"Battle Method"

By: Mike Min

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Table of Contents

Introduction.....6

Pre-Battle Tips.....7

Watch other freestyle battles.....7

Write Rhymes.....7

Use a Rhyming Dictionary.....8

Have a "Golden Rhyme".....8

Practice everywhere.....8

Practice Battling.....9

Think as if you are the best.....11

Practice with fast beats.....13

Research your opponent.....13

Battle Tips.....15

Befriend the DJ.....15

Flowing Tips:.....16

Strategies.....19

How to Destroy Your Opponent.....23

Top Diss Techniques.....26

Diss Technique #1: Diss your opponent's friends.....27

Diss Technique #2: Diss about repeated lines.....27

"Power Eyes".....28

How to Win The Audience.....29

Post Battle Tips.....32

Act like the winner.....32

Be the humble man.....33

Positive Interpretation....34

Review your battles....35

Success Tips....36

Write Goals & Plans....36

Mastermind Rule....37

Speed of Action....38

Progression Rule....39

Positive Interpretation....40

Top 10 Questions & Answers....41

Question #1: How much should I practice a day? Half an hour? An hour?....41

Question #2: How should I prepare for a freestyle battle? How do you get yourself in the mood to battle?....41

Question #3: What do you do when you think you are going to lose?....42

Question #4: How to I think of disses on the spot?....43

Question #5: How do you think of big words to rhyme so quick?....43

Question #6: How do you come up with punch lines....44

Question #7: How can I win the 3rd round when I´ve lost the first and the second round?....44

Question #8: How do I improve my confidence to prepare myself for freestyle battles?....45

Question #8: How do I constantly keep on rapping and never run out of things to say?....46

Question #9: How do I rap much faster so that I can impress others in a freestyle battle?....47

Question #10: What is the basic structure to a freestyle?....48

Conclusion....50

Recommended Resources....51

Introduction

Welcome to the "Battle Method". In this course, you will learn many tips to learn how to be a better freestyle rapper in rap battles.

Battling is all about testing your skills to see who the better MC is. Interestingly, the winner of the battle is not always the better lyricist. Sometimes the winner has better strategy, confidence, or just has a better connection with the audience.

For many years, I have met many underground hip hop artists who excelled at freestyling and battling. Throughout those years, I jotted down the best of the best tips to provide a step-by-step method on how to win rap battles.

And that is why I created the "Battle Method".

Make sure to study it thoroughly, apply it, and keep improving your skills in freestyle rap battles.

To your success,

Mike Min

BattleMethod.com

Pre-Battle Tips

Before I give you the specific tips on how to battle, it is crucial that you learn how to prepare yourself to the fullest. Many competitors such as boxers, warriors, and soldiers all train themselves before going into the battle. Similarly, as a freestyle rapper, you must learn how to train yourself to the fullest so that when you are in battle, you can dominate and destroy your opponents.

So let me show you the best of the best pre battle tips that I have learned.

Watch other freestyle battles

Go on the internet and watch other freestyle battles. If you don't have access to the internet, then listen to freestyle rap battles. Constantly watching and listening to other people battle will help you to become a better at battling yourself.

Write Rhymes

Writing rhymes is one of the best ways to improve your battling skills. Now, I am not suggesting you to write all your battle lines. I am saying that if you keep writing more and more rhymes, you will expand your freestyling vocabulary even more so that in the future, you will have much more things to say.

Use a Rhyming Dictionary

Another great way to develop your rapping vocabulary is to study and use the rhyming dictionary. Back in the days, you had to read the physical rhyming dictionary. But now because of the internet, you can easily check out free online rhyming dictionaries.

One of my favorite online rhyming dictionaries is rhymer.com. Just go there, type in any word, and you will get a list of rhyming words. From there, you can put on a rap instrumental and start practicing your freestyle rapping skills.

Have a "Golden Rhyme"

In my "Freestyle Method" course, I talk about the importance of having a "golden rhyme". Your "golden rhyme" is a pre-planned line that you can easily use in your freestyles just in case you have nothing to say. In most cases, you will sound the BEST with your "golden rhymes" because you practice this on a consistent basis in most of your freestyles.

You want to keep crafting and improving your golden rhyme so that in case of an emergency, you can spit it and freestyle better in your battles.

Practice everywhere

You can literally practice freestyling everywhere. The more you practice, the better you get period. So if you are in the car, freestyle. If you are by yourself, don't watch the TV. Instead freestyle. If you are mad because of a breakup with a girlfriend, then freestyle. If you just hate this guy in your school, freestyle about it.

My point is to freestyle everywhere you can because it will only help you to SPEED UP your skills to get trained more for the battles.

Practice Battling

There are 3 great places to practice freestyle battling. I have found these 3 places to be a great place to dip your feet into the water without feeling overwhelmed.

Here are the 3 ways to practice your freestyle battling.

1) Look at your yearbook picture and battle

This is one of the most fun and fast ways to improve your battling skills. Looking at your yearbook picture will trigger lots of emotions such as anger, happiness, jealousy, pride, and so forth to bring out the best out of you when you are battling looking at students in your yearbook.

Pick one fellow classmate from your yearbook picture and battle nonstop for 5 minutes. After that, move onto another student in your school and battle against him or her.

Doing this exercise will help you bring out lots of emotions that you can use in your future rap battles.

You want to battle every opportunity you can get because it will only help you to be better in future rap battles.

2) Battle at yahoo voice chat rooms

Another great place is to go to yahoo chat rooms and use your microphone to battle people inside hip hop chat rooms. Yahoo chat is free and you can download the software for free online. Just look up "yahoo chat room" and download the software.

