All Pop Culture Moves

Please see the following tables to view all pop culture mentor texts pertaining to each mini move.

Moves That Introduce: Pop Culture

Move	Mini-Mentor Text
Just-the-Facts	In what was the second highest profile legal deliberation this week, jurors determined on Thursday that Gwyneth Paltrow was not liable for damages in a ski crash between her and a retired optometrist, Terry Sanderson, causing him, he alleged, a traumatic brain injury. Mr. Sanderson was denied the \$300,000 he sued for, and Ms. Paltrow, whose net worth is reportedly north of \$200 million, was awarded the amount she requested in a countersuit: \$1. –Elizabeth Spiers (2023), "In the Utah Ski Trial, We Are All Gwynnocent," <i>The New York Times</i>
Make the Case	The future of sports is female, folks. The NCAA Women's Basketball Tournament this year shattered viewership records for the First Four round, Sweet 16, Elite 8 and Final Four matches, per ESPN. After the title game, Forbes ran the following headline: "March Madness Finals Ratings Set A Record High For Women, Record Low For Men." Powered in part by the historic play of Iowa's Caitlin Clark, who helped her team all the way to the championship round, the NCAA Women's Basketball Tournament Final drew an average of 9.9 million viewers, making it the most watched women's college basketball game ever. –Michael Stahl (2023), "The Upcoming World Cup Could Be the Most Valuable Women's Tournament in History," <i>InsideHook</i>
What They Said	Ana de Armas made her Saturday Night Live debut last night with a monologue that took full advantage of her bilingual capabilities. De Armas greeted the audience in Spanish, before explaining a bit about her background. "I speak English," De Armas said. "But I didn't when I first got to the U.S. I was born in Cuba." She revealed that she learned English "the way everyone who comes to this country does: by watching <i>Friends</i> ." Stars—they're just like us! —Charu Sinha (2023), "Ana de Armas Goes Bilingual in <i>SNL</i> Monologue," <i>Vulture</i>
Scene-Drop	They're all here waiting. Anxiously swaying on the Sabbath. Impatiently jostling for better sight lines. Blinking with the neuroses that begin to take root when the face of the messiah will never be revealed, no matter how many months of rent are sacrificed for a "Jester on Dice" Homer pendant studded with nine lab-grown diamonds and 18 karats of gold. Zoom in (3x) on the TikTok sorority blonds with the matching jean shorts and white Chucks and "I <3 Frank Ocean" baby tees. The Cobra Kai-headbanded and Jokic-jerseyed consultants who scrawled "Frankchella" on their Jeep Wranglers before plodding east from Venice. The sensitive pilgrims with twice as many stick-and-poke lyric tattoos as their idol has albums, traveling thousands of miles for the resurrection, who crouched like sprinters at the starter's block and stampeded to the front of the stage as soon as the Coachella gates opened at noon. –Jeff Weiss (2023), "What's a God to a Machine?," <i>The Ringer</i>
Then-and-Now	If you thought Taylor Swift was going to shake off the moody melancholy of "Folklore" and "Evermore"-the double dose of alluring alt-folkiness that she gave us in 2020-think again. "Midnights"-the pop superstar's much-anticipated new album that, after arriving at the stroke of midnight on Friday, will be keeping Swifties up all night-is designed for the quiet of the dark. Indeed, Swift's 10th album-which comes almost exactly 10 years after she began to make her play for pop dominance with 2012's "Red"-is a far grayer shade of the 32-year-old singer- songwriterChuck Arnold (2022), "Taylor Swift Goes Dark on New Album 'Midnights," <i>New York</i> <i>Post</i>

