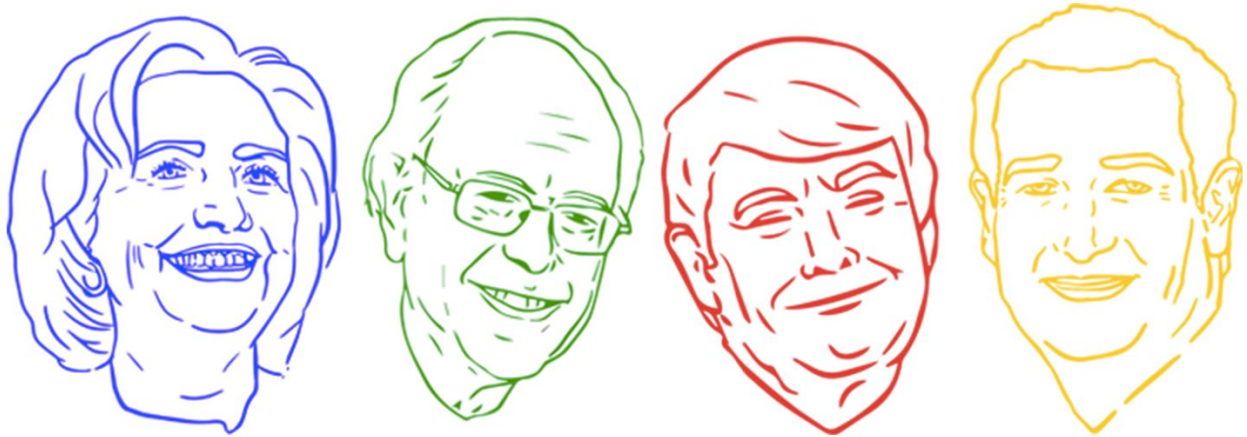


Campaign Limericks

“There once was a woman from Nantucket...



Failsafe Guide to Hosting a Campaign Limericks Party

By Catherine D'Ignazio with the Institute for Infinitely Small Things

All materials can be found at: <https://elab.emerson.edu/projects/data-and-art/campaign-limericks>

Suggested Event Length: 2 hours

people: Can be run with anywhere between 3 - 300 people

Materials needed:

- Large sheets of white paper, colored markers & masking tape
- Beer and wine (if adult audience)
- Food (good fuel for poetry writing)
- Silly prizes
- Microphone (if the space is large or there are a lot of people)

First 30 minutes: Background and Setup

- People eat and drink and socialize
- Welcome everybody and introduce the facilitators
- Give the History of Limericks powerpoint presentation
- Introduce the activity: People can work in teams or alone. They will have brochures for the top Republican and Democrat candidates to use as inspirational material. They have

45 minutes to write as many limericks as they can in that time. They should write their limericks in colored marker on large sheets of white paper. When a limerick is done, they should hang it on the wall in a gallery.

- Hand out brochures for each candidate

Next 45 minutes: Write Limericks

Participants write limericks! Remind writers when there are 10 minutes left, then 5 minutes left.

Next 20 minutes: Pop-Up Limerick Gallery & Reading

Help participants tape their limericks on a wall to form an impromptu limerick gallery. If there are not too many participants, have each participant read one of the limericks that they wrote. Encourage them to speak loudly. Have a microphone if the space is large.

Next 10 minutes: Voting

Each participant gets three votes for their favorite limerick. They can't vote for their own. Have them walk around the limerick gallery and put a star next to their favorites. Voting criteria are:

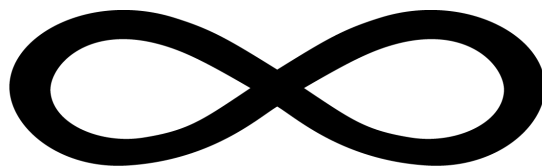
- 1) Creativity and artistry
- 2) How many of the candidates' actual words did the limerick incorporate

Final 15 minutes: Prizes!

The facilitators tally the votes and award the silly prizes for each category.

Post-party Documentation

Please transcribe all the created limericks and send them to info@infinitelysmallthings.net so that we can publish them in our on-going limerick archive. We'd love to have photos from your event as well!



The Institute for Infinitely Small Things





Color signifies which candidate
spoke the word the most

Hillary **Bill**ary Bock

Is it once again Clinton o'clock?

From FLOTUS **to** POTUS

If she **wins** all the **votus**

The FGOTUS **will be the** **real shock**

Size indicates how frequently the
candidate spoke that word

There's a dedicated **middle-class** defender

Who says billionaires **have been on a** bender

Brothers and Sisters, it's Bernie

He's on a socialist journey

To be a Wall Street agenda up-ender

The American people are tired
Of being gridlocked, bamboozled and mired.