After that, go into "hip hop" chat rooms under the "music" category. Then, start to battle other people in that room. If no one wants to battle, just dissing everybody in that room. Go after each member in that chat room and make fun of their names.

Soon or later, they are going to be mad and want to battle you back.

3) Battle at dopetracks.com

Another great place to battle is to go to dopetracks.com. I recently found this place and it is a very fun place to show off your freestyle rapping talents. You can instantly record your freestyle raps and challenge other rappers to battle you back. Plus this site is free as well just like yahoo voice chat.

Think as if you are the best

In order to be great at freestyle battling, you also have to have the right mindset. Here's a very important lesson that I have learned from many great freestyle rappers.

It's called the "Positive Interpretation" rule. This rule states to interpret everything in a positive way. That means whatever happens (you lose in a battle, people laugh at you, etc), you want to interpret that into a positive meaning all the time.

Instead of telling yourself that you are a loser, you want to tell yourself that people are laughing at you because they are really jealous of you. People booed you because they see you as a threat.

By having positive self talk, you will improve your self confidence naturally to become the best freestyle battle rapper you can be.

If you keep interpreting everything in a positive way for yourself, you are going to develop a stronger and more confident mindset to achieve success in freestyle battles.

So starting today, interpret everything and anything as a way to tell yourself that you are the best freestyle rapper in the world. If you do this enough, you will really start to believe this. And guess what? It is 100 times better to be a rapper who has confidence and sucks than a rapper who is good but has no confidence.

The reason is that people who win battles are not always the better rapper. Instead, it also has to do with the amount of confidence you have. If you continue to have more confidence, you will CONVINCE the crowd that you are the better MC. In addition, you will also go out and take more action and risks to stretch your skills to be a better overall freestyle rapper.

Practice with fast beats

One of the best ways to prepare yourself to be a better freestyle rapper is to practice freestyling on faster beats.

A lot of people like to practice on the same type of beats. They like to listen to the same type of beats that they are comfortable rapping to. Well to get better, you have to go outside your comfort zone because the more you go out of your comfort zone, the better you become. Eventually your comfort zone will be stretched to the point that you will be able to freestyle well in any type of beats.

The best way to stretch your rapping skills is to practice on faster rap instrumentals. The faster the beat, the faster you have to rap and the faster you have to spit your rhymes. The faster you spit your rhymes, the better you get at freestyle rapping.

It's just like baseball players. Before they go up on plate, they put something heavy around their baseball bat and take several swings. They are doing this so that when they get ready to hit, they will swing with a harder hit.

You have to be the same way when it comes to freestyle battling. You have to practice with really fast beats so when the day comes to battle, freestyle rapping will be much easier with the regular normal paced beats.

Research your opponent

If you know who you are going up against in your freestyle rap battle, then you want to some research on the internet about him.

The best way to do this is to use social networking websites such as MySpace and Facebook. Most likely, you can find your opponent's page on MySpace or on facebook. Once you go on that site, you can find a lot of information that you can use to diss him in the rap battles.

For example, you can find out that your opponent has only guy friends in his myspace and diss him about being gay. If he has only girl friends, you can also diss him for being gay either way.

If your opponent has only 12 friends on MySpace, you can diss him about being a loser. If he has 500 friends, you can diss him about being a loser who sits in front of a computer all day as well.

You can diss him about knowing where he is from by talking about the city he was born in. You can diss about how he must be a gay idiot for having cats instead of dogs. There are so many little things you can pick up on by checking out the social networking webpage of your opponent.

If your opponent doesn't have a MySpace page, then you can diss him about not even having a MySpace page despite pretending to be a great rapper.

Battle Tips

Now, you have prepared yourself and you are ready to go into battle. Let's talk about specific tips to be a better freestyle battle rapper in the actual battle.

Befriend the DJ

This is a very important tip. When you get to the battle, take time to say hello to the DJ. Take some time to show interest in the DJ. Don't overdo it but show some respect to the DJ.

A lot of times, the DJ's don't get the credit for what they do because the MC is usually the one with the microphone. So it is very important for you to take time to show respect and appreciation to the DJ.

Here is one specific tip to befriend the DJ. Instead of trying to show off about your own skills, take time to show interest in the DJ. I have seen too many rappers focus too much energy on trying to show off about themselves to the DJ that it becomes a real turn off.

Too many rappers mistakenly think that if they boast about themselves that they will make the DJ like them back. That is not true for most of the cases. Most of the cases, the DJ's don't care about you until you first show that you care the DJ first.

So first rule is to not talk about how great you are and who you beat in rap battles and so forth. Don't make your conversation to be all about you. Instead, make the conversation to be centered on the DJ. Find out how he got his skills. Find out where he plays his music. Ask him for his myspace link.

Be sure to do this genuinely. Don't fake interest. If you fake interest or overly show too much attention to the DJ, he will be suspicious of you and your actions. Instead, take the time to genuinely be interested in the DJ. By showing enuine interest in the DJ, the DJ will start to like you and respect you as well.

Most likely, your opponent in the rap battle didn't take the time to interact or greet the DJ. So when the battle time comes, you will have that extra advantage because the DJ can give you a better sounding instrumental and also give you a little bit more extra time to freestyle more than your opponent.

That can be the little difference that can give you that edge to be the winner in the rap battle. So take the time to befriend the DJ and use that to your own advantage.

Flowing Tips:

Many people have a hard time rhyming because they only try to use their memory to freestyle. But I have found that there are 3 main ways to freestyle. The 3 main ways to freestyle longer are by using your senses, your gut, and your memory.