Moves That Make a Claim: Pop Culture

Move	Mini-Mentor Text
The Big Idea	In both its incarnations, "All Too Well" is a song about the weaponization of memory. —Lindsay Zoladz (2021), "Taylor Swift's 'All Too Well' and the Weaponization of Memory," <i>The New York Times</i>
Outline It	But this song represents the moment that everything the Beatles did best came together in rich, glorious harmony–studio innovation, pop sensibility, and avant-garde ambition all struck at once and left to ring out like the most stirring chord imaginable. –Lindsay Zoladz (2019), "A Day in the Life," <i>The Ringer</i>
This-and-That	The vivid bloodletting "Traitor" was alternately coffeehouse quiet and arena bombastic, and equally persuasive in both modes. –Jon Caramanica (2022), "Olivia Rodrigo's Punky Heartbreak Revue," <i>The New York Times</i>
Not-This-But-That	But the song isn't really "about" Bruno in the same way the movie isn't really "about" magic. Instead, the movie is actually about unresolved intergenerational trauma (especially in migrant and politically oppressed cultures), while the song actually lays bare the characters' own frustrations, shortcomings, and prejudices. –Chris White (2022), "Why 'We Don't Talk About Bruno' Is the Biggest Disney Hit Since 'Let It Go,'" <i>Slate</i>
Synthesize It	Beyoncé is to millennials what Christianity was to our grandparents; there's a societal expectation that you'll be involved and occasionally perform conspicuous acts of piety, though as a Christmas-and-Easter-type Beyoncéist, my faith is hardly integral to my identity. –Michael Baumann (2018), "Beyoncé Sings 'Halo' at a Hospital," <i>The Ringer</i>

Moves That Define: Pop Culture

Move	Mini-Mentor Text
It Is What It Is	Ballet is an otherworldly art, more than a few cool moves strung together by a trendy choreographer. –Gia Kourlas (2024), "What Is Ballet in the 21st Century? It's All Over the Place," <i>The New York Times</i>
Say My Name	When "Inside Out 2" opens, Joy is still running the show with Sadness, Anger (Lewis Black), Fear (Tony Hale) and Disgust (Liza Lapira) inside a bright tower called headquarters. –Manohla Dargis (2024), "'Inside Out 2' Review: PUBERTY! OMG! LOL! IYKYK!," <i>The New York Times</i>
Keep It Appositive	It was that same friend, she said, who coaxed her into trying what's known as aggressive or in-line street skating, a style heavy on tricks and stunts like grinding curbs, skidding on railings and spinning along half-pipes. –Max Berlinger (2023), "At More Skate Parks, an 'Aggressive' Takeover," <i>The New York Times</i>
Gimme an Example	Cringe: the ultimate insult of our era. It implies a kind of pathetic attachment to hope, to sincerity, to possibility. Cringe is not exclusively female; the musical "Hamilton," written by a man, Lin-Manuel Miranda, is definitely cringe. –Lydia Polgreen (2023), "Why Is Everyone Suddenly Listening to a Staple of My Angsty Adolescence?," <i>The New York Times</i>
Engage With Etymology	Nostalgia is derived from the Greek words for "homecoming" and "pain," and before it referred to a yearning for the past, it was a psychopathological disorder, describing a homesickness so severe it could actually kill. Nostalgia itself represented a form of traumatic stress, and now pseudo-therapeutic treatments have made their way into our cultural retrospectives. So while Serena Williams appears on MasterClass to teach tennis, and Ringo Starr to teach drumming, Clinton arrives to school us on "the power of resilience." –Amanda Hess (2021), "Victory Speech (Hillary's Version)," <i>The New York Times</i>

Moves That Describe: Pop Culture

Move	Mini-Mentor Text
Describing Lists	Most of us have an idea of what Major League Baseball games are supposed to feel like. Crowded stands. Calls for <i>peanuts</i> ! Fans commiserating pleasantly like picnickers at a city park. —Dan Moore (2023), "The Long, Sad Story of the Stealing of the Oakland A's," <i>The Ringer</i>
Say It Again, But Make It Specific	Barbecue's ability to reflect whatever might be hot at the time (from reality TV to the taco craze) isn't new; in fact, barbecue has a long history of permeation, perhaps best experienced by the ongoing barbecue feud that plagues the South. From the Atlantic to the Gulf, bordered by the western outposts of Texas and Kansas City, the area of the United States known as the "barbecue belt" houses four distinct barbecue traditions—Carolina, Texas, Memphis and Kansas City. —Natasha Geiling (2023), "The Evolution of American Barbecue," <i>Smithsonian Magazine</i>
Dash That Describes	The growing tension in the second verse—when the drums kick in and the piano becomes more forceful, like a film score foreshadowing a pivotal moment—took me right back to when Rodrigo and producer Dan Nigro used the same trick on her 2021 breakout hit, "drivers license." —Justin Curto (2023), "Olivia Rodrigo Is Perfecting the Formula on 'vampire,'" <i>Vulture</i>
Let's Imagine	Imagine that the most important part of your job were so difficult to accomplish that your boss would be happy if you succeeded once every 40 tries. What if you got a major bonus if you could do it twice that often? That's life for an NFL pass rusher. The scarcity of sacks is what makes rushing the passer such a sought-after skill—one that's probably second only to a quarterback's ability to throw—and why the best players at the position are earning the same money as the league's top wide receivers. —Diante Lee (2024), "Which NFL Teams Have the Best Pass-Rushing Corps?," <i>The Ringer</i>
Figurative Language Comparison	She remembers infraction after infraction, and her vocal performance races from rueful rumination to bitter crescendo, the piano galloping alongside her, and the song feels like it's approaching liftoff. The pre-chorus has a dreamy lightheadedness to it that's quickly become a Rodrigo trademark—as has her way with a punch to the gut. —Laura Snapes (2023), "Olivia Rodrigo: Vampire Review—A Brilliant, Biting Comeback," <i>The Guardian</i>

