

Chilly Winds

Chorus:

I'm going where those chilly winds don't blow, darlin' baby
I'm going where those chilly winds don't blow
I'm goin' to my long lonesome home

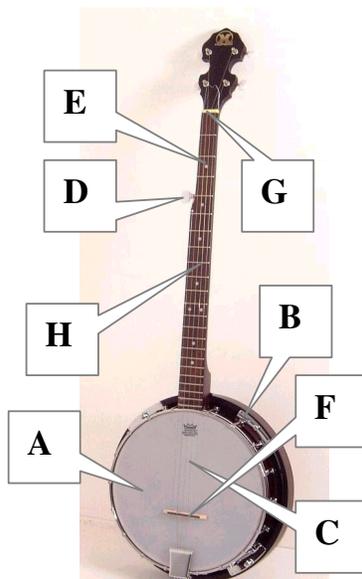
1. Way down in jail on my knees, darlin' baby
Way down in jail on my knees
Where they feed me on corn bread and beans
2. Make me a pallet on you floor, darlin' baby
Make me a pallet on you floor
For I'm goin' to my long lonesome home

Sung by a man who sees his life as the life of a prisoner. He can see nothing else, just the return to his 'long, lonesome home' – his prison cell. Many people found themselves in prison because they were poor and homeless. They wandered from place to place looking for temporary jobs, stealing to live and often on the wrong side of the law.

After the abolition of slavery there was a problem with those who had been slaves and knew no other life. Often they became petty criminals or joined bands of other dispossessed people in outlaw gangs. The song is a sad ballad, typical of songs from this time and place – the early 20th century in America

Vocabulary:

chilly	cold
jail	Place where a prisoner is locked up
pallet	A rough bed – of straw, wood etc.



The banjo

An instrument thought to originate from Africa. The sound is made louder by the 'drum' (A). There are brackets on the drum skin to keep it tight (B). There are five strings (C), four long ones and one shorter (called the fifth string). There are tuning pegs to tighten the strings. The one for the fifth string (D) is part way down the neck (E). The strings run over a bridge (F) at one end (on the drum) and over the nut (G) at the other end (where the pegs are).

The left hand presses the strings onto metal bars called frets (H) to change the note. We usually use finger picks to get a louder sound.

Cripple Creek

1. Cripple Creek's wide and Cripple Creek's deep
I'll wade Cripple Creek as I sleep
Roll my breechers to my knees
I'll wade Cripple Creek as I please

Chorus:

Goin' down Cripple Creek goin' in a run
Goin' down Cripple Creek to have a little fun
Goin' down Cripple Creek I'm goin' in a whorl
Goin' down Cripple Creek to find my girl

2. I've got a gal and she loves me
She's as sweet as sweet can be
She's got eyes of baby blue
Makes my gun shoot straight and true

3. I went down to cripple creek
See what the boys were havin' to drink
I got drunk and fell against the wall
Old corn liquor was the cause of it all

Vocabulary:

wade	Cross shallow water on foot
roll	Turn your trousers up so they don't get wet
breechers	Knee length trousers
cripple	Someone who cannot walk
creek	American dialect for stream
whorl	Spin, turn very fast
gal	girl
corn liquor	Distilled spirits – strongly alcoholic

This is dance music and gets faster and faster. The words don't really have to mean anything, they are just part of the music. Often the words describe the dance – and include instructions to the dancers.

Listen to the song, either sung by your teacher or on tape or CD. Write down the words you here line by line. The whole verse will be repeated several times so that you have time to think about the words. If you don't know, guess!

Chilly Winds

Chorus:

1.
2.
3.
4.

Verse 1:

5.
6.
7.
8.

Verse 2:

9.
10.
11.
12.

Vocabulary:

Write down in the boxes below any words you did not understand (You may have to guess how it is spelt or just write down how it sounds):

Cripple Creek

Verse 1:

1.
2.
3.
4.

Chorus:

5.
6.
7.
8.

Verse 2:

9.
10.
11.
12.

Verse 3:

13.
14.
15.
16.

Vocabulary:

Write down in the boxes below any words you did not understand (You may have to guess how it is spelt or just write down how it sounds):

Charlie

Chorus:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

Verse 1:

- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.

Verse 2:

- 9.
- 10.
- 11.
- 12.

Verse 3:

- 13.
- 14.
- 15.
- 16.

Vocabulary:

Write down in the boxes below any words you did not understand (You may have to guess how it is spelt or just write down how it sounds):

Young man who wouldn't hoe his corn

Verse 1:

1.
2.
3.
4.

Verse 2:

5.
6.
7.
8.

Verse 3:

9.
10.
11.
12.

Verse 4:

13.
14.
15.
16.

Verse 5:

17.
18.
19.
20.

Verse 6:

21.
22.
23.
24.

Vocabulary:

Going Across the Mountains

Going across the mountains, oh fare thee well
Going across the mountains, don't you hear my banjo tell
Got my rations on my back, my powder it is dry
Going across the mountains, Crissy don't you cry

Long before its good daylight, if nothing happens to me
I'll be way down yonder, in old Tennessee
Going across the mountains, to join the boys in blue
When this fighting's over, I'll come back to you

Going across the mountains if I have to fall
To give ol' Jeff's men a little 'ma rifle ball
Going across the mountains oh fare thee well
Going across the mountains Crissy fare thee well

Going across the mountains, oh fare thee well
Going across the mountains, don't you hear my banjo tell
Got my rations on my back, my powder it is dry
Going across the mountains, Crissy don't you cry

The American Civil War was fought between the Northern industrial states (the Union) and the Southern agricultural states (the Confederacy). Many families were split with one son fighting for the North and the others for the South.

The Northern troops wore dark blue uniforms whilst the Southern wore grey. After several years of bloody fighting the industrial power of the Northern States overcame the resistance of the South and they were forced to surrender.

The flag of the Northern States, the 'Stars and Stripes' was adopted as the flag of the 'United States' (There are the same number of stars as there are states and the seven stripes represents the original states of the Union. The confederate flag which can be seen in one of the pictures also contained stars but not stripes. You will see people using this flag even today if they are from the southern states.

You should try to find out some of the following:

1. The names of the presidents of both North and South
2. The date of the beginning and end of the war.
3. The names of two generals from each side.
4. The reason why black troops fought for the northern states
5. The names of the northern and southern states
6. Which languages were spoken by 'Americans' at this time?

Some states of the USA only joined later. Which states were these and when did they join?

The Girl I Left Behind Me

- (Samuel Lover)

I'm lonesome since I crossed the hill and o'er the moor and valley
Such grievous thoughts my heart do fill since parting with my Sally
I seek no more the fine or gay for each doth but remind me
How swift the hours did pass away with the girl I left behind me

Oh, ne'er shall I forget the night the stars were bright above me
And gently lent their silv'ry light when first she vowed to love me
But now I'm bound to Brighton camp kind Heaven thence pray guide me
And send me safely back again to the girl I left behind me

Repeat 1

In the space below draw or stick a picture of an American soldier and an officer and label what he is wearing. You should also draw the equipment and weapons he is carrying.

Listen to the tape and write down the words you here line by line. The whole verse will be sung first then each line will be sung twice. Finally the whole verse will be sung once again.

