

Jacksonian Democracy

4 areas of focus:

Politics

- universal white male suffrage
- expansion of Executive Branch
- "spoils system"
- Rise of the Whig Party
- "corrupt bargain"

Tariff

- Tariff of Abominations
- Nullification Crisis
- John C. Calhoun
- Webster-Hayne Debates

Native Americans

- Indian Removal Act
- Worcester v. Georgia
- Trail of Tears

Banks

- Veto of 2nd Bank of U.S.
- "pet banks"
- distrust of Eastern elite

A Few Common Literary Elements

rhetorical question
onomatopoeia
iambic pentameter
paradox

apostrophe
personification
metaphor
hyperbole

allusion
simile
synecdoche
alliteration

2. "It was the summer of 1963. Was emancipation a fact? Was freedom a force?"

3. "The governor of Buenos Aires took everything, but left me your heart. Come; your presence will either return me to life or cause me to die of joy."

4. "In his blue gardens, men and girls came and went *like moths*. . . . Fresh faces drifted here and there *like rose petals* blown by the sad horns around the floor."

5. "I was seized with a great sense of insecurity and loneliness. I was yet liable to be taken back, and subjected to all the tortures of slavery. . . . There I was *in the midst of thousands and yet a perfect stranger*."

6. "There shall your master have a thousand loves,
A mother and a mistress and a friend . . ."

7. "The angels, not *half so happy* in heaven
Went envying *her* and me."

8. "O death, where is thy sting?"

9. "The pearl *beckoned* to him; it *winked*."

10. Lear: "Art not ashamed to look upon this *beard*?"

11. "An aged man is but a paltry thing,
A tattered coat upon a stick, unless . . ."

12. "In Spenser, Shakespeare, Milton, Keats, we can follow the tradition of the liquid diction, the fluid movement, of Chaucer."

L'Allegro

by John Milton

Hence, loathed Melancholy,
Of Cerberus and blackest Midnight born
In Stygian cave forlorn
'Mongst horrid shapes, and shrieks, and sights unholy!
5 Find out some uncouth cell,
Where brooding Darkness spreads his jealous wings,
And the night raven sings;
There, under ebon shades and low-browed rocks,
As ragged as thy locks,
10 In dark Cimmerian desert ever dwell.
But come, thou Goddess fair and free,
In heaven yclept Euphrosyne,
And by men heart-easing Mirth;
Whom lovely Venus at a birth,
15 With two sister Graces more,
To ivy-crown'd Bacchus bore:
Or whether (as some sager sing)
The frolic wind that breathes the spring,
Zephyr, with Aurora playing,
20 As he met her once a-Maying,
There, on beds of violets blue,
And fresh-blown roses washed in dew,
Filled her with thee, a daughter fair,
So buxom, blithe, and debonair.
25 Haste thee, Nymph, and bring with thee
Jest, and youthful Jollity,
And Quips and Cranks and Wanton Wiles,
Nods and Becks and wreathed Smiles,
Such as hang on Hebe's cheek,
30 And love to live in dimple sleek;
Sport that wrinkled Care derides,
And Laughter holding both his sides.
Come, and trip it, as you go,
On the light fantastic toe;
35 And in thy right hand lead with thee,
The mountain-nymph, sweet Liberty;
And, if I give thee honour due,
Mirth, admit me of thy crew,
To live with her, and live with thee,
40 In unreprieved pleasures free . . .

... The hidden soul of harmony;
 That Orpheus' self may heave his head
 From golden slumber on a bed
 Of heaped Elysian flowers, and hear
 45 Such strains as would have won the ear
 Of Pluto to have quite set free
 His half-regained Eurydice.
 These delights if thou canst give,
 Mirth, with thee I mean to live.

Analysis: L'Allegro

Can you summarize Milton's poem? Don't worry if you can't. It is filled with complex language and imagery. When confronted with difficult pieces such as this, it is often hard to know where to start. The task can seem overwhelming.

As discussed on page 16, to analyze means to break into parts. You can begin an analysis by first isolating specific literary devices and then examining how they are used to contribute to the poem's meaning. A reader familiar with classical allusions would be able to glean quite a bit of information from Milton's choice of words. That reader might quickly generate the following list.