Let me talk about each one of these in detail.

Flowing Tip #1: Use your senses

This is called the "Triple Threat" technique and I talk about more in depth in my "Freestyle Method" system at www.FreestyleMethod.com.

Basically, you want to freestyle about what you are experiencing with any of your 3 senses in the moment. You are constantly experiencing things through three of your main senses which are visual, auditory, and physical ways.

So for example if you are seeing your opponent have a fat afro, you can freestyle and diss about how his afro is so big and makes him look like a mushroom. If your opponent has a squeaky voice, you can freestyle about how his voice makes him sound like a sissy girl. If your opponent is coming too close to you in proximity, then you freestyle about how he must be gay because he wants to get touchy and feely with you.

A great way to freestyle rap is to use your senses (visual, auditory, physical).

Rapping with your senses is a great way to freestyle rap because you don't have to constantly depend on your own memory like other rappers do. Rapping from memory by thinking of things to say in the next second using your mind is very effective but it can also be limiting if that is the only way you rap. So start to incorporate your 3 senses to have more things to rap about and freestyle longer in your rap battles.

Flowing Tip #2: Use your gut

This is another way to freestyle better. Don't just depend on your mind but also follow your gut (your feelings) and freestyle from there. Sometimes when you are battling someone, you will have a sense about that person. You may sense that your opponent has some kind of anxiety problem or he may be trying to be someone who is really not.

Whatever sense you get, you want to spit it in your freestyles. Many times, your gut is telling you the truth. By spitting whatever you are sensing in your gut, you can make your opponent really mess up his game because he will constantly feel the fear of being exposed.

Flowing Tip #3: Use your memory

Another great way to freestyle rap is to use your memory. Yes, this is the most popular way to freestyle. A lot of guys who freestyle tend to sound the same from their previous raps because they usually use similar terms and words in their rapping.

Either way, freestyle rapping from memory is great. When I say freestyle rapping from memory, I am talking about rapping by saying things that you are literally thinking of saying. Lots of rappers like to rap by thinking of things to say beforehand and then saying it when the time comes. Basically using your memory means thinking and freestyling.

You are literally thinking of what to say and then you say it when the time comes. This is the oldest way to freestyle and it is a great way to battle because it will usually sound great lyrically because most of the times, it will rhyme.

On the other hand if you think too much, then your rhymes may sound weird because it seems too forced and the words will rhyme at the WRONG time. That is why it is also important

to use your 3 senses as well as flow from your gut (feelings) because that will help you have the right timing in a natural way.

Strategies

Let's talk about the three strategies when you freestyle battle. You can use any of these or all of these in your rap battles. The 3 strategies are attack, counterattack, and self-attack.

1. Attacker

The first strategy to freestyle battle is to be the attacker. It basically means the majority of your content will be focused on attacking your opponent. That means you will be focused on freestyling about your opponent more than about yourself.

The attacker style is all about focusing your rapping to be about dissing your opponent.

This is a great way to freestyle battle because people love to hear the freestyle rapper diss other people. It is the most entertaining and juicy way to see battles. Generally, you want to do most of your freestyle battles in this way.

There are many ways to attack your opponent. The most popular ways are through intimidation, better lyrical skills, and having more connection with your crowd.

2. Self attacker

This is another clever way to win a rap battle. This is usually used when you are the first one to go in a rap battle. By being the "self attacker", this means you want to rap about your own weaknesses.

The best example is Eminem using this strategy to win the last and final battle. He made fun of himself about how he is a white trash and trailer park but he did it in a way that made him authentic and congruent while showing that his opponent was not authentic and was not congruent.

So you want to use this strategy carefully. The key is to show that you are being real. People respect others who are being real and are true to themselves. By rapping about your own weaknesses, your opponent's disses on you about your weaknesses will have less power.

Basically you already rap about how you are weak in one area. If your opponent raps about that, the crowd will feel that the diss is unoriginal because you already said it first. By attacking yourself first, you will cause your opponent's disses to have less sting.

3. Jokester

Sometimes the crowd is tired of seeing two guys act all tough in a rap battle. It's so generic. It happens all the time. And it's also expected all the time. What I mean is that in a rap battle, basically it's two guys saying how they are more tough and more of a man than the other. Thus, the crowd can feel desensitized by that type of "I am more macho" persona.

The jokester strategy is a fast way to have the crowd root for you.

A strategy that I have found to be amazing effective in winning battles is to be the jokester. This is very powerful especially if you combine BOTH acting tough and then make your punch lines in a jokester way.

One battle that I see was this guy who was acting all tough with most of his rhymes but then he would come up with the funniest punch lines. Not only were his punch lines funny but his TONALITY was different when he spit his punch lines.

In the end, he was using his toughness but also using his comedy to win the crowd. The opponent was just acting tough and that was so generic that the crowd did not feel any sort of newness with him. Thus the guy who was being BOTH tough and funny became the winner.

So instead of just relying on how tough you are, you also want to use your sense of humor to win the crowd. This is a very effective way to be liked by the crowd because if you are

too tough, the crowd will not like you. But if you are tough but funny, you will be more liked by the crowd.

4. Teacher

This strategy is to basically rap as if you are the teacher and your opponent is your student. Basically you are setting up the status between yourself and your opponent. You are clearly establishing that you have higher status than your opponent.

By rapping in a way as if you are giving your opponent advice about how he should improve his skills and how he dresses, you are making fun of him and also setting yourself as the better and more experienced rapper.

Just by having this "teacher" persona, you are conveying to the crowd that you have the higher status and thus the crowd will most likely give you the props as being the winner of the battle.

