

# 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

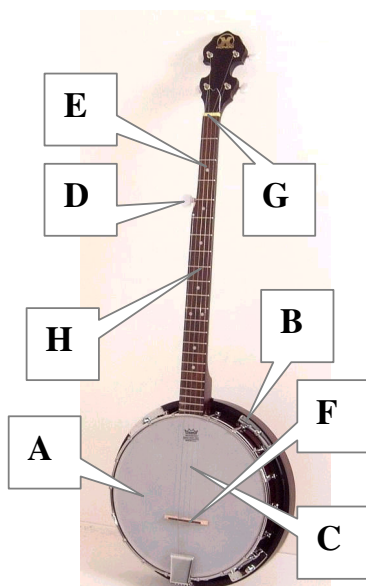
1. Way down in jail on my knees, darlin' baby  
Way down in jail on my knees  
Where they feed me on corn bread and beans
2. Make me a pallet on you floor, darlin' baby  
Make me a pallet on you floor  
For I'm goin' to my long lonesome home

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:

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



## The banjo

An instrument though 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:**

<b>wade</b>	Cross shallow water on foot
<b>roll</b>	Turn your trousers up so they don't get wet
<b>breechers</b>	Knee length trousers
<b>cripple</b>	Someone who cannot walk
<b>creek</b>	American dialect for stream
<b>whorl</b>	Spin, turn very fast
<b>gal</b>	girl
<b>corn liquor</b>	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:**

Charlie he's a fine young man  
Charlie he's a dandy  
Loves to hug and kiss the girls  
And feed 'em on sweet candy

1. Step her to your weevily wheat  
Step her to your barley  
Step her to your weevily wheat  
And beg a cake for Charlie

2. My pretty little pink who would think  
That you and I would marry  
Now I've lost all hope of you  
And I've no time to tarry

3. My pretty little pink who would think  
I care but little about you  
Let you know before I go  
I cannot do without you

**Notes:**

[illegible]

## Young man who wouldn't hoe his corn

1. Gonna sing you a song and it ain't very long  
About a young man who wouldn't hoe his corn  
The reason why I cannot tell  
That young man was always well
2. He planted his corn in the month of June  
By July it was knee high  
First of September come a great frost  
All that poor man's corn was lost
3. He went to the fence and there peeped in  
Weeds and grass grew up to his chin  
Weeds and grass they grew so high  
Caused that poor young man to sigh
4. So he went down to his neighbours door  
Where he had often been before  
Pretty little miss will you marry me  
Pretty little miss what do you say
5. Here you are a wantin' for to wed  
Cannot bake your own corn bread  
Single I am and single I remain  
A lazy man I'll not maintain
6. You go down to that pretty little widow  
And hope like the heck that you don't get hurt  
She gave him the hint and sure as you're born  
All because he wouldn't hoe his corn

**Notes:**

[illegible]

