What is Guided Discovery?

Stage 1: Setting the context

Ask students if they usually read or write reviews. Ask them why reviews are important and if they have ever bought something, been to a concert or watched a film because of a review.

Stage 2: Presenting language to students via text

Ask students to read the album review. In order to give them a reason to read, you can ask:

1. What’s the author general opinion about the album?
2. Based on this review, would you like to buy / download / listen to the album?

Led Zeppelin’s debut album follows a popular formula: an excellent guitarist, who is now considered to be a musical deity, a competent rhythm section and a pretty soul belter. Jimmy Page, around whom the Zeppelin revolves, is, admittedly, an extraordinarily proficient blues guitarist; unfortunately, he is also a very limited producer and a writer of weak, unimaginative songs, and the Zeppelin album suffers from his having both produced it and written most of it. In their willingness to waste their considerable talent on unworthy material, the Zeppelin has produced an album which is sadly reminiscent of most blues albums produced in Britain in the 60s.

Stage 3: Guided discovery - focus on Meaning, Pronunciation and Form

1 Read the text again and find a collocation that means:

Pieces of music of low quality
A band’s first record
A large amount of natural ability
Songs and music that don’t deserve respect
(because they were copied from other bands)
A method that is believed to always work
Dull, tedious pieces of music

What do these word combinations have in common?
Why are they being used in a review?

2 Mark the stress in the following collocations. One example is given:

- debut album
- considerable talent
- unworthy material
- popular formula
- weak songs
- unimaginative songs

3 Can you remember the collocations?