5. Bragger

Another strategy is to completely ignore your opponent. You want to communicate to the crowd that you are so much higher status than your opponent that you won't even waste your time freestyling about him. Instead, you continue to show how much better you are by bragging about your own self.

This strategy can work if you really believe this to your heart. By continuing to dismiss your opponent and focusing how much better you are, you will frustrate your opponent. In addition whenever he battles you, don't even look at him back. He wants you to look at him but just look somewhere in the crowd.

Most of the time, you want to give eye contact but if you are using this "bragger" strategy, you want to totally dismiss your opponent by not even giving him any sort of attention. Eventually, your opponent will look like an immature child desperately screaming for attention from a higher status guy like yourself.

How to Destroy Your Opponent

Here are some basic tips to destroy your opponent in the rap battle. There are basically two tips. First you want to find your opponent's flaws. Then, you want to exaggerate those flaws.

Step 1: Find his flaws

If you know who you are going to battle beforehand, you want to find out any personal weaknesses your opponent has. If you can't find out his flaws, then just go with your gut and sense what his major flaws are.

Make sure to study your opponent to find out his flaws to diss about.

There are 2 things to look for when you are seeking for your opponent's flaws. They are physical flaws and social flaws.

Physical flaws are like how he is too fat or too short. If your opponent has a great physique, you can still use that as a flaw by making fun of how he spends 10 hours a day working out at a gym but still can't find a date. Freestyle about how he spends all those hours on a gym and still has no game to get the ladies and how he might as well just be a fat pig and it won't make a difference on his dating life.

Social flaws have to do with anything about your opponent's weakness in terms of what type of person he is such as his education level, financial level, or emotional stability.

If he is a nerd, you can rhyme about how his glasses are thicker than coke bottle glasses and how sorry you feel because he'd be blind by the time he reaches his thirties.

You can find social flaws about anybody. Even if your opponent is a great basketball player, you can still diss him by saying how the community college he will go to will still put him on the bench. Basically you want to find the social status of your opponent and interpret that into a flaw.

So before you start battling, you want to find his major flaws and they can be categorized into physical or social flaws.

Step 2: Exaggerate his flaws

After you figure out your opponent's flaws, then you want to exaggerate it. Again, you can turn any of your opponent's strengths into a flaw by exaggerating it. If your opponent is a good looking guy, you can diss about how he is a little pretty boy.

You want to exaggerate your opponent's flaws to create a great diss.

If your opponent is big and strong, you can make fun of how he is a dumb and big guy who you feel sorry for because he spends half his life inside 24 hour fitness.

Basically you want to find out your opponent's flaws and twist it in a way that makes your opponent look like an extreme guy. If any strength is exaggerated enough, it can actually make your opponent look like an idiot and a loser.

Your opponent can actually be a cool and normal guy but you MUST exaggerate his flaws so he looks like a goofball. Basically, you want to INTERPRET his flaws to the crowd so that the crowd starts to believe in your interpretation more than the reality.

The reality might be that your opponent just goes to the gym 2 or 3 times a day and he doesn't even obsess over his body. But you can EXAGGERATE his flaws so that the crowd will start to really believe that your opponent is an insecure big idiot who desperately wants to get women and thus ends up spending hours in the gym 7 days a week.

After you exaggerate your opponent's flaws, your opponent will most likely get emotional and try to defend himself. Because your opponent gets overly emotional, he will actually appear as if he is the loser that you described to the crowd.

Again, you want to find your opponent's flaws and you want to exaggerate it so the crowd starts to believe how ridiculous your opponent is.

Top Diss Techniques

There are many ways to diss your opponent. Generally as I talked to you about, you want to find his flaw and exaggerate it. But if you can't find anything specific to diss about your opponent, here are some specific ways to diss in a powerful way.

Diss Technique #1: Diss your opponent's friends

If you can't think of anything to diss about your opponent, then you can diss about your opponent's friends. Most likely your opponent came to rap battle with his friends.

This is a great way to come up with unlimited sources of things to rap about. This will make your freestyles to be more fresh and new every single time you battle. Thus, the crowd will love your creativity.

While your opponent is saying the same generic disses against you, you can come up with new and creative disses to rap about for each one of your opponent's friends.

Maybe your opponent has a fat friend. You can diss about how he is so fat and you could tell that he'd rather go to Burger King than be at the battle. Maybe your opponent has a skinny friend and you can diss about how the kid must be so poor that he ends up being skinner than those poor kids in third world countries.

Basically, the list goes on and on. By dissing your opponent's friends, the crowd will get more into the battle because your freestyling will always be fresh, unique, and fun to listen to.

Diss Technique #2: Diss about repeated lines

This is another cool way to diss your opponent. Most rappers will repeat a certain word or line on a consistent basis because they are most comfortable with using those lines.

That is why you want to really study what your opponent is saying repeatedly. Whatever that is, you want to use that against him.

Basically you can spit back by dissing how you heard a certain verse repeated about 77 times in his rhymes. This will instantly create a huge reaction in the crowd because they probably heard those repeated lines in the battle.

This is very little sneaky technique that is a powerful way to damage your opponent. Because you make fun of his repeated lines, he will work harder to NOT use his most favorite line. That will break his cycle. He will no longer be able to freestyle in a comfortable way.

And if he says the line again, you can just yell to the crowd "HA! He said that line again!" That will just literally destroy his chances of winning the battle. So use this technique very carefully to not only destroy but also to embarrass your opponent to the maximum capacity.