Are we in such a slump
That we'd let in **a Trump?**

Whose platform **consists of** "You're fired!"

Hillary Billary Bock

Is it once again Clinton o'clock?

From FLOTUS **to** POTUS

If she **wins** all the **votus**

The FGOTUS **will be the** **real** shock

For the hombre with the Ivy League **pedigree**

The border's an economic calamity

Our Cuban-Canadian **Cruz**

Has a case of the **immigration** blues

But whose face does he see **in the** vanity?

Campaign Limericks

on Corporations

- Corporate America & Wall Street won't like President Sanders. (Dec 2015)
- Let's create America that works for all, not handful on top. (Dec 2015)
- If Teddy Roosevelt saw modern banks he'd say "break them up". (Nov 2015)
- Wall Street will not be in my Cabinet; their model is fraud. (Nov 2015)
- I'm not part of casino capitalism that wrecked our economy. (Oct 2015)
- Fix estate tax so mega-rich pay their fair share. (Sep 2015)

on Immigration

- Comprehensive reform with no border fence & no guest workers. (Sep 2015)
- Secure borders without building a fence. (Sep 2015)

on Gun Control

- I want to shield gun shops from lawsuits, not manufacturers. (Oct 2015)
- Bring together rural states & urban states with common sense. (Oct 2015)
- Common sense, incremental gun control plan. (Oct 2015)

on Crime

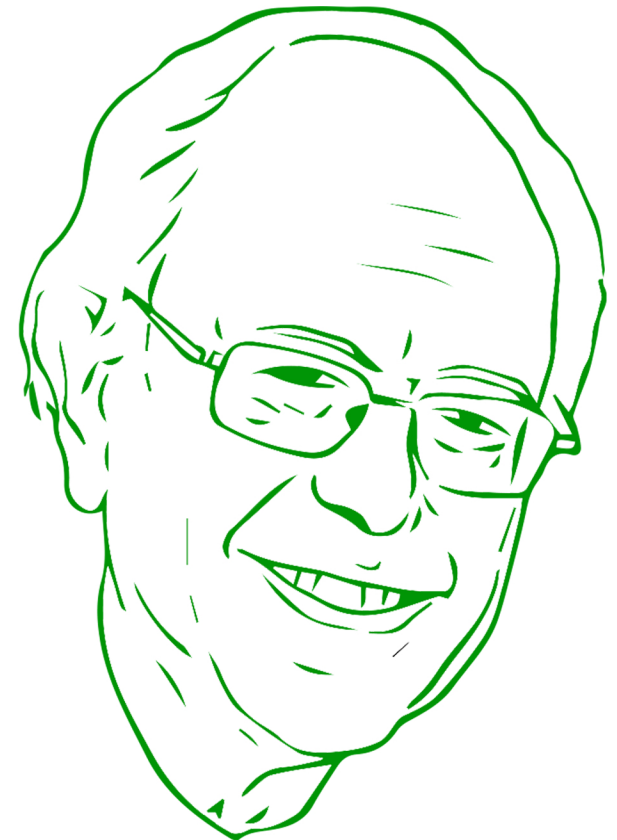
- Police officers should not be shooting unarmed people. (Dec 2015)
- America has more people in jail than any country on earth. (Oct 2015)
- Blacks are disproportionately imprisoned & killed by police. (Sep 2015)
- Reinstate voting rights to address school-to-prison pipeline. (Sep 2015)

on Drugs

- Tax Wall Street and make public universities free. (Dec 2015)
- \$70B to make public colleges & universities tuition-free. (Nov 2015)
- Replace NCLB standardized testing with holistic approach. (Sep 2015)
- Vouchers redirect public education dollar to private schools. (Sep 2015)

on Energy & Oil

- Climate change partly causes rise of terrorist groups. (Nov 2015)
- Address climate change so we can leave planet to our kids. (Oct 2015)
- Opposed Keystone Pipeline from day one. (Oct 2015)



Bernard "Bernie" Sanders

Born at: Brooklyn borough of New York City.

Age: 74.

Religion: Jewish.

Political Party: Democratic

Place of residence:

Burlington, Vermont, U.S.