## 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

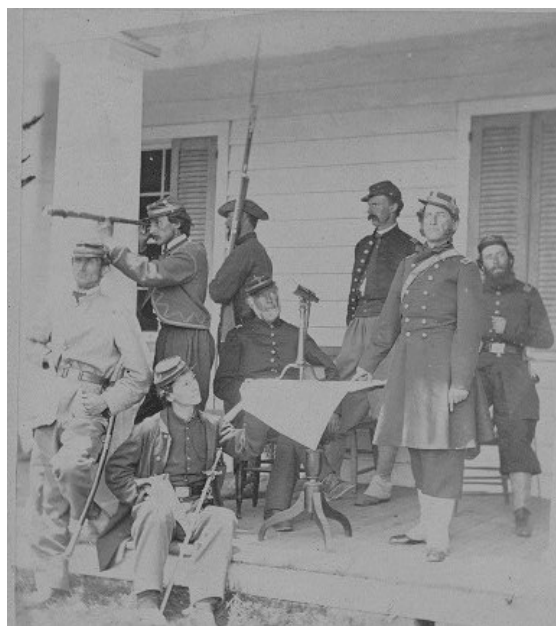
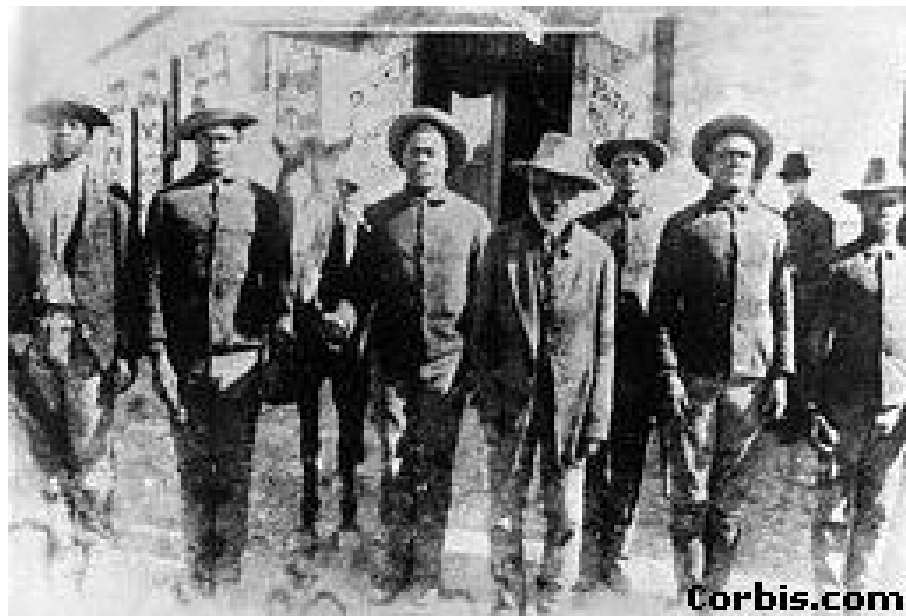
Verse 1:

1. ....
2. ....
3. ....
4. ....
5. ....
6. ....
7. ....
8. ....

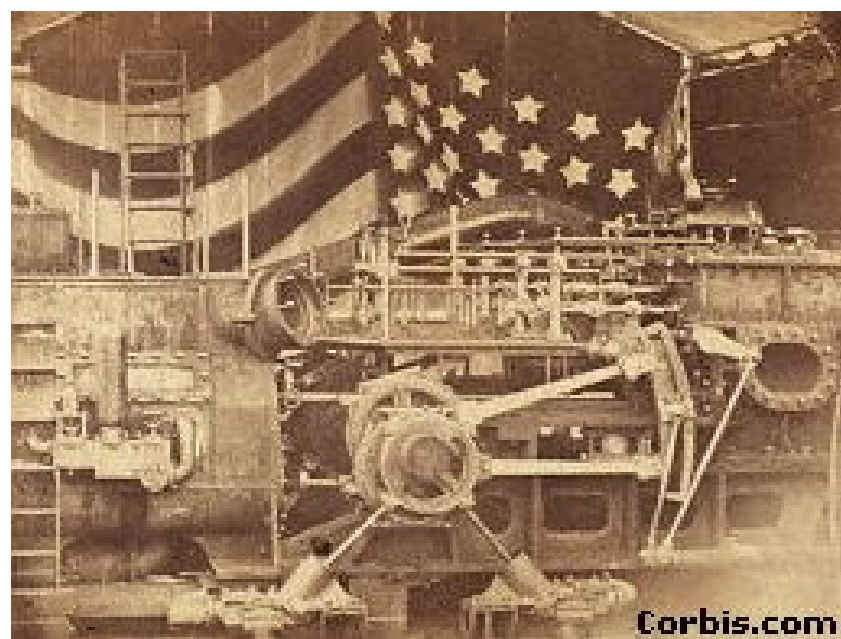
Verse 2:

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 hear 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!"