"Power Eyes"

When you battle, it is very important to give a strong eye contact. You want to never show fear to your opponent by looking down when he raps against you. Instead, you want to have the stronger eye contact and make your opponent look down.

The best way to have strong and intimidating eye contact is to use my "power eyes" technique.

This technique is to look at the space between your opponent's eyebrows. Sometimes it is intimidating to keep eye contact with your opponent because freestyle battling is a scary thing

to do at times. Thus, many rappers start with eye contacts and they break it because they can get scared at times.

Well if you use this "power eyes" technique, you will most likely be the one who holds the stronger eye contact than your opponent. That's because you are NOT looking at your opponent's eyes. Instead, you are looking at the SPACE between your opponent's eyebrows.

To your opponent, it will appear as if you are staring down at him with fierce intimidation. Your opponent will not be able to tell the difference between you staring at his eyes and staring at the space between his eyebrows.

So whenever you are in a battle, make sure to stare right into your opponent's eyebrows. This will intimidate the heck out of your opponent and usually cause your opponent to not perform very well in the freestyle battle.

How to Win The Audience

Another tip to win the battle is to be the one who wins the audience more than your opponent. Too many rappers mistakenly think that they will win rap battles just because of their freestyler rapping but that is not true.

You can also win your rap battles because you are the one who has the better connection with the crowd than your opponent. That is why it is crucial for you to never leave out the audience. You want to make the audience feel as if they are participating in the battle in order for you to have that extra edge to be the winner.

Make the crowd to feel like they are part of the rap battle in order to make them root for you over your opponent.

Connect with the audience

One way to connect with your audience is to actually rap towards them. Sometimes rappers only look at their opponent when they battle but that alone will hinder you and your audience from feeling connected to each other.

Thus, you want to rap at your opponent but at the same time, have some moments where you rap towards the crowd as if you are speaking to them directly. This will create positive emotion in the crowd because they also want to feel as if they are being recognized as part of the battle.

Tell them what to do

Another tip to win the audience is to tell them what to do. This is a great way to win the audience loves to interact with the rapper. The rapper is considered to be the cool guy and the crowd loves the attention they get from the rapper when it's in a positive way.

A great way to do that is to actually tell the crowd what to do. It's not about you being the dictator and telling the crowd to do this and that. Instead, it is a basic way to interact with the crowd so the crowd feels more connected to you and thus ends up liking you more than your opponent.

Things you can tell the crowd is to put their hands up in the air move in move it from side to side as you rap. You can also tell them to say a certain word after you say a certain word so they will feel as if they are in the battle themselves.

You can tell them to say a certain word to diss your opponent after you say something. This will cause the WHOLE crowd to actually diss your opponent. IN the end, the crowd will end up wanting you to win because they were actually part of the process of dissing your opponent.

So always remember to invite the crowd in your battles by interacting with them and telling them what to do. This will be a very effective way to have the crowd on your side so you can come out as the winner in the rap battle.

Post Battle Tips

Here are some basic tips after the rap battle. These tips can help you solidify your chances to be claimed the winner in the rap battle.

Act like the winner

After each battle, you want to act like the champion. That means you want to walk, act, and look like the winner of the battle. This is just like when boxers fight, they put them hands up in victory despite not knowing who really has the highest score in the fight.

After the battle, always act and walk around as if you are the winner!

The reason for doing this is that you will appear more confident than your opponent. The more you appear confident, the more likely you will be given props as being the winner. This works especially when the battle is very close and you appear as a champion while your opponent is walking around like a depressed and insecure guy.

The more confidence you display AFTER the battle, the more respect and votes you will get as being the winner. If the crowd is unsure who to cheer, they will make that decision based on which rapper appears to have more solid confidence after the battle. So make sure to always keep your cool and act as if you are the winner even after the battle.

Be the humble man

Acting like the winner is great but you don't want to act pompous and arrogant. Acting too cocky will make the crowd dislike you because people all don't like a cocky and arrogant rapper. In fact, there are times when people will boo you because you are being way too cocky. Your pride will insult the crowd's pride.

Thus, you want to be the first one to be humble after the battle. Specifically, you want to be the one who goes up to your opponent and shakes hand after the battle. The crowd will notice it. You are doing this really to win points from the crowd.

The crowd will notice that you are being the better man to go up to your opponent and shake hands. That shows that you are humble, down to earth, and more deserving to be the winner.

Too many rappers have pride to the point that they don't want to be the first one to go shake their opponent's hand. That is wrong. That makes the rapper look like a stiff, arrogant, and pompous person and it will hurt him in the end because the crowd dislikes anyone who has an arrogant personality.

So make sure to be the first one to shake hands with your opponent. Basically, be the first one to contact the rapper after the battle. It can be a simple handshake, pat, or hug. As long as you are the first one to do this, the more the crowd will want to see you win because they want the humble person to win.

Positive Interpretation

Whether you win or lose the battle, you want to always interpret the situation in favor for yourself. That means if you win, you want to tell yourself that you won because you are the better rapper. If you lose, you want to tell yourself that you lost because people are jealous of you.

Whatever the situation is, you want to interpret it to help you believe in yourself more. You must do this EVERY single time because it will continue to help you develop more confidence and thus go out there and succeed more in the future.

A positive attitude is the key to succeed in battling. If you get depressed and tell yourself you suck, then you will most likely not go out there to another battle. It will hurt your own psyche and hinder you from going out there and taking more action.

However if you interpret every situation for your own favor (by using positive interpretation), then you will most likely go out there and take more risks, stretch your skills, experience more battles, and thus improve your battling skills at a faster pace.

