

Gulliver's Travels

A literary Introduction

Rise of the Novel

- Novels were new!
 - Daniel Defoe: *Robinson Crusoe* (1719)
 - Jonathan Swift: *Gulliver's Travels* (1726)
- Novels were realistic!
 - Defoe is seen as the first great writer in English literature who did not take his plots from mythology, history, legend or previous literature.

Rise of the Novel

- Defoe:
 - total subordination of the plot to the pattern of the autobiographical, asserting the primacy of the individual
 - The use of ordinary contemporary names for characters rather than names carrying connotations
 - Time: portrayed realistically
 - Place: Defoe first to visual all of his narrative as though taking place in an actual physical environment
 - Authentic account of actual experiences of individuals

Defoe vs Swift

- Defoe inspired by:
 - his own (middle) class
 - people eager to make their own way in the world
 - he was a *realist*
- Swift inspired by:
 - politics
 - his loathing of mankind in general
 - scientific progress
 - he was a *satirist* (no attempt at realism)

The Audience

- Novel easier to read than previous literature (closer to reality, asking less (no?) knowledge of form and mythology)
- Early 18th century:
 - widespread illiteracy, yet changing (more schools and better printing process).
 - emphasis in education on religion and social discipline (therefore had to be able to read)
 - scandals in theatres led to Government censorship
 - new large groups: women and servants

Swift

- Refer also to reader pg 29

Born in Dublin in 1667.

Father died before born – family had no money

Uncle paid for Swift's education

Swift worked as secretary for leading member of Liberal Party, Sir William Temple. Swift becomes interested in politics.

1695: meets Esther (Stella). BFFs.

Swift

1694: ordained priest and became Dean of St Patrick's Cathedral in Dublin in 1713.

Swift saw humans as savage, driven by the seven deadly sins, unless members of Church.

Problem:

Swift had Whig upbringing (despite Royalist and High Church background) and wrote a pamphlet in 1701 praising Whigs = gained political reputation.

BUT

His background caused tension between political and religious beliefs – switched to Tory in 1710

Swift and Satire

The targets:

- The travelogue
- Walpole's government in particular but Britain's ambitions in general, and even Louis XIV
- Scientists and the obsession with listing and ranking
- The perceived superiority of the British in particular and the follies of mankind in general

Why did Swift write a satirical novel?

- Swift first supports Whig (Low Heels in GT) politics but party opposed to the Anglican Church
- Swift switches to support the Tories (High Heels).
- Whig party rules (Walpole, George 1- Emperor of Lilliput) and so Swift loses political influence.
- Changes in attitudes: Enlightenment movement, empirical foundations laid by Newton affected all areas of society.
- Theories of individualism and commercialism anathema to classically minded conservatives like Swift. GT has remarkably little political impact.

Satirical approaches used

- Refer also to pg 36 in Reader
- Making bigger and smaller; reflecting the 'ranking' and mocking the perceived 'greatness'
- Comparing and contrasting: the jumping and rope-walking contests, the war of the Big-enders and Small-enders
- Turning things upside down: the flying island and the country of the Houynynms
- Mocking science while making acute observations (the two moons of Mars predicted in GT 150 years ahead of their scientific discovery!)
- Mocking the body (close-up of skin, pissing)

Gulliver's Travels

Historical, Political and Social Context

Swift

- Swift witnessed six different monarchs during his lifetime (refer to pg 11 & 29 in Reader), from two Royal dynasties: Stuart and Hanover

The Stuart and the Hanover Dynasties



Queen Elizabeth (Protestant) had no children. When she died in 1603, James I and VI (1603-1625), son of Mary Queen of Scots, became the first joint ruler of the kingdoms of both England and Scotland.

The Stuart claim to England's throne derived from Margaret Tudor, eldest daughter of Henry VII, who married James IV, King of Scots.



