



ELA Virtual Learning

AP Lang and Comp:
Satire

May 13, 2020



AP Lang and Comp Lesson: May 13, 2020

Objective/Learning Target:

To develop an understanding of satire, students will:

- Become familiar with the underlying concepts behind satire
- Analyze the interaction between satire and current events

Background Information:

Satire is a technique employed by writers to expose and criticize foolishness and corruption of an individual or a society, by using humor, irony, exaggeration, or ridicule. It intends to improve humanity by criticizing its follies and foibles. A writer in a satire uses fictional characters, which stand for real people, to expose and condemn their corruption.

A writer may point a satire toward a person, a country, or even the entire world. Usually, a satire is a comical piece of writing which makes fun of an individual or a society, to expose its stupidity and shortcomings. In addition, he hopes that those he criticizes will improve their characters by overcoming their weaknesses.

Before you begin...

Satire is categorized into three different titles. Familiarize yourself with the definitions.

Horatian: Horatian satire is comic and offers light social commentary. It is meant to poke fun at a person or situation in an entertaining way.

Juvenalian: Juvenalian satire is dark, rather than comedic. It is meant to speak truth to power.

Menippean: Menippean satire casts moral judgment on a particular belief.

Warm-Up Activity:

In this cartoon,

- What is the artist saying about the youth of America as compared to China?
- Is the implication effective? Why or why not?
- Is this an example of horatian, juvenalian, or menippean satire?



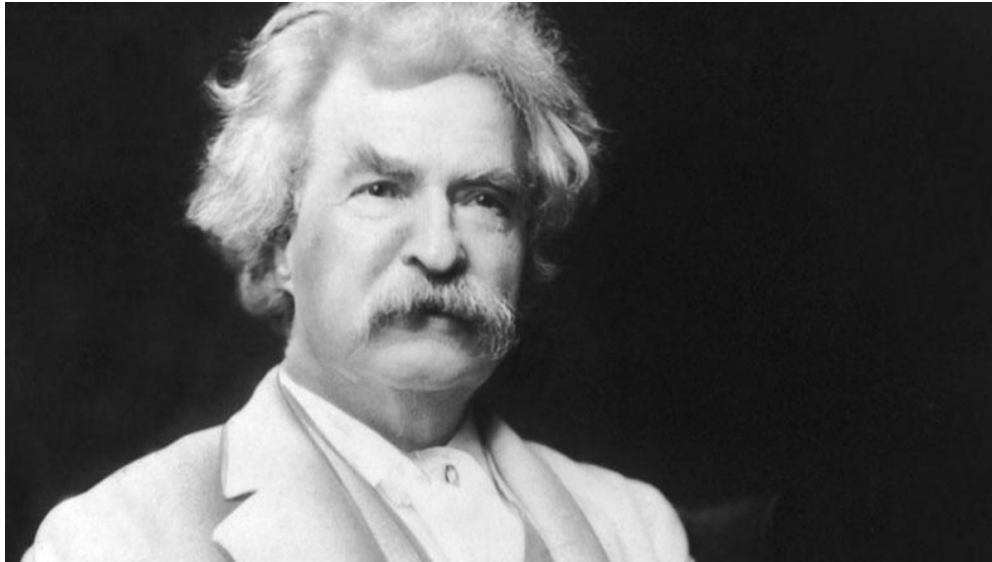
Lesson:

- Today, you will be analyzing Mark Twain’s “Advice to Youth” (1882). In this lesson, you will be focusing on the satire that Twain used. As you revisit, keep in mind the topics that Twain focused on and the approach that he used.
- Step One: Revisit the piece: “[Advice to Youth](#)”
- Step Two: Answer the [text dependent questions](#) that accompany the piece.

The following slides will contain the answer key. Do not move on until you have complete the three steps.

Advice to Youth Answer Key

- Access the answer key [here](#).



Further Practice:

- Advice to Youth has implications that are still relevant today. Mark Twain offers advice to young readers in his essay, “Advice to Youth” written in 1882. Are his critiques about society and the behaviors of people in it relevant to today's society? Is Twain’s advice relevant to today’s youth?
- Write a short response in which you state your claims in answer to each of the above questions, making your claims and reasons clear and supporting them with at least one piece of appropriate and specific evidence from either Twain's essay or a connection to an important topic today.