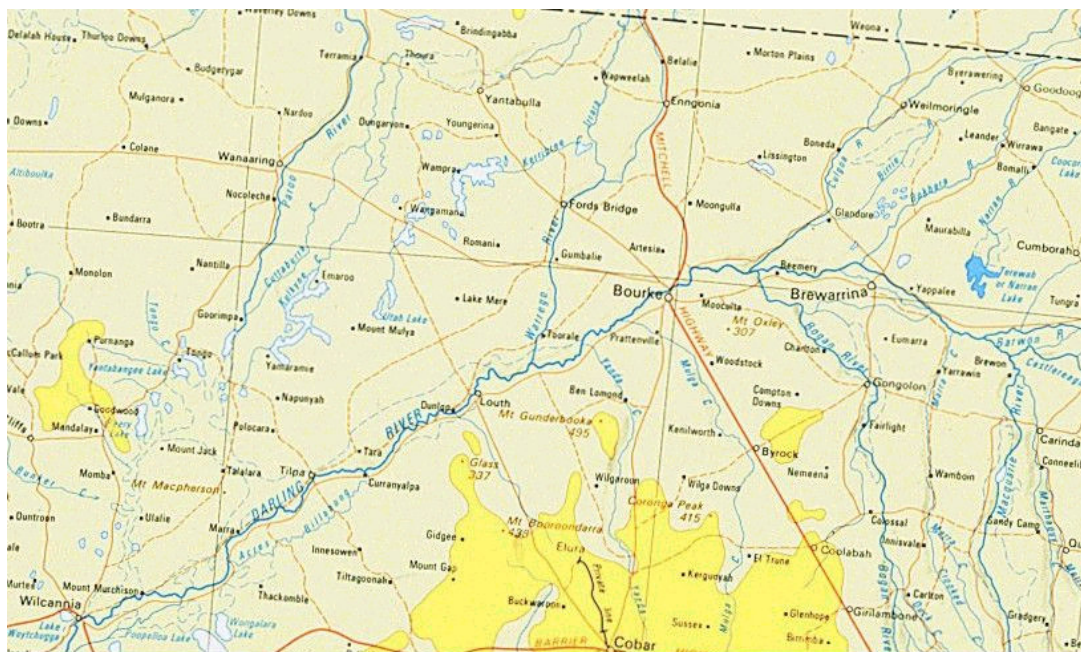
Shearing is all over and we've all got our cheques  
Roll up your swag for we're off on the tracks  
The first pub we come to it's there we'll have a spree  
And everyone that comes along it's, "Come and drink with me!"

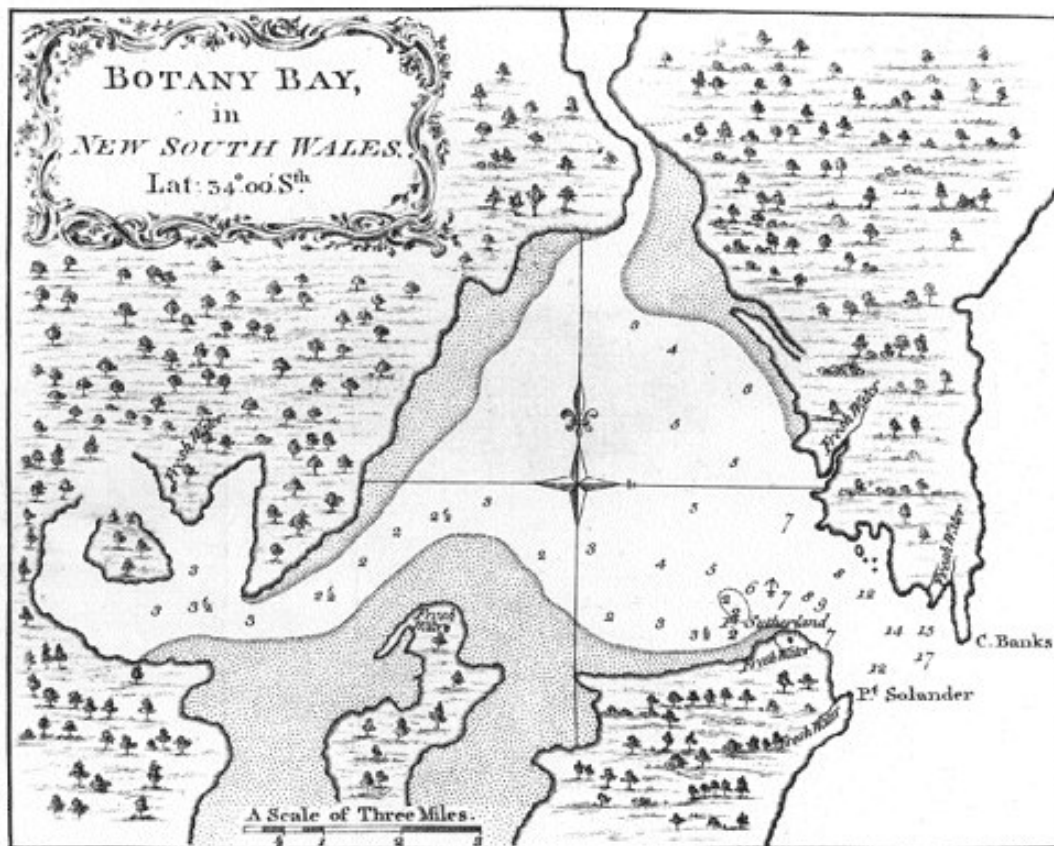
Down by the bar the old shearer stands  
Grasping his glass in his thin bony hands  
Fixed is his gaze on a green-painted keg  
Glory he'll get down on it ere he stirs a peg