Protestant

versus

Catholic

House of Tudor Family Tree

Scottish House of Stewart Family tree

House of Stuart & Orange 1603 -1714



James VI of Scotland
James I of England
1566 -1625
1603 -1625



m.1589

Anne of Denmark
1574 -1619



James I
Coat of Arms

Henry Frederick
Prince of Wales
1594 -1612

Elizabeth Stuart
1596 -1662

Frederick V
King of Bohemia
Elector Palatine
1596-1632



Charles I
1600 -1649
1625 - Executed 1649



m.1625

Henrietta Maria
of France
1609 -1669

William II
Of Orange
1626 -1650

Mary Stuart
1631 -1660



Catherine of
Braganza
1638 -1705



Charles II
1630 -1685
1661 -1685



James II
1633 - 1701
1685 -Abdicated 1688



Anne Hyde
1638 -1671



Mary of
Modena
1658 -1718

Ernst Augustus
Elector of Hanover
1629 - 1698



William III
1650 -1702
1689 -1702



Mary II
1662 - 1694
1689 - 1694



Anne
1665 - 1714
1702 -1714

Maria Sobieski
1702 - 1735



James Francis Stuart
'The Old Pretender'
1688 -1766

Louisa Stolberg
1752 - 1824



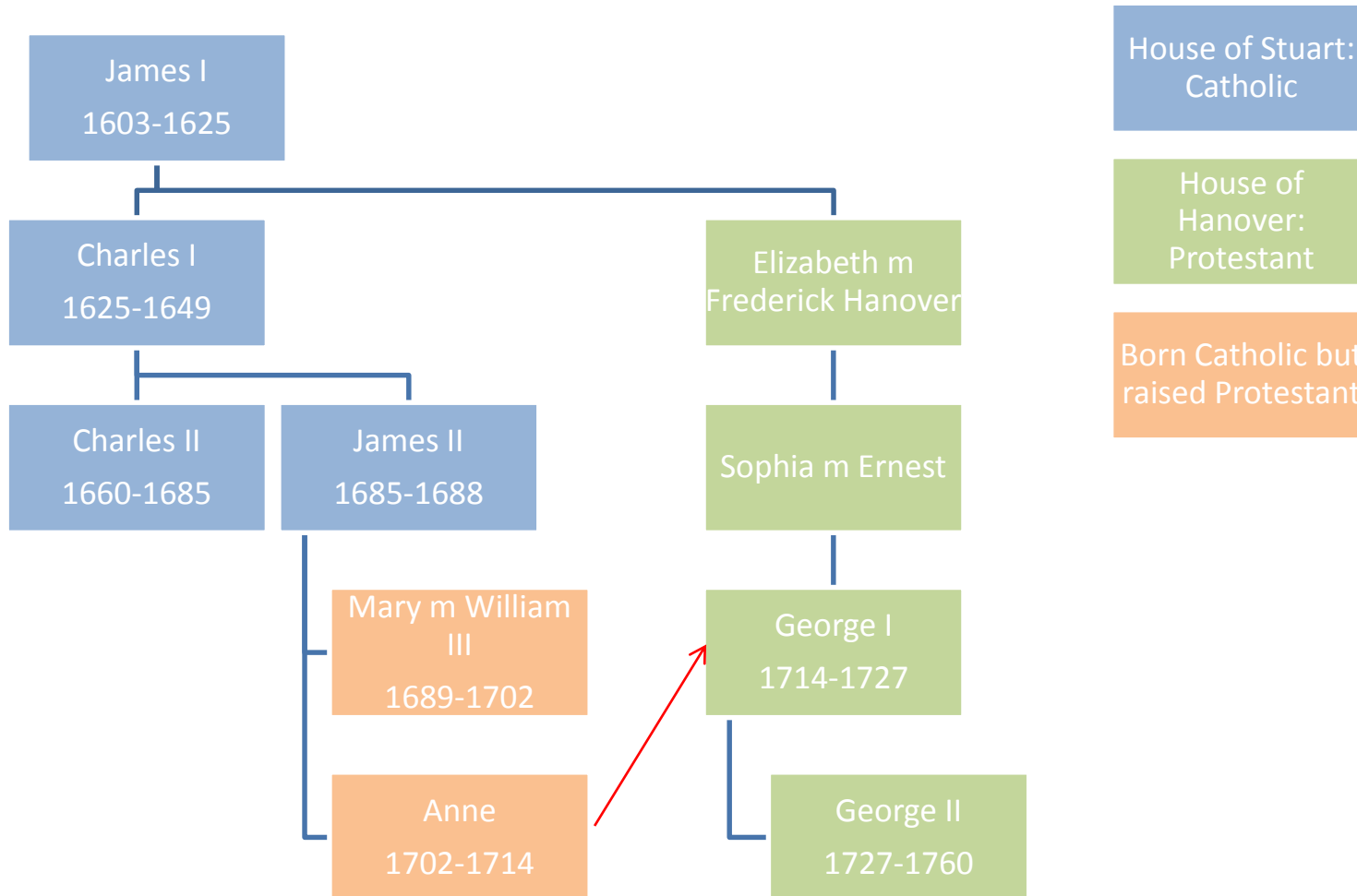
Charles Edward Stuart
'Bonnie Prince Charlie'
1720 -1788