Cerberus: the three-headed dog/monster who guards the gate of Hades

Stygian cave: The Styx is one of the five major rivers in classical hell.

uncouth: strange, dreadful

ebon: black, dark (like ebony)

Cimmerian: Morpheus, the god of sleep, was supposed to have a cave in this proverbially dark land of Cimmeria.

yclept: archaic way of saying "named"

Euphrosyne: goddess of mirth (joy)

Venus: the goddess of love, supposedly the mother of Euphrosyne

Bacchus: god of revelry, the father of Euphrosyne, at least in one myth

Zephyr (the warm nurturing wind) and **Aurora** (the goddess of dawn) are Mirth's parents in another myth. In any case, Mirth is the offspring of happy, positive parents.

buxom: jolly; lively; here, means "full of gaiety"

Quips and Cranks: smart jests and clever witticisms

Hebe: goddess of youth who pours nectar into Jove's (Jupiter's) cup

Using the explanations in the list above, see if you can paraphrase each line of the poem. The first one is done for you.

1. "Hence, loathed Melancholy, / Of Cerberus and blackest Midnight born" (lines 1-2)

First, the cheerful man tells Melancholy to go away. This poor, sad creature was born of Cerberus and darkest midnight.

2. "In Stygian cave forlorn / 'Mongst horrid shapes, and shrieks, and sights unholy!" (lines 3-4)

3. "Find out some uncouth cell, / Where brooding Darkness spreads his jealous wings," (lines 5-6)

4. "And the night raven sings; / There, under ebon shades and low-browed rocks," (lines 7-8)

5. "As ragged as thy locks, / In dark Cimmerian desert ever dwell." (lines 9-10)

6. "But come, thou Goddess fair and free, / In heaven yclept Euphrosyne," (lines 11-12)

7. "And by men heart-easing Mirth; / Whom lovely Venus, at a birth," (lines 13-14)

8. "With two sister Graces more, / To ivy-crown'd Bacchus bore:" (lines 15-16)

9. "Or whether (as some sager sing) / The frolic wind that breathes the spring, / Zephyr, with Aurora playing, / As he met her once a-Maying," (lines 17-20)

10. "There, on beds of violets blue, / And fresh-blown roses washed in dew, / Filled her with thee, a daughter fair, / So buxom, blithe, and debonair." (lines 21-24)

11. "Haste thee, Nymph, and bring with thee / Jest, and youthful
Jollity, / And Quips and Cranks and Wanton Wiles / Nods
and Becks and wreathed Smiles," (lines 25-28)
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12. "Such as hang on Hebe's cheek, / And love to live in dimple
sleek;" (lines 29-30)
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Now can you tell what this complex poem is saying? Basically, Milton has taken all these lines to say: "Go away Melancholy and all the dark and sad things that accompany you, and welcome Mirth (joy or jollity), daughter of parents who bring happiness."



Symbolism and Allusion: Activity 1

Usually reserved for gravestones, an epitaph sums up a person's life or achievements in a few well-chosen lines. It can also help you test your knowledge of many of the mythological, classical, literary, and biblical characters with whom you must be familiar.

Write epitaphs for the characters below. The first few, written by other AP students, are done for you.

1. Achilles

- Fighting and killing have been my whole life,
But why did I fight this war over another's wife?
- With all the ingenuity in the Greek army's fleet
You'd think they'd invent armor for the feet.
- Never trust a woman.

2. Clytemnestra

My husband was away for years numbering ten,
But when he came home, I shouldn't have done him in.

3. Iphigenia

My father sent for me saying he had given me away,
So in my homeland I no longer wanted to stay.
But when I went to him what a terrible deed he performed—
He sacrificed me so there would be no more storm.

4. Brutus

5. Hester Prynne

6. Pip

7. Ophelia

8. Tom Sawyer

9. Herod

10. Zeus



Symbolism and Allusion: Activity 2

The analogies below are based on mythological, literary, and biblical characters. For each one, choose the answer that best completes the relationship. (Answers are on page 63.)

1. Solomon : wisdom :: Hermes :
 - (A) honesty
 - (B) humor
 - (C) malevolence
 - (D) swiftness
2. Whitney : cotton gin :: Daedalus :
 - (A) conundrum
 - (B) Icarus

- (C) labyrinth
- (D) minotaur

3. Hercules : weakness :: Penelope :

- (A) infidelity
- (B) infirmity
- (C) marriage
- (D) strength

4. Damocles : sword :: Sisyphus :

- (A) fire
- (B) pendulum
- (C) stone
- (D) hill

5. Electra : Oedipus :: David :

- (A) Absalom
- (B) Bathsheba
- (C) Saul
- (D) Goliath

6. Job : faith :: Cain :

- (A) flock
- (B) greed
- (C) envy
- (D) pride

7. Newcastle : coals :: swine :

- (A) bacon
- (B) pearls
- (C) purse
- (D) stitches

A Profusion of Allusions

The following characters and events are common allusions in poetry and prose. Knowing them well will help you raise your AP score.

Abraham and Isaac: In Genesis, Abraham offers his beloved son Isaac as a sacrifice.