Moves That Provide Evidence: Pop Culture

Move	Mini-Mentor Text
Hyperlink Layers	Beyoncé <u>did warn us</u> . Cowboy Carter is bigger than a country album— <u>it's a Beyoncé album</u> . The follow-up to 2022's <u>Renaissance</u> is an odyssey through American history and music, stacked with just as many references as its counterpart, covering everything from classic rock to opera to rap. –Justin Curto (2024), "Two-Steppin' Our Way Through Cowboy Carter: The People, Songs, and History Behind Beyoncé's Americana Odyssey," <i>Vulture</i>
Reference a Visual	Michelle Yeoh looks like a classic movie star at the Balenciaga Couture show in this floor-length leather trench and oversize sunnies. I want to channel this energy every time I leave the house. [The image that would be provided alongside the writing in this figure shows Michelle Yeoh wearing a long black leather coat with a belt at the waist. She is also wearing large, dark sunglasses. The scene appears to be outside, likely at an event or a gathering, as there are photographers and people around her taking pictures. Her hair is short and dark. She is confident, while a crowd of onlookers and security personnel surround her. The overall atmosphere suggests a high-profile event.] –Brooke LaMantia (2024), "What Michelle Yeoh, Tyler, the Creator, and Paris Hilton Wore This Week," The Cut
The Fold In	Taylor Swift has been getting increasingly sporty since she started dating Travis Kelce Then, there was all that talk about potentially getting invested in Formula 1: Per "Page Six," she and "the guy on the Chiefs" reportedly had plans to attend this year's Monaco Grand Prix. —Emily Leibert (2024), "Taylor Swift Really Loves Simone Biles's Floor Routine," <i>The Cut</i>
Paraphrase It	Quote from an interview with sneaker enthusiast Juan Ballesteros (De Los Santos, 2024): "I wouldn't have felt any type of way. In my two years collecting sneakers I have tried to buy so many sneakers and ended up failing. It's just a part of the sneaker game, you have to learn to accept you won't always be able to purchase what you want." Mentor text: In the end, it might not matter to weathered sneakerheads. The thrill comes from buying the shoe, yes, but it also comes in the chase. As Ballesteros put it, he said even if he'd gone through that trouble to get to Washington Square Park only to find out the shoes had been sold out, it wouldn't have been all that different than what he's used toBrian De Los Santos (2017), "Sole Searching: Inside the Wild World of Nike's High-Tech Scavenger Hunts," Mashable
End With Analysis	The statement from Donahoe is what you'd expect from a CEO that landed a contract. While I don't doubt that he wants to show ultimate confidence in his brand, it also comes across as dishonest to me. "It was a remarkable team effort and a great proof point that when Nike brings out our best, no one can beat us," Donahoe said. What best are you and Nike bringing out, John Donahoe? Did you have a design-off presentation to win the contract? I doubt it. Spending two times the amount of money isn't "showing Nike at its best." I know people will view me as a person with more affinity for Adidas than Nike. And that's true. But I'm not a huge champion of Gulden or supporter of Germany. It feels like a weird manipulation of the situation to say that Germany went with Nike because they were going to make better things. It feels more about the money. And it's OK to just say that. –Matt Welty (2024), "Adidas Losing Germany to Nike Is One of Its Biggest Failures," <i>Complex</i>