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

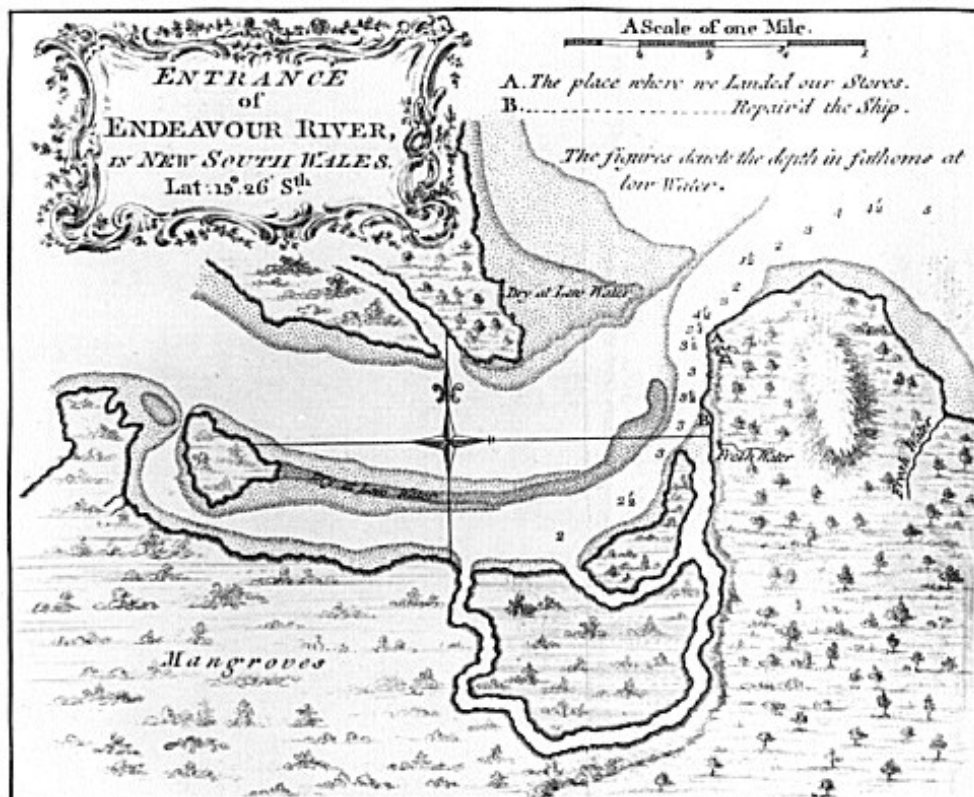
You take off the belly-wool clean out the crutch  
Go up the neck for the rules they are such  
You clean round the horns first shoulder go down  
One blow up the back and you then turn around







*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.