Education, school:

1 James Madison High School.

Alma mater:

1. Brooklyn College

2. University of Chicago

Occupation:

- United States Senator from Vermont
- Chairman of the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs

on Principles & Values

- Political revolution: millions of people vs. few billionaires. (Oct 2015)
- American people are tired of hearing about Hillary's email. (Oct 2015)
- Social change cannot occur without mass participation. (Oct 2015)
- I'm not a capitalist; I'm a democratic socialist. (Oct 2015)
- Abortion & gay marriage secondary to addressing inequality. (Sep 2015)

on Abortion

- Lifetime pro-choice record, plus funding for family planning. (Sep 2015)
- Advocate for family planning and funding for contraceptives. (Sep 2015)

on Environment

- Climate change will lead to international security crises. (Nov 2015)
- Advocate of animal welfare and humane treatment. (Sep 2015)
- Protect important watersheds and wildlife areas. (Sep 2015)
- GMOs are ok, but only with required labeling. (Sep 2015)

on Budget & Economy

- The greed of the billionaire class is destroying our economy. (Dec 2015)
- Almost all new wealth goes to the top 1%. (Oct 2015)
- Economic justice: Address root causes of economic inequality. (Sep 2015)
- Economic issues take a larger toll on minority groups. (Jun 2015)

on Civil Rights

- Combat institutional racism and reform justice system. (Oct 2015)
- Vermont implemented ENDA 22 years ago; so should feds. (Sep 2015)

on Families & Children

- \$1.61 a week for paid family & medical leave. (Dec 2015)
- Increase payroll tax to guarantee paid family leave. (Oct 2015)
- LGBTQ values are family values. (Sep 2015)
- Provide affordable childcare & early pre-K education. (Sep 2015)
- Violence Against Women Act applies to men and gays, too. (Sep 2015)

Campaign Limericks

on Education

- Make community college free, but not free college for all. (Nov 2015)
- Refinance all college debt to help 40 million new grads. (Oct 2015)
- Teach Bible as history & literature; not science or religion. (Apr 2015)
- Let's get back to schools where kids are socialized. (Apr 2015)

on Energy & Oil

- I now oppose Keystone, but I withheld opinion at first. (Oct 2015)
- Obama & I crashed China meeting and got climate change deal. (Oct 2015)

on Families & Children

- US needs paid family leave, to join rest of the world. (Oct 2015)
- Design paid-leave system that doesn't burden small business. (Oct 2015)

on Jobs

- \$12 minimum wage, indexed for the future. (Nov 2015)
- It hasn't been this bad since the 1920s; so vote Democrat. (Oct 2015)

on Free Trade

- I absorbed new info and changed my mind to oppose TPP. (Oct 2015)
- TPP must produce jobs, raise wages, & protect security. (Apr 2015)

on Government Reform

- Wall Street donates to me because I rebuilt them after 9/11. (Nov 2015)

on Gun Control

- Reverse gun manufacturer immunity; let them get sued. (Nov 2015)
- Don't shield gun manufacturers from lawsuits: I vote that way. (Oct 2015)
- Gun control advocates see Clinton as an ally. (Jun 2015)

on Homeland Security

- PATRIOT Act was needed, but Bush chipped away at warrants. (Oct 2015)
- Snowden should face the music; he broke the law. (Oct 2015)
- Adversaries of the future: terrorists as well as drone subs. (Nov 2015)



Hillary Rodham Clinton

Born at: Chicago, Illinois, U.S.

Age: 68.

Religion: Methodist.

Political Party: Democratic

Place of residence:

Washington, DC.

Education, school:

1 Maine East High School

Alma mater:

1. Wellesley College

2. Yale Law School

Occupation:

• 67th United States Secretary of State

• United States Senator from

New York (2001-2009)

on Principles & Values

- I'm a progressive who likes to get things done. (Oct 2015)
- My email methods were a mistake, but it's over-politicized. (Oct 2015)
- As a woman, I am the ultimate outsider. (Oct 2015)
- Obama calls her "likable enough"; GOP says "untrustworthy". (Aug 2015)
- Sings to baby granddaughter, but can't carry a tune. (Apr 2015)
- First woman president would be an "outsider". (Oct 2015)

on Abortion

- It's big government to intervene on woman's right to choose. (Oct 2015)

on Budget & Economy

- Go after shadow banking industry, like Lehman Brothers. (Nov 2015)

on Tax Reform

- Wealthy pay too little and middle class pay too much. (Oct 2015)

on Civil Rights

- We need a New Deal for Communities of Color. (Oct 2015)

on Corporations

- AIG & Lehman were not big banks; we needed to bail them out. (Nov 2015)
- Every once in a while we have to save capitalism from itself. (Oct 2015)

on Crime

- Get body cameras on police; tackle mass incarceration. (Oct 2015)

on Drugs

- Stop imprisoning marijuana users. (Oct 2015)

on Immigration

- Net immigration from Mexico has fallen to zero. (Nov 2015)
- Include undocumented immigrant kids in state college tuition. (Oct 2015)
- Include undocumented immigrant kids in healthcare coverage. (Oct 2015)