Going Across the Mountains

Verse 1:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

Verse 2:

- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.

Verse 3:

- 9.
- 10.
- 11.
- 12.

Verse 4:

- 13.
- 14.
- 15.
- 16.

Write down in the boxes below any words you did not understand (You may have to guess how it is spelt or just write down how it sounds):

Student's page GAM 2

Girl I left behind me

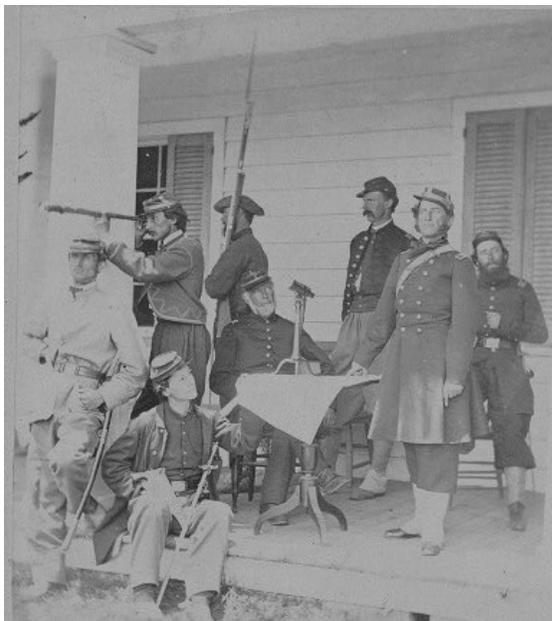
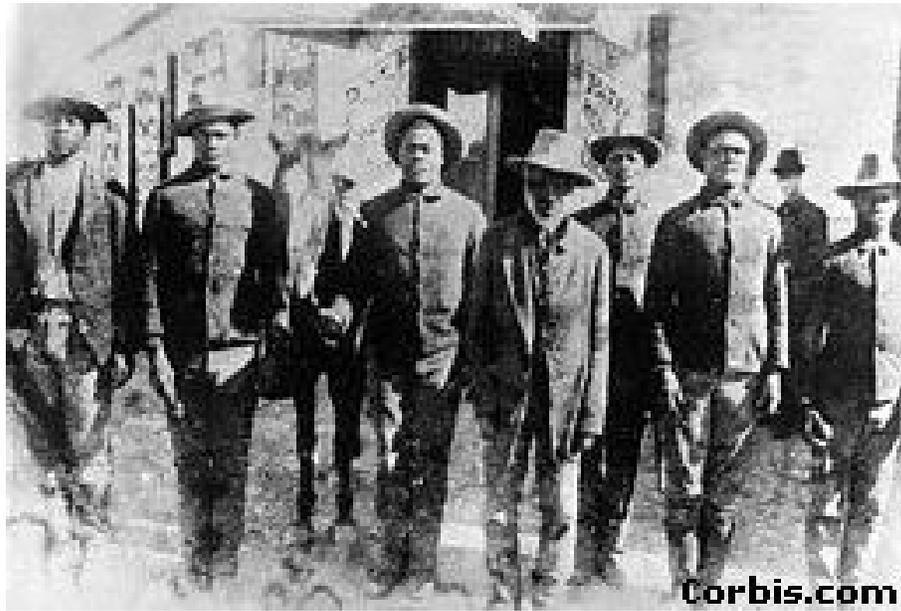
Verse 1:

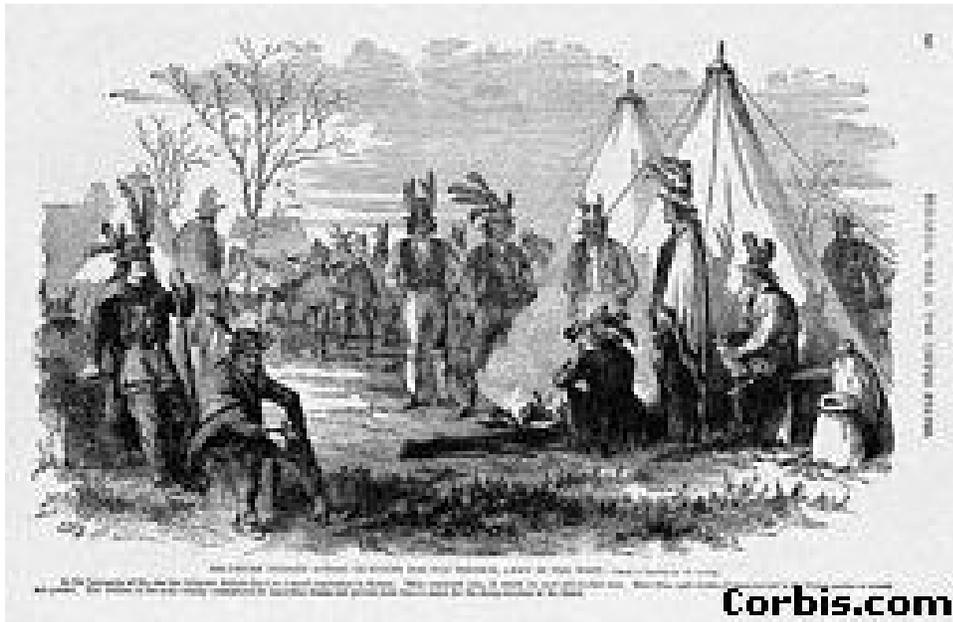
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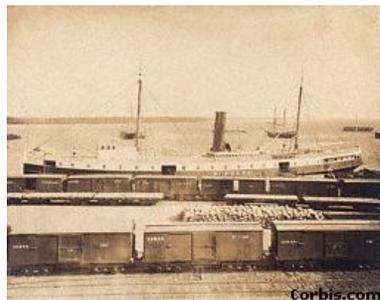
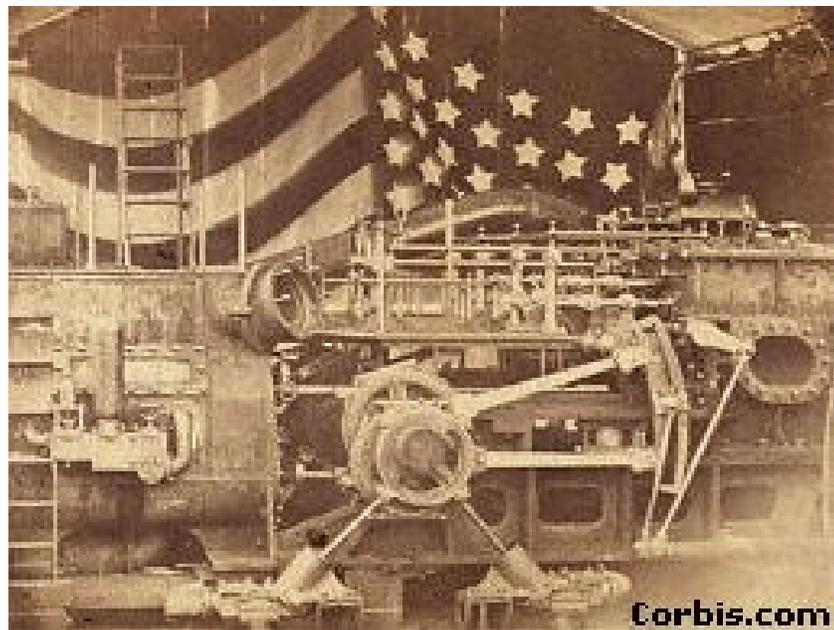
Verse 2:

9.
10.
11.
12.
13.
14.
15.
16.