Moves That Summarize: Pop Culture

Move	Mini-Mentor Text
Define and Detail	The music video for "Fortnight," the first from Taylor Swift's <i>Tortured Poets Department</i> era, has arrived. The visuals for this Post Malone collab are black and white, cinematic, and full of period costumes and typewriters. But of course, there's always more to Swift's symbolism than set dressing might suggest. —Erica Gonzales, Alyssa Bailey, and Lauren Puckett-Pope (2024), "All the Easter Eggs in Taylor Swift's Cinematic 'Fortnight' Music Video," <i>ELLE Magazine</i>
Pivot Synopsis	"Black Panther" took some of the spy-thriller shape of a Bond movie, and the sequel carries that on in a new geopolitical context. At the United Nations, the United States and France are pressuring for access to vibranium, the rare metal that Wakanda has built its empire on. Soon after, a U.S. military expedition discovers vibranium at the bottom of the ocean. But just as they're celebrating, a mysterious tribe of blue underwater people, led by Namor, a pointy-eared monarch in green short-shorts with wings on his ankles, ruthlessly wipe out the entire expedition. –Jake Coyle (2022), "In 'Wakanda Forever,' an Empire Mourns and Rebuilds," <i>Associated Press</i>
The Devil in the Details	There was also a moment in which Styles allegedly spit on Pine during the seating for the premiere. In the clip, Styles, arriving at his seat, seems to spit into Pine's lap; at that same moment, Pine appears to react by stopping his applause and flashes a look many read as something between annoyance and bemusement. Having zoomed in on photos and slow-motion scrubbed back and forth on the videos that exist of Styles sitting down next to Pine, I am exhausted at looking at Styles's lip quiver but did not see any spittle flying in any one direction. There's also a theory that Pine was merely realizing his sunglasses were on his lap at the same time that Styles approached him. Pine's rep has flatly denied that there was spitting, calling it a "result of an odd online illusion." –Alex Abad-Santos (2022), "The Many Scandals of Don't Worry Darling, Explained," Vox
Cause and Effect Sandwich	In January, Kensington Palace confirmed she'd undergone an unspecified "abdominal surgery." By March, the princess—who is married to Prince William—had not been seen for almost three months. With little concrete information, rumors and conspiracy theories have flourished. An innocuous attempt to allay the public's curiosity with a Mother's Day photograph fanned the flames, quickly snowballing into an unmitigated disaster. —K. J. Yossman (2024), "Where Is Kate Middleton? What We Know So Far," <i>Variety</i>
Quote It to Me	"Like many amateur photographers, I do occasionally experiment with editing," Catherine "Kate" Middleton, a.k.a. the Princess of Wales, apparently wrote on social media Monday, personally apologizing for doctoring an official photo of herself with her children. The photo, posted for Mother's Day in the UK, first drew attention from suspicious royal watchers online, whose doubts were confirmed when the AP issued a "photo kill" for the image, declaring it manipulated. "I wanted to express my apologies for any confusion the family photograph we shared yesterday caused." –Alex Abad-Santos (2024a), "Kate Middleton's Edited Mother's Day Photo, Explained by an Expert," Vox

Moves That Contextualize: Pop Culture

Move	Mini-Mentor Text
Let's Compare	McBride's got jokes like Ali Wong's got jokes. Like your colmado's got jokes. –Junot Díaz (2020), "James McBride's 'Deacon King Kong' Is a Supercharged Urban Farce Lit Up by Thunderbolts of Rage," <i>The New York Times</i>
Double Date	D'Arcy has been grappling with this tension since "Dragon" first aired in 2022, when it became the most-watched premiere in HBO's history. Set approximately 200 years before "Game of Thrones," the show centers on the Targaryen dynasty before its dramatic fall. –Simran Hans (2024), "Emma D'Arcy, Master of 'Dragon,'" <i>The New York Times</i>
Show Me the Data	On the day of <i>Cowboy Carter</i> 's release, music video network Vevo reported a 38% increase in views of country music videos globally. From Rhiannon Giddens' banjo to Linda Martell's pioneering EP, every country artist featured on the album has seen an increase in first-time or catalog listeners according to Spotify. –Nielsen (2024), "The ' <i>Cowboy Carter</i> Effect'–Increasing Young Black Listeners' Engagement With Country Music"
Educated Inference	As for the next steps, there are many factors beyond just on-field performance U.S. Soccer will consider. The federation likely is aware of the discourse around Berhalter and the national team, in which a growing sector of fans has trained its focus on the coach as the problem. "Berhalter out" has been a rallying cry on social media, ubiquitous in any discussion or debate around the team. –Paul Tenorio (2024), "Gregg Berhalter Helped Rebuild the USMNT. Will He Be the One to Lead Them at the 2026 World Cup?," <i>The Athletic</i>
Past and Present Connection	Clara Bow was a flapper icon, starring in movies like <i>Mantrap</i> and <i>It</i> —the nickname "It Girl" was invented for her. But then she got abruptly forgotten and left behind by history. It's a story Swift has told often before, from "The Lucky One" to "Nothing New." But [in <i>Tortured Poets</i>] she's singing in the voice of the starstruck small-town girl, flattered to be molded into a Hollywood ingenue. —Rob Sheffield (2024), "Come for the Torture, Stay for the Poetry: This Might Be Taylor Swift's Most Personal Album Yet," <i>Rolling Stone</i>