Campaign Limericks

on Foreign Policy

- Under Hillary's leadership, every region of world is worse. (Nov 2015)
- Fighting ISIS is more important than fighting Assad. (Oct 2015)
- If Mideast strongmen still in power, better for US interests. (Oct 2015)
- US should not engage in nation building in Afghanistan. (Oct 2015)
- Don't let world courts bind American sovereignty. (Sep 2015)
- Move American embassy in Israel to Jerusalem. (Sep 2015)

on Gun Control

- Obama is coming for our guns. (Oct 2015)
- 2nd Amendment is ultimate check against government tyranny. (Jun 2015)

on Health Care

- Don't exempt Congress from ObamaCare, or any law. (Nov 2015)

on Social Security

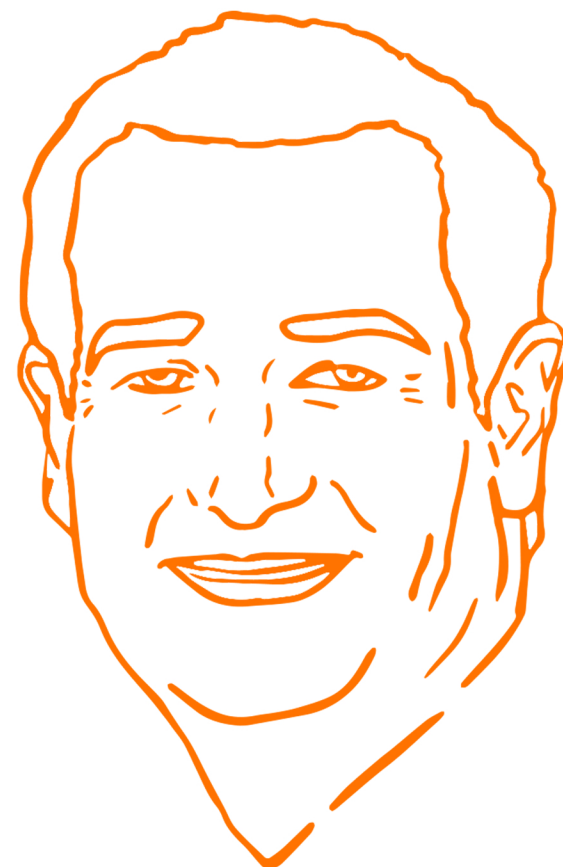
- Eliminate payroll tax entirely. and IRS entirely. (Nov 2015)

on Technology

- Of course China & Russia have conducted cyberwarfare on US. (Aug 2015)

on War & Peace

- If you wage jihad on America, you sign your death warrant. (Aug 2015)



Rafael Edward "Ted" Cruz

Born at: Calgary, Alberta, Canada.

Age: 45.

Religion: Christianity–Southern Baptist.

Political Party: Republican

Place of residence:

Houston, Texas, U.S.

Education, school:

Private high schools:

- 1 Faith West Academy in Katy, Texas
- 2 Second Baptist High School in Houston

Alma mater:

1. Princeton University
2. Harvard Law School

Occupation:

- United States Senator from Texas (2013)
- Solicitor General of Texas (2003-2008)

on Abortion

- Planned Parenthood sells body parts of unborn human beings. (Sep 2015)
- Allow vote to end Planned Parenthood's funding. (Aug 2015)
- Prosecute Planned Parenthood for criminal violations. (Aug 2015)
- Ban taxpayer funding of abortion & partial birth abortion. (Mar 2015)

on Immigration

- Illegals are an economic calamity for low-wage Americans. (Nov 2015)
- Support Kate's Law: oppose our leaders who won't enforce. (Aug 2015)

on Budget & Economy

- Would I bail out the banks again? Absolutely not!. (Nov 2015)
- 1.2% annual growth over last 8 years is a disaster. (Nov 2015)
- Audit the Fed; then end quantitative easing. (Oct 2015)
- Use debt limit as leverage for policy change. (Oct 2015)

on Civil Rights

- Don't empower more lawsuits by demanding equal pay. (Oct 2015)
- Supreme Court gay rights ruling undermines the Constitution. (Jul 2015)
- Pray against a court decision legalizing same-sex marriage. (Apr 2015)
- Liberals obsessed with mandatory gay marriage in 50 states. (Apr 2015)
- Zealotry on same-sex marriage leaves out religious liberty. (Apr 2015)