Write down in the boxes below any words you did not understand (You may have to guess how it is spelt or just write down how it sounds):







Man of Constant Sorrow

1. I am a man of constant sorrow
I've been in trouble all my days
I've bid farewell to old Kentucky
The place where I was born and raised
2. It's six long years I've been in trouble
No pleasures yet on earth I've found
But from this room I'm bound to ramble
I have no friends to help me now
3. It's fare thee well my own true lover
I never expect to see you again
For I'm bound to ride this old Northern Railroad
Where I'll die on its train
4. You can bury me in some dark valley
For many years where I may lay
Then you will learn to love another
While I am sleepin' in my grave
5. Maybe your friends think I'm just a stranger
Your face I never will see no more
But there is one promise that is given
I'll meet you on God's Golden Shore

Questions:

Why did he have to keep moving?

.....

How did he travel?

.....

In which country and state was he born?

.....

When and where will they meet again?

.....

Listen to the song, either sung by your teacher or on tape or CD. Write down the words you here line by line. The whole verse will be repeated several times so that you have time to think about the words. If you don't know, guess!

Man of Constant Sorrow

Verse 1:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

Verse 2:

- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.

Verse 3:

- 9.
- 10.
- 11.
- 12.

Verse 4:

- 13.
- 14.
- 15.
- 16.

Verse 5:

- 17.
- 18.
- 19.
- 20.

Write down in the boxes below any words you did not understand (You may have to guess how it is spelt or just write down how it sounds):

Waltzing Matilda

Waltzing Matilda

1. Once a jolly swagman camped by a billabong
Under the shade of a Coolibar tree
And he sang as he sat and waited 'till his billy boiled
Who'll come a waltzing matilda with me

Chorus:

Waltzing matilda, waltzing matilda
Who'll come a waltzing matilda with me
And he sang as he sat and waited 'till his billy boiled
Who'll come a waltzing matilda with me

2. Up came a jumbuck to drink from the billabong
Up jumped the swagman and grabbed him with glee
And he laughed as he stuffed that jumbuck in his tuckerbag
You'll come a waltzing matilda with me

3. Along came the squatter mounted on his thoroughbred
Up came the troopers one, two, three
Where's that jolly jumbuck you've got in your tucker bag
You'll come a waltzing matilda with me

4. Up jumped the swagman and jumped into the billabong
You'll never take me alive said he
And his ghost may be heard as you pass by the billabong
You'll come a waltzing matilda with me

Questions:

What is a swagman?

.....

How did he travel?

.....

From which country does this song come?

.....

What does waltzing Matilda mean?

.....

Listen to the tape and write down the words you here line by line. The whole verse will be sung first then each line will be sung twice. Finally the whole verse will be sung once again.

Waltzing Matilda

Verse 1:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

Chorus:

- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.

Verse 2:

- 9.
- 10.
- 11.
- 12.

Verse 3:

- 13.
- 14.
- 15.
- 16.

Verse 4:

- 17.
- 18.
- 19.
- 20.

Write down in the boxes below any words you did not understand (You may have to guess how it is spelt or just write down how it sounds):

Emu's Egg

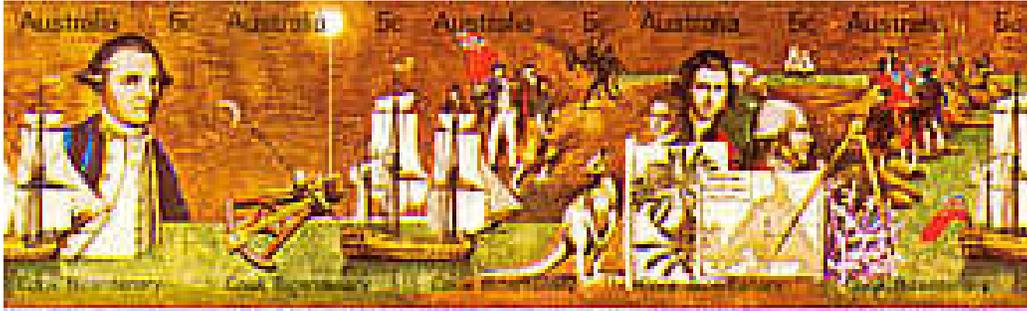
1. There was a little sparrow and he was out of work
Went off to seek his fortune in a town called Bourke
He walked till he was weary then he thought he enquire
But he found he'd only got as far as a place called Nevertire
2. He was so awful weary he could hardly lift a leg
When all at once beside the track he spied an emu's egg
He put it in his billy-can to have it for his tea
And on his little Timex watch he counted minutes three
3. And when those minutes three were up the thought it time to stop
And with his little tomahawk he cut off the top
It's a pity that he'd boiled it, it would have been much better fried
For when he stooped to sip it up he tumbled down inside
4. Now when he fell inside the egg he very quickly found
Three minutes were not long enough so the poor little chappie drowned
So the moral of this story is if an emu's egg you'd eat
For breakfast, tea or supper you must boil it for a week

In the space below draw or stick a picture of an Emu and a map of Australia. Mark on the map the different territories and the major towns.

Botany Bay

Botany Bay

Strip of five 5cent stamps issued by Australia Post to celebrate the bicentenary of the discovery of the east coast of Australia by Captain James Cook in 1770



To my too-re-lai oo-re-lai addity
To my too-re-lai oo-re-lai ay
To my too-re-lai oo-re-lai addity

We're bound for Botany Bay

1. Farewell to old England the beautiful
Farewell to my old pals as well
Farewell to the well known Old Bailey
Where I once used to look such a swell
2. It isn't old England we cares about
An' it ain't we misspells what we knows
It 'cause we light fingered gentry
Hops around with a log on our toes
3. The Captain as is our Commander
The bosun and all the ships crew
The first and the second class passengers
Know what we poor convicts go through
4. If I had the wings of a turtle dove
Far far away I would fly
Into the arms of my Polly love
And there I would lay down and die
5. Come all you young Dukies and Duchesses
Take a warning by what I do say
Mind all is your own that you touchesses
Or you'll join us in Botany Bay

A Brief History about the Discovery of Australia

On the 29th April 1770 a British ship named the Endeavour, and under the command of James Cook, anchored in what was later named Botany Bay. Botany Bay is now surrounded by the suburbs of Sydney. Later in August 1770, Captain James Cook in the name of King George 111 of Great Britain, claimed possession of the whole east coast of Australia, at first he called it New Wales. He later changed it to New South Wales.

Ten years after the naming of Botany Bay the first fleet left Britain in May 1787 and reached Botany Bay on January 19 1788. There were eleven vessels which carried about 730 convicts and 250 free settlers

Verses of this Song

If you read the verses of this song you will realize that many of the original settlers were convicts and subjected to a cruel, a very desperate and hard life - in a strange inhospitable land - as were the free settlers. Yet in spite of this I believe this song more so than any other relating to Australia shows a great spirit of optimism, which even today typifies the character of Australians no matter where they originally came from. Unfortunately this can sometimes be misinterpreted as cheekiness, cockiness or even arrogance.