So make sure to interpret your situation in a positive way at all times.

Review your battles

Another thing to do after you battle is to review your battles. That is why you want to record your rap battles on audio or on video. Just take a friend and ask him to record your battles.

After the battles, you want to study and review it. This will help you to hone and improve your skills to another level.

Too many rappers just battle and move on. But the guys who improve even faster are the ones who take the time to record and review their own battles. By reviewing your own battles, you will recognize what points worked for you and what points didn't work for you.

There are two things to look for when you review your freestyle battles. First, you want to look for your strengths. Studying your strength will show you what type of rhymes, gestures, or techniques work best for you. Whatever that strength is, you want to write it down and remind yourself to use it again in the future.

Second, you want to look out for your weaknesses. Whatever those weaknesses are (such as your eye contact, body language, etc), you want to start improving those areas for the future rap battles.

So work on strengthening your strengths and improving your weaknesses. In the end, you will improve your freestyle rap battle skills faster than the average MC's by reviewing each and every battle.

Success Tips

Here are some extra tips to become better freestyle rap battler. These are success tips that the average MC does not take time to do. I have noticed that the most successful hip hop artists tend to follow many of these success tips. I have condensed the best of the best tips into this section so you can jump start your success in freestyle battling.

Write Goals & Plans

This is very important. You want to write down your goals and plans in freestyle battling. Studies have shown that people who actually write down their own goals tend to achieve goals faster than those who don't write it down.

Majority of rappers don't have goals and the ones who do, don't write it down. That's why you want to have the extra edge over the majority of rappers.

The best thing you can do right now to have that extra edge over other rappers is to consistently write down goals and plans to become a better freestyle rapper in rap battles.

A goal is the outcome you want to achieve. A plan is a blueprint on how to achieve that outcome. Whatever your goal is, you want to write it down. Then write down the steps to achieve that goal in your plan.

I highly recommend you to create 1 month goals as well as 1 year goals because it will help it be achievable and realistic. The more realistic it is, the easier you will achieve them.

Mastermind Rule

The next tip is for you to get a mastermind. The mastermind rule states that you will get better at freestyle battling if you surround yourself with people who are great at freestyle battling.

A mastermind is a group of successful people. The more you hang out with your mastermind, the better you will get at freestyle rapping.

Instead of hanging out with people who suck at freestyle battling, start to hang out with guys who are good at it. You don't want to be the best one in your group. Instead, you want to hang out with people who are better than you.

The more you hang out with people who are better than you, the more you will get better at a faster pace. That's what the mastermind rule is all about. Studies have shown that the people you hang out with influence your skills as well.

So starting today, go out there and develop your own mastermind. This will be a crucial advantage that you have over other rappers who tend to hang out with the same people all the time. As you get better, you want to continue to develop a stronger mastermind. Thus, you will continually improve your freestyle battling skills.

Speed of Action

Another secret to success is to follow the "Speed of Action" rule. This rule states that the faster you take action on something, the more you will succeed.

A lot of rappers tend to procrastinate. They tend to analyze. They tend to talk. They tend to wish. Well, that's why they don't improve their skills.

The people I have seen improve their skills at a faster rate have been the ones who tend to take action immediately. The rappers who improved their skills much faster had that one commonality and it was that they took action immediately.

Once they learned something, they put it into action immediately. They didn't talk about it. They didn't think about it. They didn't analyze it over and over again. Instead, they just took action. That's what you must also do in order to continually improve at a faster rate than the average MC.

So if you learned a new technique, take action right now. If you have been thinking about writing some lyrics, then take action right now. If you have been thinking about going into an upcoming rap battle, then sign up right now. If you have been thinking about battling a friend of yours, then battle him as soon as you can.

My point is to take action immediately. It's not just about taking action but it's about taking action immediately. That's why it's called the "Speed of Action" rule. So take action immediately starting today.

Progression Rule

Here's another tip to remember when you are working on your skills to become a better freestyle battler. It is to follow the "Progression Rule" That means to focus on progression and not on perfection.

Too many rappers focus on trying to be perfect. They try to focus on winning all the battles and if they lose one battle, they freak out. Well guess what, there is no perfect rapper.

The most dangerous thing that you can do is to try to be perfect. That's because you are setting yourself up to fail. In addition, you will experience despair more often. In addition, you will be more likely to not take risks and stretch yourself. By focusing on perfection, you will actually improve slower than ever.

That is why you need to focus on progression rather than on perfection. Focusing on progression allows you to see every experience as a teacher. If you lost a battle, you can at least give yourself credit for going out there and having another battle under your belt. If you sucked at rhyming, at least you can give yourself credit for having more experience in battles.

If you focus on progression, you will improve your battling skills at a faster pace than focusing on perfection. So starting today, never focus on perfection. Never strive to be perfect. Instead, focus on progression and strive to improve at all times.

Positive Interpretation

I have talked about this several times in this course. I want to bring it up again because it is one of the most important success lessons that I have learned from other rappers. Again, the "positive interpretation" rule means to interpret everything and anything as a way to tell yourself you are the best freestyle battle rapper ever.

The more you interpret any and every situation to mean that you are the best freestyle battle rapper, the more you will take action, take risks, and stretch your skills to become even better at a faster pace.

The key is to continually interpret every and any situation for your own benefit.

Now, you may not believe that you are the best freestyle rapper at first. And it does not matter if you believe it or not. The key is to train yourself to believe this. After using the "positive interpretation" rule on a consistent basis, you will actually start to really believe that you are a great freestyle battle rapper.