Moves That Add Voice: Pop Culture

Move	Mini-Mentor Text
Say It Slang	If you need help re-orienting yourself to where things stand, vis-a-vis exactly whose noble keister now sits the Iron Throne and precisely which royal chump got his fool self royally chomped, here's a handy refresher. —Glen Weldon (2024), "'House of the Dragon' Season Premiere: I Told You the Rats Would Be a Whole Thing," <i>NPR</i>
Ask a Question	The candy-store music, the ultra-synthetic animation, the mixture of slow, bobbing movement and relentless editing—watch it for more than a few minutes, and you feel like you're hallucinating. Where are we? Who are these children? JJ has only two teeth, but he knows the alphabet and plays soccer. What sort of baby is this? –Jia Tolentino (2024), "How Cocomelon Captures Our Children's Attention," <i>The New Yorker</i>
Put It in Parentheses	And Brenda, as played memorably by Shannen Doherty, who died on Saturday, knew who her peers were. When she dons a (hideous) hat in Season 1, she is met with derision. "Hippie witch is out," sneers Kelly (Jennie Garth). –Margaret Lyons (2024), "In 'Beverly Hills, 90210,' Shannen Doherty Redefined Teen TV Drama," <i>The New York Times</i>
Connect Personally	I must tell you that I have been <i>Ratatouille</i> 'd. Except instead of a rodent making me cook gourmet meals, it's a blonde 4'11" pop star named Sabrina Carpenter controlling my motor functions to make me repeat a phrase that doesn't even make sense: "That's that me espresso." "We don't have Coke, is Pepsi okay?" That's that me espresso. "How much do you want to contribute to your 401(k)?" That's that me espresso. "Sir, do you know why we pulled you over? Do you know how fast you were going?" That's that me espresso. Like the man Carpenter's singing about in "Espresso," I am up thinking about her every night– and of course her espresso. –Alex Abad-Santos (2024b), "Sabrina Carpenter's 'Espresso,' the Song of the Summer, Explained," <i>Vox</i>
Make It Metaphorical	Eilish is known for taking her time in a song, sometimes crawling through a melody as though it were a bowl of molasses, and she often chooses to sing in a whisper, letting a note hang in the air before it dissipates entirely. Her vocal style reminds me of an evanescing cloud of smoke after someone blows out a cluster of birthday candles—beautiful, fleeting, a little bit haunted. — Amanda Petrusich (2024), "The Anxious Love Songs of Billie Eilish," <i>The New Yorker</i>