One of the most evil and notorious penal colonies was situated at Port Arthur in Tasmania, where apart from the extreme cruelty meted out to the prisoners, the total population of Aborigines bar one were killed. I think every Australian feels, sorrow and regret for the appalling and inhuman treatment of the Aborigines along with the prisoners.

Questions:

Where was the first penal colony?

.....

How did the prisoners get there?

.....

What were the original inhabitants called?

.....

Why did they stop sending prisoners here?

.....

What happened when they finished their sentence?

.....

Listen to the song, either sung by your teacher or on tape or CD. Write down the words you here line by line. The whole verse will be repeated several times so that you have time to think about the words. If you don't know, guess!

Botany Bay

Verse 1:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

Chorus:

- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.

Verse 2:

- 9.
- 10.
- 11.
- 12.

Verse 3:

- 13.
- 14.
- 15.
- 16.

Verse 4:

- 17.
- 18.
- 19.
- 20.

Verse 5:

- 21.
- 22.
- 23.
- 24.

Click go the Shears

Out on the board the old shearer stands
Grasping his shears in his long bony hands
Fixed is his gaze on a bare-bellied "joe"
Glory if he gets her, won't he make the ringer go

Chorus

Click go the shears boys, click, click, click
Wide is his blow and his hands move quick
The ringer looks around and is beaten by a blow
And curses the old snagger with the blue-bellied "joe"

In the middle of the floor in his cane-bottomed chair
Is the boss of the board, with eyes everywhere
Notes well each fleece as it comes to the screen
Paying strict attention if it's taken off clean

The colonial-experience man he is there, of course
With his shiny leggin's just got off his horse
Casting round his eye like a real connoisseur
Whistling the old tune "I'm the Perfect Lure"

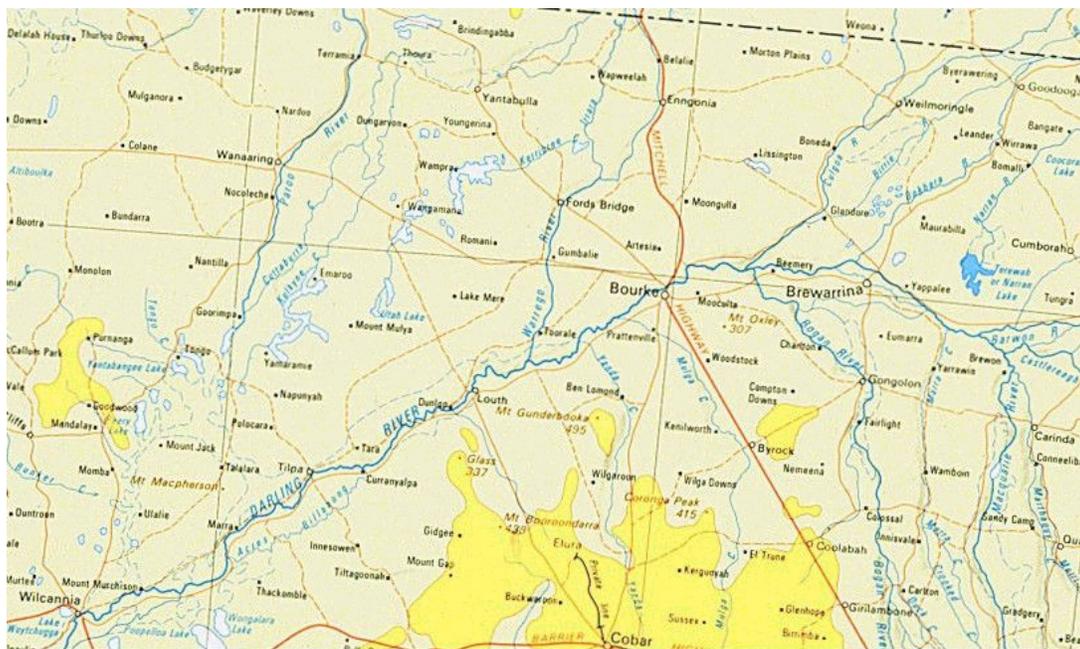
The tar-boy is there awaiting in demand
With his blackened tar-pot and his tarry hand
Sees one old sheep with a cut upon its back
Here's what he's waiting for "Tar here Jack!"

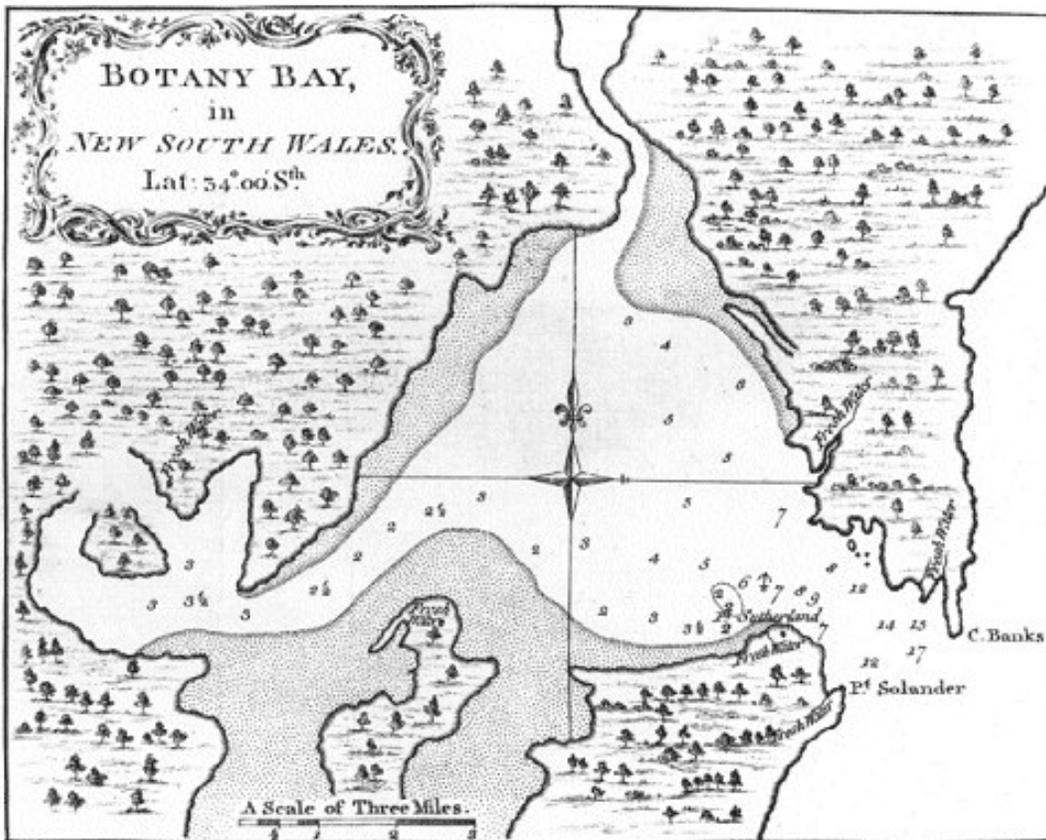
Shearing is all over and we've all got our cheques
Roll up your swag for we're off on the tracks
The first pub we come to it's there we'll have a spree
And everyone that comes along it's, "Come and drink with me!"

