

Name _____
"A Modest Proposal"

How can we fight injustice?

There's an old proverb that states, "The pen is mightier than the sword." Jonathan Swift wielded his pen like a rapier, using it to slash away at injustice. Though some may claim that the power of the pen is greatly diminished these days, people still fight injustice with words – in speeches, in newspapers and magazines, and on the internet.

CHART IT:

With your group members, brainstorm some contemporary examples of injustice. Write three of them down in the chart. For each example, identify some tactics that people can use to fight injustice.

| Examples of Injustice | Tactics for Fighting Injustice |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| | |
| | |
| | |

REVIEW: SATIRE

Satire is

For example, Swift used his savage wit to attack prominent British politicians and to protest unjust policies in Ireland.

The following chart shows three types of irony that Swift used in his satires. Look for examples of these techniques as you read "A Modest Proposal."

| Technique | Your Example | Example from Text |
|--------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| Situational Irony: | | |
| Verbal Irony: | | |
| Understatement: | | |

Juvenalian Characteristics

Horatian Characteristics