Moves That Conclude: Pop Culture

Move	Mini-Mentor Text
What We Don't Know and What We Do	Whatever the case, the film industry status quo that Zaslav has come to symbolize seems unsustainable—and, with the ongoing strikes, it's not being sustained at all—and Nolan's adherence to tradition suggests movies can still be made, distributed, and watched the way they were before the disruptions of the last decade. Whether he'll be a model for others to follow or one of the last of his kind remains the great, unanswered question. —Keith Phipps (2023), "Christopher Nolan, Warner Bros., and the Struggle for the Soul of Movies," <i>The Ringer</i>
What's Next?	The Knicks still own a couple of protected firsts, but for most intents and purposes, they went all in on a team that just ran out of gas in the second round. It's an ambitious, gutsy call. If it works, we'll talk about this group for the rest of our lives. If they continuously get to the playoffs and can't defeat any teams that employ superstars better than their own, they may come to regret pushing all their chips in on a pretty good player who, um, definitely isn't Kevin Durant. –Michael Pina (2024a), "Did the Knicks Just Get Fleeced on the Most Expensive Reunion Ever?," <i>The Ringer</i>
Share the Last Word	Biles has also said she's focused less on external judgment. In Tokyo, some viewers reacted negatively to Biles's decision to pull out of competition, and if athletes—including her—make similar decisions in Paris, it's possible it could engender that same response from certain observers. "I think it has to be for us, because it can't be for anybody else because that's not why we do it. We do it for ourselves, and the love for this sport, and the love for representing the US," Biles said in the press briefing. —Li Zhou (2024), "Simone Biles Is So Back," Vox
The Bottom Line	In a gaming landscape where nearly every open world game can, eventually, be reduced into a simple set of chores on a map, the first 20 hours of <i>Tears of the Kingdom</i> are a revelation. No game since <i>Elden Ring</i> has sparked our sense of discovery so strongly—and where that game over-awed with scale and mystery, this latest <i>Zelda</i> game does something similar with an energetic sense of play. If the phrase "The <i>WarioWare</i> of <i>Zelda</i> games" makes sense to you, you understand what we're trying to convey here; if not, then we'll put it in simpler language: One of the most talented video game design teams on the planet has let their imaginations go with this one, and the results are impeccable. We can't wait to play more. —William Hughes (2023), "First Impressions: <i>Zelda: Tears of the Kingdom</i> Is the Most Purely Fun Nintendo Game in a Decade," <i>AV Club</i>
Solve the Problem	It is but one way of keeping the Dead alive. There are so many ways to express yourself, so many paths into and out of this music. Everyone has the right to desire their own expansion, to test their edges and see what else they might be able to contain. I see so many people on Dead tours who can't possibly dress this way in their everyday lives. On tour, or at the one show they can afford to hit, or watching the livestream at home, or catching some local Dead band struggle through the "Slipknot!" changes, Deadheads enact the answer to a simple problem. The alienation we all feel is real and unavoidable. What if we learned to understand it as good? – Sadie Sartini Garner (2023), "A Requiem for the Dead," <i>The Ringer</i>

Moves That Organize: Pop Culture

Move	Mini-Mentor Text
Topic Sentence Transition	Written 200 years ago, the "Ode" is crafted like the best of pop songs, with easily hummable, simple phrases that use the same techniques you hear in a Taylor Swift hit today. But the "Ode" is more than pop. It's a supranational anthem that aspires to a world in which "all men become brothers," as its lyrics say. –Joshua Barone (2024), "Why We Still Want to Hear the 'Ode to Joy,' 200 Years Later," <i>The New York Times</i>
Hinge Transition	He was no longer as sculpted and vibrant as his glory days. Yet, somehow, he was no less statuesque. His aura was still 60 feet. His presence still kingly. I couldn't call my dad, who'd passed away by the time of my encounter. So I called his oldest brother, who I knew would comprehend my awe. —Marcus Thompson II (2024), "Willie Mays Is a Monument to an Era of Black Baseball Gone but Never Forgotten," <i>The Athletic</i>
List It	 Once you've identified a burn, Njoroge says, it's crucial to soothe and treat any inflammation. Severe burns might need medical attention but, for milder cases, "anything that can reduce the skin's temperature," she says, "will reduce discomfort and potentially reduce post-inflammatory hyperpigmentation." Here, her favorite, cooling post-sun routine: Put Farmacy's Honey Potion Plus, a hydrating mask with skin-soothing antioxidants, in the fridge for an hour and then apply it to your face for 10 to 15 minutes. (Aloe gel is a cost-friendly alternative.) Shower in cool water and dry yourself by gently patting, rather than rubbing, your skin to avoid aggravating it further. Apply a cool compress to irritated areas for up to 10 minutes. Wear free-flowing clothes until your skin has healed. Nia Decaille (2024), "Are You Wearing Sunscreen the Right Way?," The New York Times Style Magazine
Add Subheadings	Subheadings: • Who's beefing with who? • Who is Drake dissing on "Push Ups"? • Drake's latest round with Kendrick took a particularly dark turn • Drake has previously thrived in beefs—but can he win when the whole industry is against him? –Kyndall Cunningham (2024), "How 'Not Like Us' Became an Anti-Drake Anthem," Vox
Visual Anchoring	Now a combined 74 years old, Team USA's all-time leaders in points and assists still looked like giants; their combined shot chart is excellence everlasting: [Diagram of Team USA's shot chart] As a whole, Team USA made 56 percent of its 3s and 68 percent of its 2s. Steph Curry's screens induced chaos, Anthony Edwards's athleticism ignited fast-break opportunities, Devin Booker's outside stroke punctured a game plan that packed the paint, and Jrue Holiday, Bam Adebayo, Anthony Davis, and Derrick White put on a defensive clinic. –Michael Pina (2024b), "Team USA Looks Unstoppable, but It's Not a Dream Team Yet," <i>The Ringer</i>