Campaign Limericks

on Civil Rights

- I'm "fine" with affirmative action, for now. (Oct 2015)
- After Supreme Court vote, gay marriage is a reality. (Aug 2015)
- I'm no misogynist; I put women in charge of construction. (Aug 2015)
- Disinvited from RedState gathering for misogynistic comments. (Aug 2015)
- Political correctness is country's problem, not my problem. (Aug 2015)

on Budget & Economy

- Keep mortgage interest deduction; knock out carried interest. (Nov 2015)
- Make economy dynamic; bring back jobs from China & Mexico. (Oct 2015)
- Use increasing debt ceiling as bargaining chip. (Oct 2015)
- Strong on debt limit; ask for a pound of flesh. (Oct 2015)
- Grow the economy at 6% annually by ending inversions. (Oct 2015)
- Cut defense budget, & entire EPA & Dept. of Education. (Oct 2015)

on Civil Rights

- I'm "fine" with affirmative action, for now. (Oct 2015)
- After Supreme Court vote, gay marriage is a reality. (Aug 2015)
- I'm no misogynist; I put women in charge of construction. (Aug 2015)
- Disinvited from RedState gathering for misogynistic comments. (Aug 2015)
- Political correctness is country's problem, not my problem. (Aug 2015)



Donald John Trump

Born at: Queens, New York City, U.S

Age: 69.

Religion: Presbyterianism

Political Party: Republican

Previous party affiliations:

- 1 Independent (2011-12)
- 2 Democratic (2001-09; until 1987)
- 3 Reform (1999-2001)

Place of residence:

1. Trump Tower, Manhattan, New York City, U.S.
2. Mar-a-Lago, Palm Beach, Florida, U.S.

Education, school:

- 1 Kew-Forest School
- 2 New York Military Academy

Alma mater:

1. Fordham University
2. University of Pennsylvania, Wharton School

Occupation:

- Chairman and president of The Trump Organization
- Host of The Apprentice(2004-15)

Principles & Values

- I will negotiate until American is great again. (Oct 2015)
- I want to win as a Republican, but might run as Independent. (Aug 2015)

on Immigration

- No apology for banning Muslims from entering America. (Jan 2016)
- Need to keep database of Muslim refugees. (Nov 2015)
- We must stop illegal immigration; it hurts us economically. (Nov 2015)
- Syrian refugees are a Trojan Horse. (Oct 2015)
- Ship millions back to Mexico, like Eisenhower did. (Nov 2015)
- Walls on borders work; just ask Israel. (Nov 2015)
- We need wall on Mexican border, but ok to have a door in it. (Aug 2015)

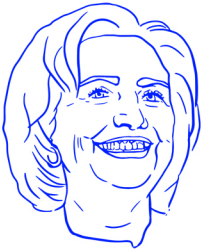
on Abortion

- Defund Planned Parenthood. (Oct 2015)
- Planned Parenthood is important, but abortions must stop. (Aug 2015)
- Ban late abortions; exceptions for rape, incest or health. (Jun 2015)