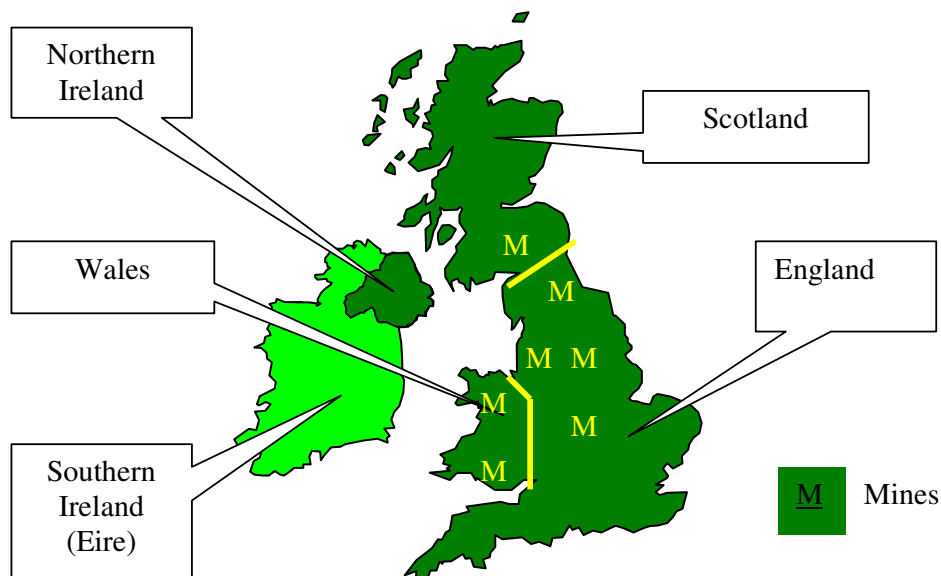
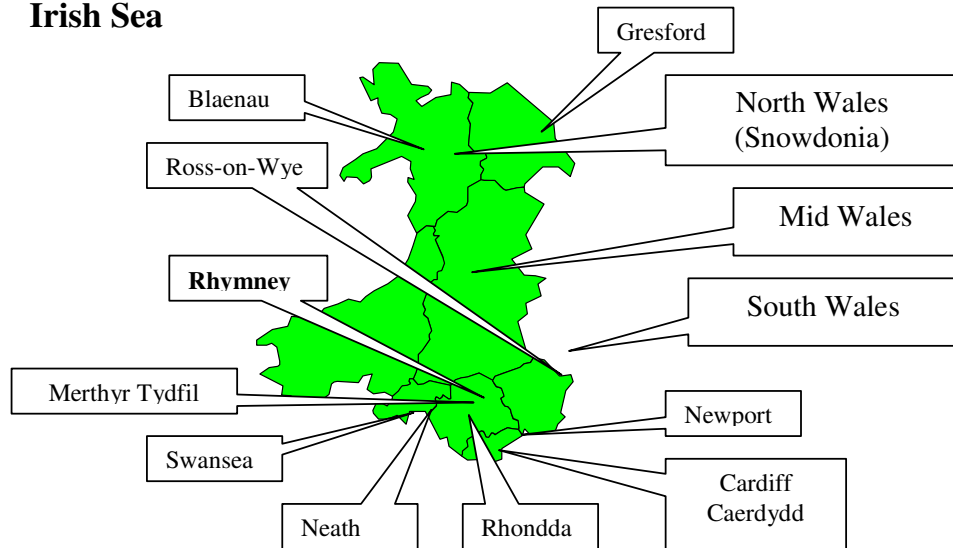


## Vocabulary:

<b>Plunder</b>	To take from someone else without consideration
<b>Willy-nilly</b>	Randomly, without thought
<b>Fangs</b>	Long teeth
<b>Vandals</b>	People who destroy without reason
<b>Grim</b>	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. ....

