matches the feel you are going for? Could you take ideas from that song to make things match?

9. Does your bridge "break-away" Does it set up a reset for the chorus?

10. Could you start your chorus on a different chord to make the texture different?

11. What unique instrumentation could you include in the arrangement to give a different texture?

12. Can you hear specific instruments doing specific things on the song? Can you hear the ensemble that might perform the song?

13. What does the melody line do? At places where you want a chord change, what chords does the melody note appear in? Could you reharmonize, or recompose the line to find different chords?

14. Could you write key modulation to change the energy of the song?

15. Is this the correct time signature for the song? If you change it, would it better match the feeling of the song?

16. Do your lyrical sections feel disjointed? Could you compose a musical line to make the transition between lyrical sections better?

17. Does your melody "tell the story" or correctly capture the emotional texture of the song?

18. Is there anything you could simplify?