

LeRondres Kitchen

Instructor's Name

ENGL 1013

Date

### Pop's Greatest

Although he is criticized almost daily, has been on trial for child molestation, and has gone through multiple surgeries, Michael Jackson is the all-time greatest pop star. Because of the number of albums sold, records held, and concert tickets sold, he is the greatest.

Having three of the best-selling albums ever is the first reason that proves Michael Jackson is the all-time greatest pop star. *The Guinness Book of World Records* states that his album *Thriller* is the best-selling record of all time with over 104 million copies sold. *History: Past, Present, and Future*, another album by Jackson, according to *Album Collectors Everywhere (A.C.E.) Magazine*, sold eighteen million copies worldwide, making it the best-selling multiple-disk album. Jackson also has the best remix album of all time, *Blood on the Dance Floor / History in the Mix*, which sold six million copies worldwide, as reported by Howard Billy of Jive Records.

The second reason that Michael Jackson is the best pop star ever is the number of records he has held. Michael Jackson's *Thriller* had the longest stay at number one on the charts. It remained there for thirty-seven weeks, according to Epic Records. Also, with his album *Thriller*, he had the record of being the first artist to have seven top-ten singles from one album. Billboard's Pop Charts and Black Charts showed that Jackson, in the 1980s, was the first person to have five number-one hits from one LP. Billboard's Top 100 also reported that Michael Jackson has the most number-one singles of any male recording artist ever. Michael Jackson

holds the record for the most American Music Awards, World Music Awards, and Grammy Awards won in a single year, making him have more awards than any other artist in music history, according to the *Musical Book of Records*.

Outstanding concert attendance provides the third reason that Jackson is the greatest pop star ever. *Faux Chronicles* reports that at Jackson's *Bad* Tour there was an attendance of over thirty million people. The *Chronicles* said that after the tickets sold out, fans that lived nearby brought wide-screen televisions to the parking lot and ordered pay per view. Berry Gordy, Jr., the owner of Motown Records, stated that "Michael Jackson's concerts had a phenomenal number of people, people of every color, sex, and nationality."

Michael Jackson has had an astounding number of albums sold world wide, records set, and concert attendance statistics compiled. Definitely, Michael Jackson is the greatest pop star ever.