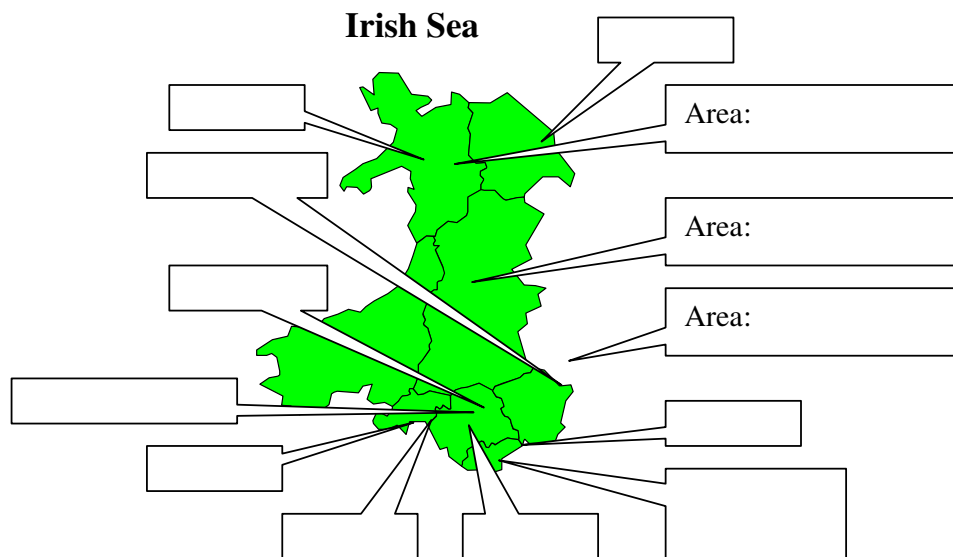
Verse 4 (Repeat of verse 1):

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

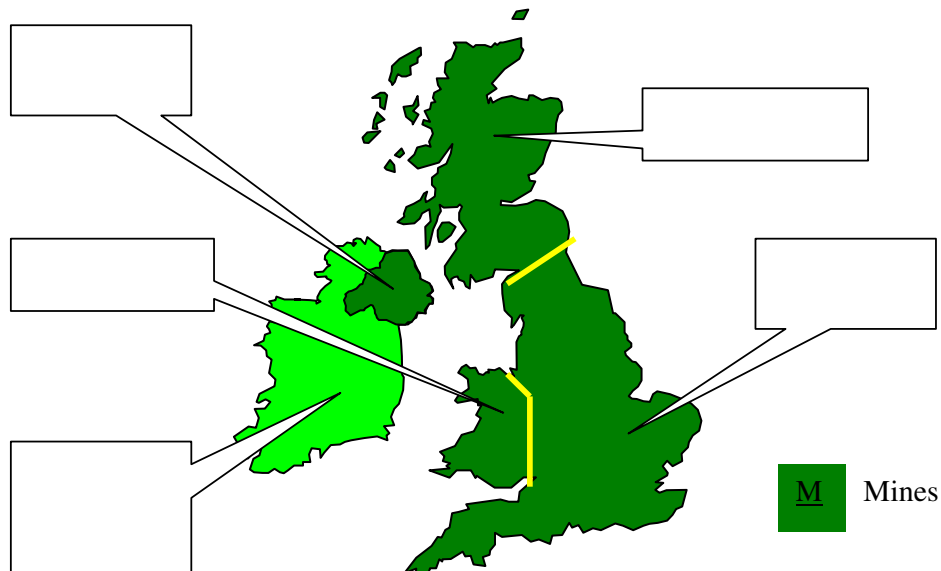
Write down in the boxes below any words you did not understand (You may have to guess how it is spelt or just write down how it sounds):


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.



7. Below, write down the words/phrases you guessed, one by one in the first column. Then write down the correct version of the word/phrase in the second column and in the final column make any notes.

Your Guess	Correct word/phrase	Notes – meaning/ pronunciation etc.

8. In the space below you may write down any references on the topic from books, from the internet or any other sources. You might want to look up the following words and phrases: Pit, anthracite, gas, fault, coal measures, winding gear, pit head, helmet, Davey lamp, roads, coal face, pick, shovel, pit pony.

Reference	Where



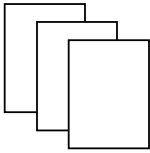
## **Bells of Rhymney project**



### **PLAN**

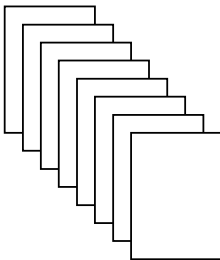
Before beginning any essay or any piece of written work you need to complete a plan. This is the way you collect your ideas and notes before starting your writing. In the plan you will start by outlining what each paragraph will contain e.g. background, history of mining, the song, the bells, what it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



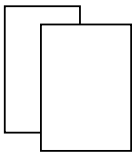
### **ESSAY**

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.



