

Pre-Reading for Jonathan Swift's "A Modest Proposal"

Purpose: Before reading "A Modest Proposal," we need to gain a historical perspective on what prompted Swift to write this essay. By gaining information about why he wrote the essay, we will be able to analyze its satirical techniques more comprehensively.

Learning Targets Assessed:

1. I can locate important details and facts that support ideas, arguments, or inferences in increasingly challenging texts, and substantiate analyses with textual examples that may be in widely separated sections of the text or in other sources.
2. I can explain the relationship between the time in which a literary work is set, the time during which the author wrote, and the time in which it is set.

Task: Create a Keynote presentation on the facts you learn about the Irish Potato Famine. Present the information to the class.

Resource: Use the site, <http://www.historyplace.com/worldhistory/famine>, to gain your information. Choose one of the linked topics. Read the information. Determine the most important facts and information from your selection. Create a presentation detailing these facts and information.

Requirements:

1. You must have a competent visual aid.
2. Your visual aid must include pictures and/or other related media.
3. You must have a title to your visual aid, and you must include your references. Use MLA format to document your source(s). If you need help doing this, go to www.citationmachine.net.
4. Your presentation must be at least 3-5 minutes.
5. You must use appropriate presentation techniques (eye contact, modulated voice, etc.) when conducting the presentation.

Each requirement is worth 10 points for a total of 50 points for the assignment.