This new belief will benefit you in so many ways. You will take more risks. You will take more action. You will have better body language. You will be more convincing in your freestyles. You will win the audience more because of your new confidence. You will have better connections with other rappers.

So stop talking negative to yourself because that will slow down your progress. Instead, use the positive interpretation rule and start benefiting from having a very positive, confident, and successful mindset.

Top 10 Questions & Answers

Here are the top questions that I have received from people about how to win freestyle rap battles. Some of the tips are explained again because it is important to emphasize the important points to help you better learn to a deeper level.

Question #1: How much should I practice a day? Half an hour? An hour?

After talking to lots of hip hop emcees, I have learned that it is important to practice as much as possible. That means you want to practice freestyling and battling others every chance you get.

An even more important tip is to set at least 1 to 2 hours a day to devote to practicing every single day. Just like athletes devote their time to work on their body, you must devote a certain amount of hours every day to work on your freestyle battling skills.

Starting out, I would highly recommend spending at least 1 hour a day. Think of it like exercising. Most people spend at least 1 hour a day going to the gym to work on their physical body. Just like that, you want to spend at least 1 hour a day working on improving your skills to become a better freestyle rap battler.

Question #2: How should I prepare for a freestyle battle? How do you get yourself in the mood to battle?

The best way to prepare yourself for a freestyle battle is get relaxed and alert. Too many rappers try to pump themselves up too much to the point it can really make them sound too tense and nervous. The best way to prepare yourself is to relax because the more relaxed you are, the more natural and creative you will be in your freestyles.

Also, focus on having fun. Don't just focus on winning but focus on having fun and enjoying the battling whether you win or lose. If you focus too much just on needing to win, you are going to get way too nervous and it will worsen your performance.

On the other hand, the guys who do really well in rap battles are the ones who are enjoying the process. They focus on having fun. They can mess up but because they are having fun, their relaxed minds will allow them to be more creative naturally.

Question #3: What do you do when you think you are going to lose?

That is a good question. If you sense that you are going to lose in a freestyle rap battle, then you should still try your best. It doesn't mean you should choke or quit. Never ever quit in a freestyle battle.

When you are up against a guy who is much better, you can either move forward or retreat back. Just like you need to give more pressure to build up your physical muscles, you need to put yourself in more pressure situations to build your own freestyle battling skills.

There will be times where you can sense you are going to lose. But if you do nothing about it and just rap with caution, you are not going to improve your battling skills. But if you

face the fear and do it anyways, your confidence and experience level will grow to help you become better in future battles.

In summary, soak up much experience as possible. If you feel that you are going to lose a battle, then look it as a positive aspect because you will only get better after you face those type of challenging situations.

Question #4: How to I think of disses on the spot?

The best way to think of disses is to look at these 2 parts (physical flaws, social flaws). You want to look for both of these flaws in your opponent. Physical flaws mean what's wrong with your opponent in terms of his physicality? Second, social flaws mean what's wrong with your opponent in terms of how he/she fits into society? If he looks like a poor guy, make fun of him being poor. If he is a wannabe gangster, then make fun of that.

Again, you want to first find his flaw and then exaggerate it. The diss doesn't have to be true but you want to make it exaggerated to the point that it makes your opponent look very silly. If your opponent is a wannabe gangster, then you can rap about how he is such a gangster but you saw him last week walking his Chihuahua.

In summary, find a flaw (physical or social) and exaggerate it to make your opponent just look ridiculous.

Question #5: How do you think of big words to rhyme so quick?

The best way to come up with big words is to first practice using those big words before the battle. The best way to improve your freestyle vocabulary is to use a rhyming dictionary and start spitting your freestyle incorporating each of the rhyming words.

If you practice at least 1 hour a day using new freestyle words from a rhyming dictionary, then I guarantee you that you will come up with new and interesting sounding words that will prepare you to freestyle with big words when the battle day comes.

Question #6: How do you come up with punch lines.

The best way to come up with punch lines is to think of a punch line first. A punch line is like the knockout punch in freestyle battles. You can spit your rhymes and freestyle for a long time but then there can be one line that just destroys your opponent and makes the crowd go crazy.

The rule is to first think of the punch line in advance. Then, you want to freestyle your words that rhyme with the punch line BEFORE you spit your punch line. After saying 2 or 3 rhyming lines, then you want to execute your punch line.

In terms of the content to your punch line, you want to make it about dissing your opponent. Again, the best way to diss your opponent is to find his flaws (physical, emotional, social, etc) and to exaggerate it. Your punch line can be the line where you describe his flaws in exaggeration to the fullest.

Question #7: How can I win the 3rd round when I´ve lost the first and the second round?

If you have lost the first two rounds of the battle, then chances are people won't expect much out of you. Some rappers retreat backwards if they feel they are losing the entire battle.

But don't do that ever! That's because people respect someone giving all they got more than a guy who just quits because he feels he is losing.

So if you are in a situation where you are losing the freestyle battle, then this is the best time to stretch your skills to the next level. Don't just back down. Don't retreat. Instead, move forward and attack with your rap as if you are still the better rapper.

Practicing to go forward when you are scared will only help you to be more confident and better in freestyle battles in the future.

Also if you failed the previous rounds because you messed up your rhymes, always know that the next round is a new round where you can come back with a better rhyme. That's the great thing about freestyle battling. You can lose two or three rounds in a row but you can always come back fresh in the next rounds.

So just because you lost the previous rounds does not mean to give up. Instead, look at the new upcoming round as a new fresh opportunity to come back and win the battle.

Question #8: How do I improve my confidence to prepare myself for freestyle battles?