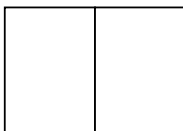
### **ILLUSTRATIONS** – pictures, photographs

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:**

<b>dungeon</b>	
<b>fellows</b>	
<b>dreary</b>	
<b>habit</b>	
<b>seep</b>	
<b>streams</b>	
<b>dank</b>	
<b>dew</b>	
<b>labour</b>	
<b>fiend</b>	
<b>dope</b>	
<b>drunkard</b>	
<b>lust</b>	
<b>lure</b>	
<b>roll</b>	

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:**

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## **Lavender Cowboy**

1. There once was a lavender cowboy  
The hairs on his chest were few  
He wanted to follow the heroes  
And to do as the cowboys do
2. But he was inwardly troubled  
By dreams that gave him no rest  
And when he got up every morning  
There were only two hairs on his chest
3. Herbicides and many hair tonics  
He rubbed in both morning and night  
But when he looked into the mirror  
Only two hairs grew in sight
4. He battled for a woman's honour  
And he broke up a hold up nest  
And he died with his six guns a smokin'  
And only two hairs on his chest

### **Notes:**

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Find a picture of a cowboy to paste or copy here.

## 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:




## Lavender Cowboy

Verse 1:

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

Verse 2:

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

Verse 3:

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

Verse 4:

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

### **Vocabulary:**


# Bonny Ship Diamond

1. The Diamond is a ship my lads to the Greenland straits is bound  
The quay it is all garnished with bonnie lassies round  
Captain Thompson gives the orders to sail the ocean wide  
Where there's suns that never set my lads and darkness fills the skies

**Chorus:**

So lets cheer up me lads  
Let your heart never fail  
For the bonny ship the Diamond goes  
Fishin' for the whale

2. Along the quay at Peterhead the lassies stand around  
Their shawls all pulled about them and the salt tears running down  
Oh don't ye fret my bonny lass though you be left behind  
The green will grow on Greenlands Isle before we change our minds
3. Here's a health to the Resolution boys right by here lies the Swan  
A health to the battler Romantoes and the Diamond ship of fame  
With trousers of the white my lads and jackets of the blue  
When we return to Peterhead we'll have sweet hearts anew

**Notes:**

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

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

# Seeds of Love

1. Oh I sowed the seeds of love  
It was in all the spring  
In April, May or sunny June  
When small birds they do sing  
When small birds they do sing
2. Oh the willow tree will twist  
And the willow tree will twine  
And would I were in a young man's arms  
That ever had this heart of mine  
That ever had this heart of mine
3. The gardener as he passed by  
He bid me take great care  
For if I gathered the rose so red  
There groweth a sharp thorn there  
There groweth a sharp thorn there
4. I said I'd take no care  
Till I did feel the smart  
And still did press the rose so dear  
Till the thorn did pierce my heart  
Till the thorn did pierce my heart
5. My garden is now run wild  
When I must plant anew  
And the beds that once were full of thyme  
Are all o'er run with rue  
Are all o'er run with rue



## Vocabulary:


### Once I had a true love

1. Once I had a true love and now I've got none  
Once I had a true love and now I've got none  
She's gone and leave me  
She's gone and leave me  
She's gone and leave me to weap and to moan
2. Last night in sweet slumber I dreamed I did see  
Last night in sweet slumber I dreamed I did see  
My own dearest true love come smilin' by me  
My own dearest true love come smilin' by me
3. But when I awakened I found it not so  
But when I awakened I found it not so  
My eyes like fountains with tears overflowed  
My eyes like fountains with tears overflowed
4. I'll wander through England through France and through Spain  
I'll wander through England through France and through Spain  
My life I will venture on the watery main  
My life I will venture on the watery main
5. Once I had a true love and now I've got none  
Once I had a true love and now I've got none  
She's gone and leave me  
She's gone and leave me  
She's gone and leave me to weap and to moan



### Vocabulary:


### 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. ....

## **Vocabulary:**


## **Notes**

1857 In Percy's version of Barbara Allen, the ballad commences "In Scarlet town," which, in the [later] common stall copies, is rendered "In Redding town." The former is apparently a pun upon the old orthography - REDding. (Robert Bell, Ancient Poems, Ballads and Songs of the Peasantry of England)