Down by the bar the old shearer stands
Grasping his glass in his thin bony hands
Fixed is his gaze on a green-painted keg
Glory he'll get down on it ere he stirs a peg

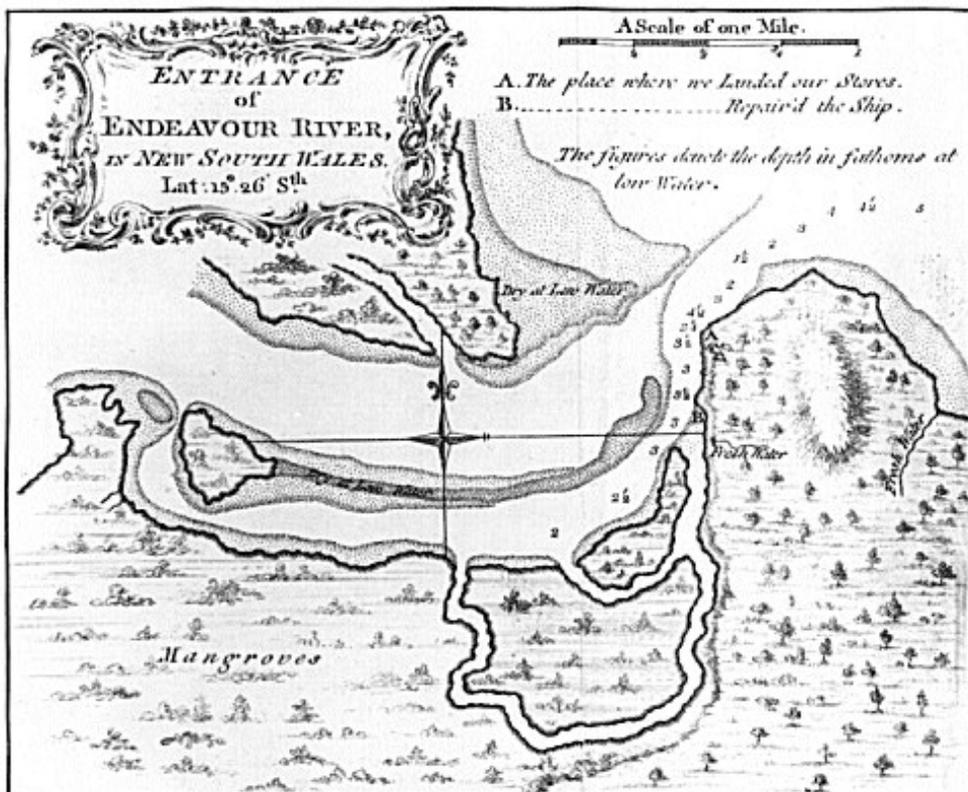
There we leave him standing, shouting for all hands
Whilst all around him every shouter stands
His eyes are on the cask which is now lowering fast
He works hard he drinks hard and goes to hell at last

You take off the belly-wool clean out the crutch
Go up the neck for the rules they are such
You clean round the horns first shoulder go down
One blow up the back and you then turn around





J. Gibson & T. Bowen Sculp.



Bells of Rhymney

The industrial revolution was based on the ability to produce power from steam. The coal industry flourished all over the British Isles, especially in South Wales, where the coal (anthracite) was of excellent quality. In addition, the railways were able to transport the large amounts of coal necessary to feed the smelters to make iron and steel.

South Wales was covered with coal mines and their winding houses as the coal was deep underground. Miners were taken to the coal face by lift and there the coal was dug out by hand. Often ponies were used to haul loaded wagons from the face to the lift. It was backbreaking and dangerous work. Often the roof would collapse, burying the miners. More common were explosions caused by pockets of gas in the coal seams (particularly in geological faults) and by the naked flames of the lamps miners carried.

Sir Humphrey Davey was responsible for a safety lamp which kept the naked flame from the gas (if the flame turned blue there was gas about). Miners took caged birds into the pits with them as they were very sensitive to the gas and gave warning of its presence. Even so, with electric lighting there were enough sparks to ignite the gas. Even switching on or off a lamp created a spark.

There were many disasters and these songs show what the miners thought of the safety regime in these pits. There were many victims of the industrial revolution.

Bells of Rhymney

1. Oh what will you give me say the sad bells of Rhymney
Is there hope for the future say the brown bells of Merthyr
Who made the mine owners say the black bells of Rhondda
And who robbed the miners say the grim bells of Blaenau
2. They will plunder willy-nilly say the bells of Caerphilly
They have fangs they have teeth shout the loud bells of Neath
Even God is uneasy say the moist bells of Swansea
Oh what will you give me say the sad bells of Rhymney
3. Throw the vandals into court say the bells of Newport
All will be well if if if ... say the green bells of Caerdydd
Why so worried sisters, why? Sing the silver bells of Wye
Oh what will you give me say the sad bells of Rhymney
4. Oh what will you give me say the sad bells of Rhymney
Is there hope for the future say the brown bells of Merthyr
Who made the mine owners say the black bells of Rhondda
And who robbed the miners say the grim bells of Blaenau

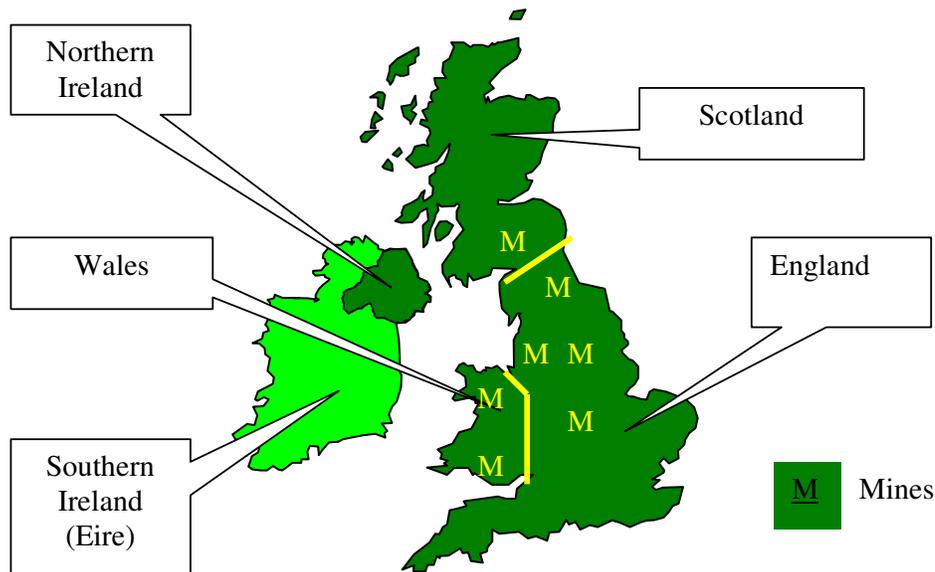
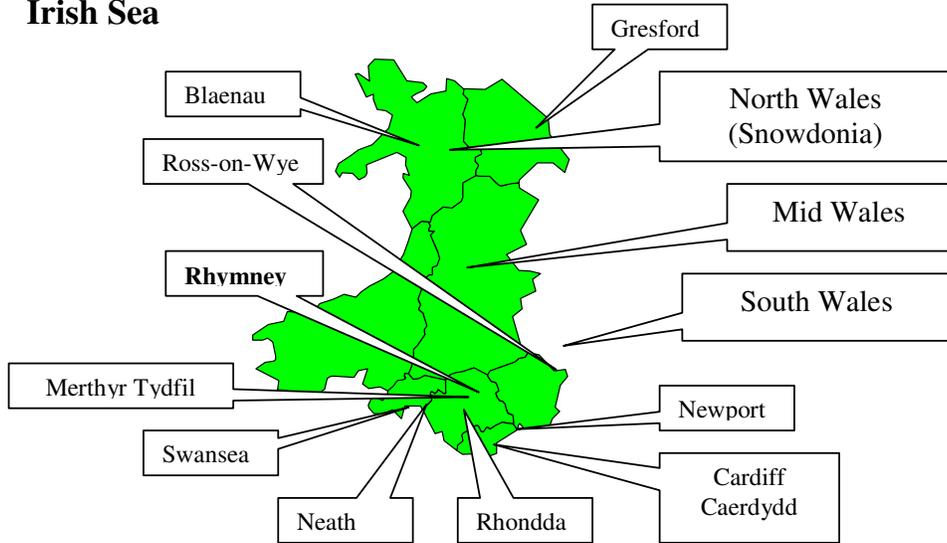
Note: Rhymney, Merthyr, Blaenau, Caerphilly, Neath, Swansea, Newport, Caerdydd (Cardiff), Wye, Rhondda are all town in Mid or South Wales.