The best way to improve your confidence is to tell yourself positive things about yourself on a consistent basis. There are many great talented rappers who lack the confidence to go into battles. One of the biggest reasons is because most rappers have negative thoughts in their minds.

You don't want to tell yourself that you suck or you are not good enough. That's because your thoughts influence your behavior. From your thoughts, your actions come out naturally. Thus if you have the right mindset with positive thoughts, then your actions will come out more confidently.

So starting today, start to develop a more positive outlook on life, especially about yourself. The fastest way to do this is to interpret everything and anything as a way to help you believe that you are a great freestyle battle rapper.

For example if you won a battle, then tell yourself you won because you are a great freestyle rapper. If you lost, you still tell yourself you are a great rapper. You can tell yourself that you lost because so many people were booing because they were really jealous of your skill.

Whether it's true or not does not matter. What matter is that this exercise of interpreting everything in a positive way will help you to really believe in yourself more. This will help you to build confidence and thus perform much better in your freestyle battles.

After awhile, you will really start believing in your skills more and this will help you develop the true confidence that every MC needs in order to become excellent in freestyle rap battles.

Question #8: How do I constantly keep on rapping and never run out of things to say?

This is a good question. A lot of rappers run out of things to say because they are rapping from memory. They like to just use their memory to rap from what is in their past history or mind.

But the better way to freestyle is to freestyle about what is going on in your mind whether it's real or imagined. The best advice I can give you is to freestyle about what you are experiencing in your physical senses.

If you see something visually, then rap about it. If you can imagine something visually, then rap about it. If you feel something in your body as you are rapping, then rap about it. If you hear some crowd go crazy, then rap about what you hear.

Essentially, you can freestyle rap longer by rapping about what you see, hear, and feel whether it's really going on or what you can imagine in your mind. For example, if you see birds flying in your mind, then rap about it. Try to visualize things while you are freestyling and rap about it. This will help you come up with unlimited amount of content for your freestyle rap battles.

In summary, don't just depend on your memory to freestyle. Instead, use all yours senses to rap about what you are experiencing at that very moment. Thus, your freestyles will be more fluid, creative, and natural compared to other rappers who just rely solely on their memories.

Question #9: How do I rap much faster so that I can impress others in a freestyle battle?

The best way to freestyle faster is to practice your freestyling in faster instrumentals. Stop practicing with the same rap instrumentals that you have been practicing in the past.

If you practice with really fast rap instrumentals, I guarantee you that you will be able to rap much faster than before. You might actually sound horrible in the beginning. Your timing may not even sound good but after doing this for awhile, try freestyling with a normal paced rap beat.

After you practice freestyling with a fast beat for a long time, your freestyling with a normal paced beat will be very impressive. So the best way to rap faster is to practice on faster rap beats. Then, you will be able to rap faster like the faster rappers out there and this will be a very impressive style to many people because it is not something most rappers can do.

Question #10: What is the basic structure to a freestyle?

There are many structures to a freestyle but generally you want to follow the 1-2-3-4 structure.

Here's an example:

- Yo let me – freestyle – when I just – go (1-2-3-4)
- Here I go – when I just – go for – gold (5-6-7-8)

Generally, you want to make the 4th and 8th part to rhyme. Most rap beats will go from 1-2-3-4 structure. The next line will be 1-2-3-4 (but we'll call it 5-6-7-8 just for illustration purposes). On the fourth phase and eight phase, you want to emphasize your words the most because it sounds the best when these two words rhyme.

So you want to follow this 1-2-3-4 structure and make the 4th and 8th phase to rhyme. Make sure to emphasize your words on the 4th and 8th phase because it always sounds better when you emphasize the rhyming words.

After that, you want to continue your freestyle rapping to have this 1-2-3-4 structure and to make the 4th and 8th phase to rhyme. This will make your rap to have the right structure and thus sound good.

After using the same type of rhyming words for about 8 lines, you want to change the type of wording so your freestyle doesn't sound repetitive. This means if you were using words like "go-flow-doe-mo-show" for about 8 lines, then you want to switch it up and rap with new type of rhyming words like "face-place-mace-race".

In summary, make sure to use a 1-2-3-4 structure and make your 4th and 8th phase words to rhyme.

Conclusion

Congratulations! You have now received many great tips to help you become better at freestyle battling. I know there is much useful information here and it may take some time to soak in.

The best advice I can give is for you to take some time to apply each of the lessons for a period of time. After you apply the teachings, then move on to the next lesson.

By applying each of the lessons for a period of time such as a week, you will be able to soak up the lesson in a better way. Again, make sure to apply each of the lessons to benefit from this course in the fullest way.

I would love to hear from you if you have success stories or testimonials. Please send your testimonials to me at freestylemethod@gmail.com.

Again, thanks for getting this course and I wish you the best of success to you in the future. Take care!

To your success,

Mike Min

BattleMethod.com

Recommended Resources

 Freestyle Method • Learn how to freestyle rap better. • Freestyle rap faster, longer, and better so your friends can be impressed by your new skills.	 **Lyrics Method** • Learn how to write a rap song. • This course will show you a step-by-step method on how to write rap lyrics in a creative, unique, and structured way.
 Battle Method • Learn how to win freestyle rap battles. • Discover insider secrets on how to embarrass and destroy your opponents in freestyle battles.	 **Beats Method** • Learn how to make rap beats. • Discover a secret step-by-step formula to create rap instrumentals.

Rap Rich

- Learn how to make money in the rap business.
- Find out how to make money as an independent hip hop artist.

Rap Beats Software

- The most affordable and effective software to create rap instrumentals from the comfort of your own home.
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