

Alexander Rodger

Primary activities

Alexander Rodger wis weel-kent fir his radical political views, scrievin satires in verse an sang. He wis jyled fir sedition efter his satire anent the Hanoverian succession featured in the pro-Reform newspaper "The Spirit of the Union".

1. Whit kind o man dae ye think Alexander Roger wis? Scribe twa-or three sentences about him. Yaise a puckle o these wirds tae help ye.

(Ye micht want tae yaise a Scots dictionar if yer no shair whit the wirds mean.)

kempie gallus fell gleg wice knackie jonick weel-leared

2. Whit sorts o things dae ye think he wis protestin about?

3. Whit dae ye think he wid scribe about nouadays?

4. Hoo micht Alexander Rodger get his message tae fowk if he wis alive the day?

Mak a social media profile fir this namely Scots speaker.

* Mind - wid he yaise his ain name, scribe anonymously as he did when he parodied Sir Walter Scott or mibbe yaise a pseudonym siclike Humphrey Henkeckle the Egg Cadger?

Alexander Rodger

Liks

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Secondary activities

Alexander Rodger wis weel kenned fir his strong opinions, fir whit he kenned aboot folk (as well as folk he didnae), politics an life in general. In wan o his poems, 'Highland Politicians', he pleads wi a politician tae re-think his opinion oan a Bill reform. In anither wan, 'O Peter McKay', he gies a drunk man advice aboot gettin sober an warns him o the dire consequences if he fails tae heed his warnin.

Task 1

Luik at some o the wurds frae Rodger's poetry an see if ye can work oot their definitions in English. Ye micht want tae yaise a Scots Dictionary fir the harder wans - ye can yaise the Dictionar o the Scots Leid Online: <http://www.dsl.ac.uk/>.

Scots	English
awa	away
ilka	
mak	
maun	
micht	
mucle	
ne'er	
nicht	
puir	
spoket	
thocht	
waur	
ye	

Task 2

Rodger scribed satires, which means he yaised humour tae ridicule folk in order tae criticise thaim.

Scrive a short poem or paragraph, in the Scots Leid, giein advice tae somebody – tellin thaim whit tae dae. Tell thaim where they're goin wrang an whit they should dae nixt. It should be a prominent figure lik a politician, celebrity or sportsperson. Try tae yaise humour, lik Alexander Rodger did, so that yer poem or prose paragraph is satirical.

Teaching notes

English Experiences and Outcomes:

ENG 3-27a / ENG 4-27a

Literacy Experiences and Outcomes:

LIT 3-20a / LIT 4-20a, LIT 3-23a/ LIT 4-23a, LIT 3-26a / LIT 4-26a, LIT 3-29a/ LIT 4-29a

Scots Language Award Outcomes:

Scots Language: Understanding and Communicating, Outcome 2 (Levels 3 and 4)

Teaching Notes on Task 1:

Students may wish to use the Dictionary of the Scots Language Website to find the meanings of these words. Prior to this task, you may wish to teach them how to use the DSL website by using the following resource on [‘The Scuilwab’](#)

Using this PowerPoint takes one or two lessons and is very valuable in teaching students how to use the dictionary effectively. Alternatively, students may wish to download the [‘Scots Dictionary for Schools’ app on iTunes](#):

Task 1 answers:

Scots	English
awa	away
ilka	each
mak	make
maun	must
micht	might
muckle	much
ne'er	never
nicht	night
puir	poor
spoket	spoke
thocht	thought
waur	worse
ye	you