on Budget & Economy

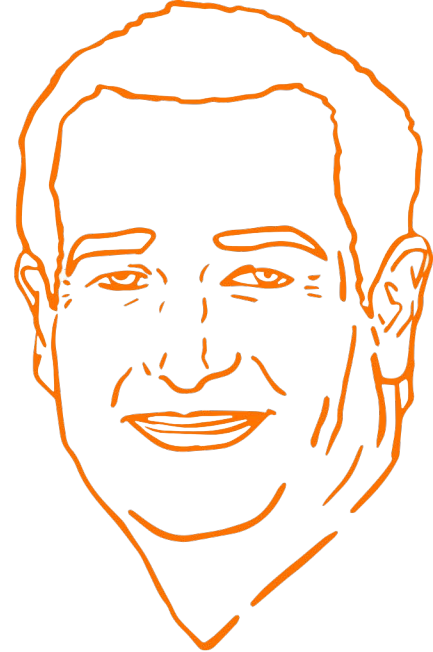
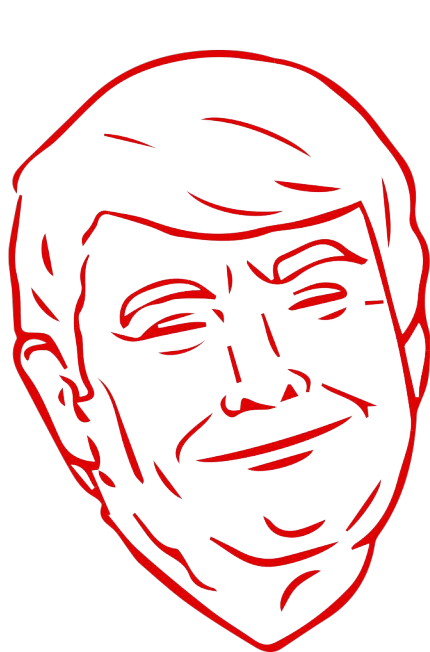
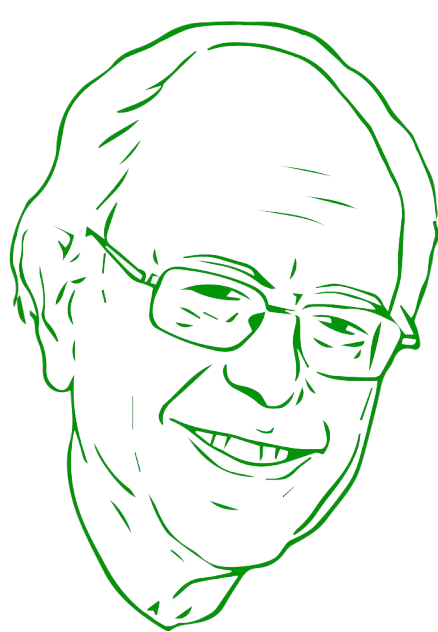
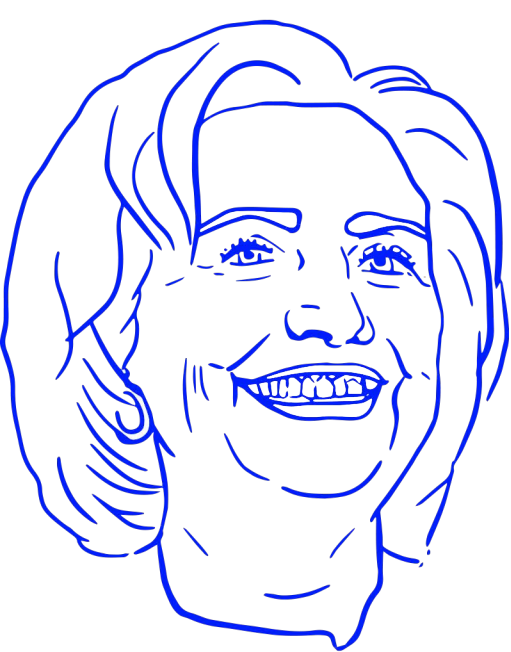
- Keep mortgage interest deduction; knock out carried interest. (Nov 2015)
- Make economy dynamic; bring back jobs from China & Mexico. (Oct 2015)
- Use increasing debt ceiling as bargaining chip. (Oct 2015)
- Strong on debt limit; ask for a pound of flesh. (Oct 2015)
- Grow the economy at 6% annually by ending inversions. (Oct 2015)
- Cut defense budget, & entire EPA & Dept. of Education. (Oct 2015)