Vocabulary:

Plunder	To take from someone else without consideration
Willy-nilly	Randomly, without thought
Fangs	Long teeth
Vandals	People who destroy without reason
Grim	Ugly and unpleasant

A very bitter song. The bells are tolling for the deaths of hundreds of Miners.
Gresford in North Wales was one of the worst ever and certainly the worst in Wales.

Irish Sea



There were coal mines all over Britain and similar songs are sung from all of these areas. Associated with these areas was steel making, particularly in South Wales (Merthyr) and Northern England (Sheffield).

Pronunciation

1. Linking

Oh what will you give me say the sad bells of Rhymney

Is there hope for the future say the brown bells of Merthyr

Who made the mine owners say the black bells of Rhondda

And who killed the miners say the grim bells of Blaenau

When speaking, the words underlined are linked together – it's very difficult to decide whether they are one word or more!

2. Two syllable words are pronounced differently:

Future is pronounced **Few - chu**

Owners is pronounced **Own - u**

Miners is pronounced **Mine - u**

The first syllable is stressed and the second is not – in fact it is hardly pronounced at all. With the –er ending you do not hear the “r” at all.

Pronunciation is difficult with the names as they are Welsh not English. E.g. “dd” is pronounced like “th” in English. “y” is a vowel in Welsh.

Listen to the song, either sung by your teacher or on tape or CD. Write down the words you here line by line. The whole verse will be repeated several times so that you have time to think about the words. If you don't know, guess!

Bells of Rhymney

Verse 1:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

Verse 2:

- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.

Verse 3:

- 9.
- 10.
- 11.
- 12.

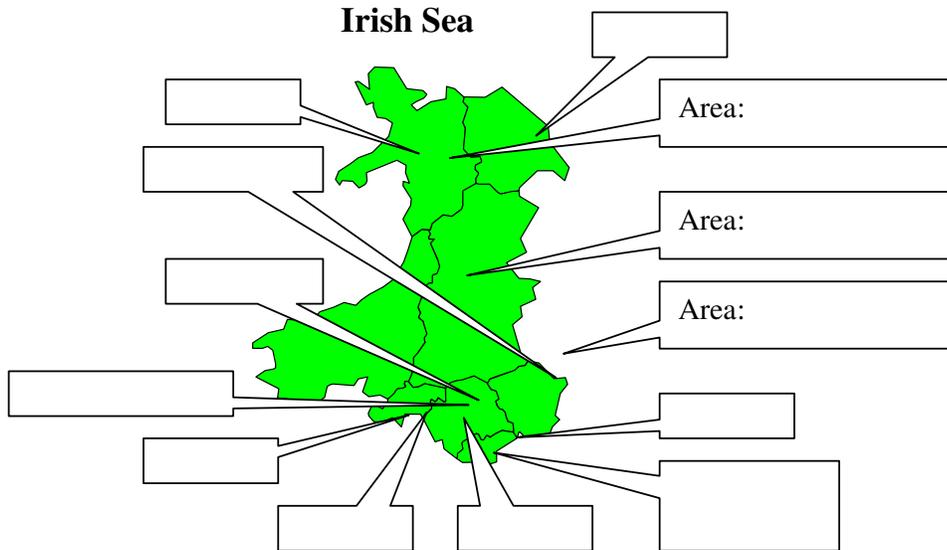
Verse 4 (Repeat of verse 1):

- 13.
- 14.
- 15.
- 16.

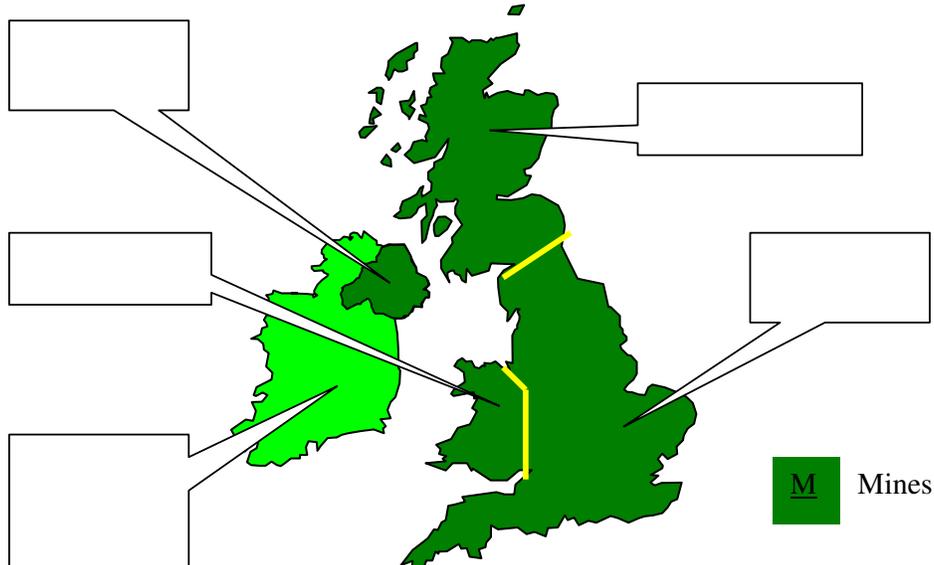
Write down in the boxes below any words you did not understand (You may have to guess how it is spelt or just write down how it sounds):

Below are a few questions you should now answer.