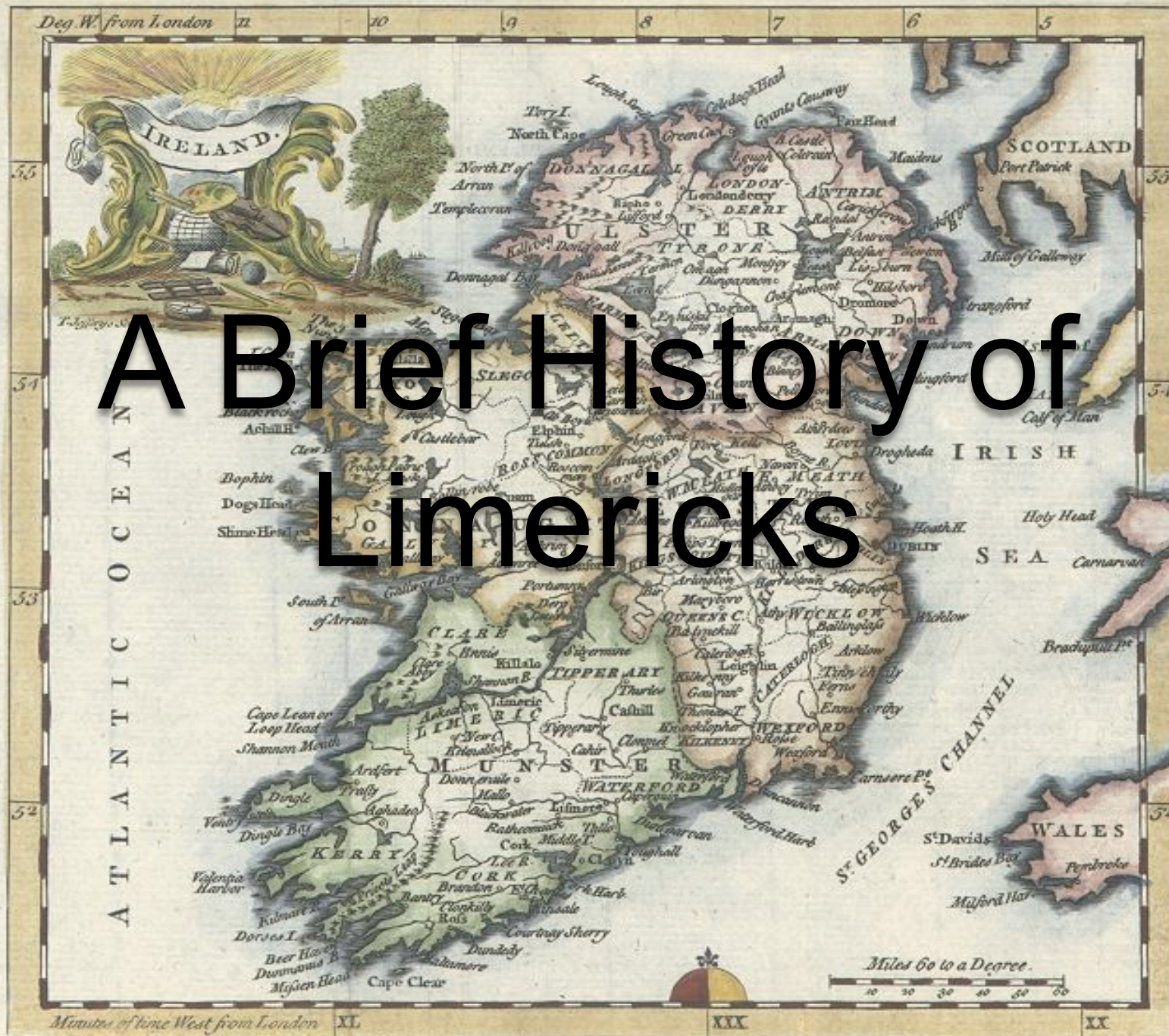








A Brief History of Limericks



Where it all started?

The name's genealogy is generally considered to be a reference to the city or county of Limerick, Ireland, where the early nineteenth century brief songs were sung at convivial gatherings.

The origin of the name "limerick" as a poetic form is still being debated.

These verses dealt with the adventures of inhabitants of various Irish towns, and the chorus extended the invitation: "Will you come up to Limerick?"



“Will you come up to Limerick?”

The form of the verse is of the accepted pattern of the limerick, namely, three anapestic trimeter lines, and two dimeter anapests, in which the first, second, and fifth longer lines rhymed as did the two shorter third and fourth lines.

The first official Limerick

*There was a young rustic named Mallory,
who drew but a very small salary.
When he went to the show,
his purse made him go
to a seat in the uppermost gallery.*

The earliest known, document, use of the name "limerick" for a short, humorous lyric is an 1880 reference in a New Brunswick newspaper.

Limericks Going Way Back

It has been suggested that the limerick originated in France during the Middle Ages. An 11th century manuscript demonstrates the limerick's cadence:

*The lion is wondrous strong
And full of the wiles of wo; (woe)
And whether he pleye (play)
Or take his preye (prey)
He cannot do but slo. (slay)*

The Limerick Limericks

The limerick form can be traced to the eighteenth century Gaelic poets of the Maigue, a pub in Croom, County Limerick.

Seán Ó'Tuama (1709-1775) and Aindrias MacCraith (1710-1793) were members of a group, which sometimes verbally sparred in verses employing limerick meter. For example:

*I sell the best Brandy and Sherry
To make all my customers merry,
But at times their finances
Run short as it chances,
And then I feel very sad, very.*

EDWARD LEAR

Limericks are often associated historically with Edward Lear (1818-1888), whose first published limericks appeared in *A Book of Nonsense* in 1846.

His poems were not called limericks at the time, but nonsense or nursery rhymes. Lear did not claim to invent the form. It appears that during his stays at Knowsley Hall in the 1830s, he discovered a book, *Anecdotes and Adventures of Fifteen Gentlemen*, which contained limericks published by John Marshall in 1822.

It seems likely that these books employed a form that was already popular at the time, and that Lear liked the form and began using it himself.

Different Genres of Limericks

- bawdy limericks (the most popular kind)
- clean limericks (which proliferated in England as a Victorian and post-Victorian house-party game)
- pornographic limericks (self explained)
- sick limericks (dealing with themes of gluttony, vomit, bad and false teeth, physical deformities, cross eyes, violent death and more).

Bawdy Limerick

There was a young man of Wood
Green,
Who tried to fart "God Save the
Queen."
When he reached the soprano,
He shot his guano,
And his breeches were not fit to be
seen.

--Source unknown

Pornographic Limerick

A worried young man from Stamboul
Discovered red spots on his tool.
Said the doctor, a cynic,
`Get out of my clinic!
Just wipe off the lipstick, you fool.'

--Gershon Legman's anthology of pornographic
limericks

Clean Limerick

There's a ponderous pundit MacHugh
Who wears goggles of ebony hue.
As he mostly sees double
To wear them why trouble?
I can't see the Joe Miller. Can you?
--James Joyce's 'Ulysses'

Sick Limerick

To his clubfooted son said Lord Stipple
As he poured his post-prandial tippie,
"Your mother's behavior
Gave pain to Our Savior,
And that's why He made you a cripple."
--Edward Gorey's The Listing Attic

Famous writers of limericks

Shakespeare, Alfred Lord Tennyson, Dante
Gabriel Rossetti, Ogden Nash, Rudyard
Kipling, Mark Twain, Robert Louis Stevenson,
H. G. Wells, T. S. Eliot, W. H. Auden, James
Joyce, Lewis Carroll, Algernon Charles
Swinburne, Salman Rushdie and Isaac Asimov
(who wrote the infamous "Lecherous
Limericks")

Historically famous limericks

*There was an Old Man with a beard,
Who said, "It is just as I feared!
Two Owls and a Hen,
Four Larks and a Wren,
Have all built their nests in my beard!"*
--Edward Lear

There was a sweet girl of Decatur
Who went to sea on a freighter.
She was screwed by the master
-An utter disaster-
But the crew all made up for it later.
--Isaac Asimov's Lecherous Limericks

And let me the canakin clink, clink
And let me the canakin clink
A soldier's a man;
A life's but a span;
Why, then, let a soldier drink.
--William Shakespeare's Othello

There once was a man from Nantucket
Who kept all his cash in a bucket.
But his daughter, named Nan,
Ran away with a man,
And as for the bucket, Nantucket.
--the Princeton Tiger, 1902

Political Appetizers



Bravo for our hero, dear Bernie.
He's engaged in a praise-worthy tourney.
He honors the floor—
Shows he's great to his core.
Wish more Democrats joined in his journey.
--<http://www.dailykos.com/story/2011/6/20/985947/>-



Why Donald Trump should be
President:
"Why wouldja even be hesitant?
I got the dough
And a big TV show,
'N I'm not an illegal resident."
<http://mostcorrupt.com/Newsmaker-Limericks.html>

Crafting a Limerick:

Limericks are “closed form” poems that adhere to a strict template. Want to write your own? Follow these guidelines:

1. The last word in lines 1, 2, and 5 must rhyme and contain 8-9 syllables each.
2. The last word in lines 3 and 4 must rhyme and contain 5-6 syllables each.

Bibliography:

- Asimov, Isaac. 1976. *Lecherous Limericks*. New York: Fawcett Books.
- Belknap, George N. 1981. "History of the Limerick". In: The Papers of the Bibliographical Society of America (75.1). pp 1-32.
- Limerick. 2016. *Encyclopaedia Britannica Online*. (<http://www.britannica.com/art/limerick-poetic-form> , retrieved 02/23/2016).
- Loomis, Grant. July 1963. *American Limerick Traditions*. in: *Western States Folklore Society* (22.3)
- Shakespeare, William. 1983. *Othello*. London: Oval Projects.
- <http://www.thehypertexts.com/The%20Best%20Limericks%20of%20All%20Time.htm> (retrieved at 02/23/2016).
- <http://www.grammarly.com/blog/2015/five-most-famous-limericks-and-their-histories/> (retrieved at 02/23/2016).
- <http://www.thehypertexts.com/The%20Best%20Limericks%20of%20All%20Time.htm> (retrieved at 02/23/2016).
- <http://www.grammarly.com/blog/2015/five-most-famous-limericks-and-their-histories/> (retrieved at 02/23/2016).
- <http://www.thehypertexts.com/The%20Best%20Limericks%20of%20All%20Time.htm> (retrieved at 02/23/2016).
- http://www.webexhibits.org/poetry/explore_famous_limerick_background.html (retrieved at 02/23/2016).