1. Which country do you think the song comes from?
2. What occupation is the song about?
What material are they getting ?
3. Do they enjoy the work?
4. Is this a happy song? Why or why not?.....
5. On the map below label the areas and the towns indicated.



6. On the map below label each country and put an M where there are mines.



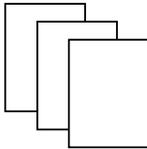
Bells of Rhymney project



PLAN

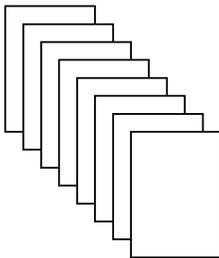
Before beginning any essay or any piece of written work you need to complete a plan. This is the way you collect your ideas and notes before starting your writing. In the plan you will start by outlining what each paragraph will contain e.g. background, history of mining, the song, the bells, what it all means etc. This is a working document and will be added to as your research progresses.

Although your plan is not your essay, it demonstrates how you have been working and how you completed the various tasks. It should be handed in, even though it will be very messy and difficult to de-cipher.



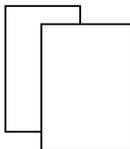
ESSAY

Your task is to complete an essay roughly 3 A4 pages long and hand written. The title should be your own but the subject is 'life in the mining village and down the mine'.



RESEARCH

In addition you must locate a minimum of four sources of information – books, websites or information obtained by other means e.g. writing to a tourist board or mining organisation. All letters, sources used should be printed out and included in an appendix, fully accredited. Interviews with miners etc. should be recorded and transcribed.



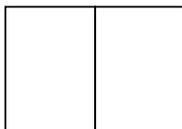
ILLUSTRATIONS – pictures, photographs

Can you find **suitable** illustrations either in books, from the internet or created yourself. These should be no more than 2 pages of A4 and should have captions and credits (where, whom, when, what?)



CONTENTS

Now create a contents page using a word processing package or by hand. Remember to number the pages carefully when you have decided on the order in which they will be put.



BINDER

Put the whole of this work in a binder. On the front you will need your name, school, group and date and of course your title with underneath in brackets (Bells of Rhymney).

Gresford Disaster

1. Oh you've heard of the Gresford disaster
Of the terrible price that was paid
Two hundred and forty-two colliers were lost
And three men of the rescue brigade
2. It occurred in the month of November
At three in the morning that pit
Was wracked by a violent explosion, dear God
In the Dennis where gas lay so thick
3. Now the gas in the Dennis deep section
Was packed like the snow in a drift
And many a man had to leave the coal face
Before he had worked out his shift
4. Now a fortnight before the explosion
To the shot firer Tomlinson cried
If you fire that shot then we'll be all blown to hell
And no one can say that he lied
5. Well the fireman's reports they are missing
A record of forty-two days
The colliery manager had them destroyed
To cover his criminal ways
6. Down there in the dark they are lying
They died for nine shillings a day
They worked out their shift and now they must lie
In the darkness until judgement day
7. Oh, the Lord Mayor of London's collecting
To help both the children and wives
The owners have bought some white lilies, dear God
To pay for the colliers lives

The worst ever mining disaster in the UK. This bitter song recounts the tale typical of the mines before safety became a national requirement. Even if all of the safety rules were kept to, mining was a dangerous business and many miners died. In pits where safety rules were ignored, disasters of this kind were common. Even today there are frequent accidents.

Collier – miner
Rescue brigade – experienced miners used in rescue work
Wracked – filled
Dennis – name of section (D for Dennis)
Gas – usually methane
Drift – where snow is blown and piles up
Coal-face – where the coal is dug out
Shift – hours of work
Fortnight – two weeks
Shot-firer – man who sets off the explosive charges
Fire-man – Man in charge of blasting
Colliery – place where coal is mined
Shilling – Old money (20 shillings = £1)
Judgement day – biblical
Lord Mayor – mayor of the City of London (the “Square Mile”)

Dark as a Dungeon

1. Come all you young fellows so brave and so fine
And seek not your fortune in a dark dreary mine
It may form as a habit and seep in your soul
Till the streams of your blood run as black as the coal

Chorus:

It's dark as a dungeon and dank as the dew
Where the dangers are double and the pleasures are few
Where the rain never falls and the sun never shines
It's dark as a dungeon way down in the mine

2. There's many a man I have known in my day
Who seeks not to labour his whole life away
Like a fiend with his dope and a drunkard his wine
A man may have a lust for the lure of the mine

3. I hope when I die and the ages shall roll
My body will blacken and turn into coal
As I look from the door of my heavenly home
I pity the miner a diggin' my bones

Vocabulary:

dungeon	
fellows	
dreary	
habit	
seep	
streams	
dank	
dew	
labour	
fiend	
dope	
drunkard	
lust	
lure	
roll	

Listen to the song, either sung by your teacher or on tape or CD. Write down the words you here line by line. The whole verse will be repeated several times so that you have time to think about the words. If you don't know, guess!

Dark as a Dungeon

Verse 1:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

Chorus:

- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.

Verse 2:

- 9.
- 10.
- 11.
- 12.

Verse 3:

- 13.
- 14.
- 15.
- 16.

Write down in the boxes below any words you did not understand (You may have to guess how it is spelt or just write down how it sounds):

Ballad of Springhill

1. In the town of Springhill, Nova Scotia
Down in the dark of a Cumberland mine
There's blood on the coal and the miners lie
In the roads that never saw sun nor sky
in the roads that never saw sun nor sky
2. In the town of Springhill you don't sleep easy
Often the earth will tremble and roar
When the earth is restless miners die
Bone and blood is the price of coal
bone and blood is the price of coal
3. In the town of Springhill, Nova Scotia
Late in the year of fifty eight
The rain still falls and the sun still shines
But its dark as a grave in the Cumberland mine,
dark as a grave in the Cumberland mine
4. Down at the coal face miners working
Rattle of the belts and the cutters blade
A rumble of rock and the wall close round
The living and the dead men two miles down
the living and the dead men two miles down
5. Twelve men lay two miles from the pit-shaft
Twelve men lay in the dark and sang
Long hot days in a miner's tomb
It was three feet high and a hundred long
three feet high and a hundred long
6. Three days past and the lamps gave out
And Caleb Rushton he upped and said
There's no more water nor light nor bread
So we'll live on songs and hope instead
we'll live on songs and hope instead
7. Listen for the shouts of the bare faced miners
Listen through the rubble for a rescue team
Six hundred feet of coal and slag
Hope imprisoned in a three foot seam
hope imprisoned in a three foot seam
8. Eight days past and some were rescued
Leaving the dead to lie alone
Through all their lives they dug a grave
Two miles of earth for a marking stone,
two miles of earth for a marking stone

Roads – way from the lift shaft to the coal-face

Tremble – vibrate, move

Roar – There are always noises as the ground settles

Cumberland – county of Nova Scotia (New Scotland)

Coal-face – where the coal is cut

Cutters – large rotating set of teeth cutting the coal

Rattle, Rumble – make a noise

Belt – conveyor belt taking the coal from the coal face

Pit-shaft – where the lift runs to the surface

Tomb – grave, burial place

Feet – (singular foot = 30 cms)

100 feet (25 metres)

Gave out – ran out of fuel

600 feet – 180 metres

Slag – mixture of coal and rock

Marking stone – Head-stone or grave-stone

Nova Scotia is the province of Canada on the East coast.

Note: This is a modern song (1958) with an age old theme. Unlike the songs Gresford disaster and Bells of Rhymney there is sadness rather than bitterness. No one is blamed.

Laredo

arranged & adapted by Arlo Guthrie

As I walked out in the streets of Laredo
As I walked out in Laredo one day
I spied a poor cowboy wrapped up in white linen
All wrapped in white linen as cold as the clay

"I see by your outfit that you are a cowboy"
These words he did say as I proudly stepped by
"Come sit down beside me and hear my sad story
I'm shot in the breast and I know I must die

"'Twas once in the saddle I used to go ridin'
Once in the saddle I used to go gay
First lead to drinkin', and then to card-playing
I'm shot in the breast and I'm dying today

"Let six jolly cowboys come carry my coffin
Let six pretty gals come to carry my pall
Throw bunches of roses all over my coffin
Throw roses to deaden the clods as they fall

"Oh, beat the drum slowly, and play the fife lowly
And play the dead march as you carry me along
Take me to the green valley and lay the earth o'er me
For I'm a poor cowboy and I know I've done wrong"

We beat the drum slowly and played the fife lowly
And bitterly wept as we carried him along
For we all loved our comrade, so brave, young and handsome
We all loved our comrade although he done wrong

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Notes:

Streets of Laredo

Verse 1:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

Verse 2:

- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.

Verse 3:

- 9.
- 10.
- 11.
- 12.

Verse 4:

- 13.
- 14.
- 15.
- 16.

Verse 5:

- 17.
- 18.
- 19.
- 20.

Verse 6:

- 21.
- 22.
- 23.
- 24.

Vocabulary:

Listen to the song, either sung by your teacher or on tape or CD. Write down the words you here line by line. The whole verse will be repeated several times so that you have time to think about the words. If you don't know, guess!

Bonny Ship The Diamond

Verse 1:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

Chorus:

- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.

Verse 2:

- 9.
- 10.
- 11.
- 12.

Verse 3:

- 13.
- 14.
- 15.
- 16.

Vocabulary:

Greenland Whale Fish

1. It was 1844 on June the thirteenth day
When our gallant ship her anchor weighed
And for Greenland bore away
For Greenland bore away
2. Oh Greenland is a dreadful place, it's a land that's seldom green
Where there's ice and there's snow and the whale fishes blow
And the daylight's seldom seen
The daylight's seldom seen
3. Our lookout he stood on the crosstrees tall, a spyglass in his hand
There's a whale, there's a whale; there's a whale fish he cried
And she blows at every span
She blows at every span
4. The Captain he stood on the quarterdeck and a fine old man was he
Overhaul, overhaul, let your davit tackles fall
And lower your boats to the seas
And lower your boats to the seas
5. The harpoon struck and the line payed out, the whale gave a flounder with her tail
The boat capsized and we lost thirty men
And we never caught that whale
We never caught that whale
6. Well the losing of that fine sperm whale it grieved our Captain sore
But the losing of so many gallant men
Sure it grieved him ten times more
It grieved him ten times more
7. Up anchor now our Captain cried, the north star does appear
And we'll have to leave this cold country
And for England we will stear
For England we will stear
8. Oh Greenland is a dreadful place, it's a land that's seldom green
Where there's ice and there's snow and the whale fishes blow
And the daylight's seldom seen
The daylight's seldom seen

Let no man steal your thyme

1. Come all you young and tender girls
Who flourish in your prime, prime
Beware, beware keep your garden fair
Let no man steal your thyme, thyme
Let no man steal your thyme, thyme

2. When your thyme is past and gone
He'll care no more for you, you
And every place where your thyme was waste
Will all spread all way through, through
Will all spread all way through, through

3. A gardener's son was passing by
Three flowers he gave to me, me
The pink the blue and the violet true
And the red red rosy tree, tree
And the red red rosy tree, tree

4. But I refused the red rose bush
And gained the willow tree, tree
So all the world could plainly see
How my love slighted me, me
How my love slighted me, me



Vocabulary:

Barbara Allen

1. In scarlet town where I was born
There was a fair maid dwellin'
Made every youth cry well a day
He name was Barbara Allen
2. 'Twas in the merry month of May
When new buds were a swellin'
Sweet William on his death-bed lay
For love of Barbara Allen
3. So slowly, slowly got she up
And slowly she came nigh him
And all she said when she got there
Young man I think you're dyin'
4. And as she tripped it lightly home
She heard the church bell tollin'
And every bell did seem to say
Hard hearted Barbara Allen
5. Oh mother, mother make my bed
Oh make it low and narrow
Sweet William died for me today
I'll die for him tomorrow
6. They buried her in yon grave yard
And buried Will beside her
And on his grave there grew a rose
And out of hers a briar
7. They grew and grew right up the wall
Till they could grow no higher
Then twined into a lovers knot
The red rose and the briar

Vocabulary:

Barbara Allen or what? ...

One of the interesting characteristics of these ballads is that their telling and retelling has caused details to be changed. For instance, in other versions of "Barbara Allen" the hero's name has become Sir James of the Grave, John Green or Jemmy Grove.

There are at least 92 versions of this tragic love ballad. The one presented here is one of the oldest and so it may be as near to the original Scottish story as any that can be found

<http://www.etni.org.il/music/barbaraallen.htm>

It was in and about the **Martinmas** time,
When the green leaves were a-falling,
That Sir John Graeme, in the West country,
Fell in love with Barbara Allen.

November 11

He sent his men down through the town
To the place where she was **dwelling**:
"O **haste** and come to my master dear,
Gin ye be Barbara Allen."

living
hurry up
if you are

O **hooly**, hooly rose she up,
To the place where he was lying,
And when she drew the curtain by'
"Young man, I think you're dying."

slowly

"O it's I'm sick, and very, very sick,
And it's **a'** for Barbara Allen;"
"O the better for me you shall never be,
Though your heart's blood were a spilling."

all

"O **dinna ye mind**, young man," she said,
"When the red wine ye were filling,
That ye **made the healths gae** round and round,
And **slighted** Barbara Allen?"

don't you remember
drank some toasts;
go
upset

He turned his face unto the wall,
And death was with him **dealing**:
"**Adieu**, adieu, my dear friends all,
And be kind to Barbara Allen."

doing business
goodbye

You will notice that there are some dialect words (special words used by Scottish people) and some changes (corruptions) of English words.

This is another song which uses plants – the red rose and the briar in my version – to describe the two lovers. What is a briar? What is a rose? Who do they represent?

Listen to the tape and write down the words you hear, line by line. The whole verse and chorus will be sung first, then each line will be sung twice. Finally the whole verse and chorus will be sung once again.

Barbara Allen

Verse 1:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

Verse 2:

- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.

Verse 3:

- 9.
- 10.
- 11.
- 12.

Verse 4:

- 13.
- 14.
- 15.
- 16.

Verse 5:

- 17.
- 18.
- 19.
- 20.

Verse 6:

- 21.
- 22.
- 23.
- 24.

Verse 7:

- 25.
- 26.
- 27.
- 28.