House of Hanover Family Tree

George I
1660 -1727
1714 -1727

Sophia of
Hanover
1630 -1714

The Royal Family Tree



Some of the historical bits

- 1642-1646: Civil War
 - Roundheads (Parliamentarians)
 - Cavaliers (Royalists)
 - [Horrible Histories](#)
 - Roundheads won
 - Charles I executed (son Charles II exiled)
 - Oliver Cromwell takes charge
 - Dictatorial, puritan, genocide of Catholics in Scotland and Ireland
 - [Horrible Histories](#)

Another historical bit

- Charles II
 - Exiled: France and (what is now) the Netherlands
 - Public fed up with Cromwell's style so when he died, monarchy was reinstated
 - Catholic (so not at all in line with Cromwell's previous puritan regime)

Another historical bit

- James II
 - Catholic
 - Glorious Revolution of 1688
 - [Documentary](#)
 - Daughter Mary married William of Orange

And now for some politics

- House of Hannover led to unprecedented power of Prime Minister (Walpole), struggle between Tories and Whigs
- Tory:
 - 'God, King and Country'
 - In favour of Monarchy
 - Traditional
 - High Church Anglicanism
 - Landowners
 - Want Ireland to be part of Great Britain
 - Modern day = Conservatism

On the other side

- Whig
 - Constitutional monarchy and no absolute rule
 - Liberalism
 - Protestant
 - 1715 complete control of parliament, got rid of all Tories in powerful positions in politics, church and army
 - Industrial interests and merchants
 - Leader: Robert Walpole (first Prime Minister)

What was society like?

In the first decades of the 18th century Britain was modernising rapidly:

1. William of Orange as king meant British took a few things over from Dutch:
 1. overseas trade
 2. empire-building
 3. banking system and stock exchange (South Sea Bubble)
2. Trade brought wealth, rise of merchant class
3. New addictions (coffee, tea and chocolate) led to rise of coffee houses where the newspapers were read

What was society like?

4. Wealth combined with overseas exploration led to prominent role of Royal Society
5. Justice system (and government in general) hugely staggered in favour of the ruling classes
6. Agricultural and Industrial Revolution was underway
7. Distrust of religious extremes (e.g. Calvinism, but also Catholicism) and great stress on 'morality'
8. Windows were still small and candles still expensive, labourers couldn't afford to read

Gulliver's Travels

Part 1

Location

- See Plate 3, pg 20 (Penguin Classics edition)
- Readers thought Lilliput and Brobdingnag existed
- Inspiration:
 - New Voyage Round the World (1717)
 - Swift widely travelled (esp in Ireland)
- Set in South Seas (Pacific Ocean): this area unexplored in 1725. Latitude given, not longitude. Assume Indian Ocean.

Chapter 1

- Gulliver narrates his background
- Arrival at Lilliput
- Gulliver taken to “his” temple
- Key concepts for Chapter 1:
 - Travelogue
 - Suspension of disbelief
 - Three layers
 - True-life adventure
 - Fictional fairy tale
 - Satirical critique of English/European power

Chapter 1

Questions:

What is the point of Gulliver's description of his background?

It imitates the Travelogue style, make it seem more realistic to its readers

What is the first impression of the people of Lilliput?

Aggressive / suspicious, but remember that Gulliver is twelve times larger, and that it is he who feels powerless. (Theme: size and power)

Stylistically, does this chapter fit with the rest of Part 1?

No – it is just “plain” narrative, no satire like rest of part 1

Chapter 2

- Gulliver (*Quinbus Flestrin (Man-Mountain)*) meets the Emperor
 - Emperor's qualities opposite to those of George I
- Gulliver wins over the court
- He is put on public display but looked after
- Gulliver demonstrates parts of his character:
 - Tries to communicate linguistically, succeeds with signs
 - Merciful towards the ruffians
 - Not directly critical of those he meets (Swift strategy?)

Chapter 2

Questions:

How do the people of Lilliput react to Gulliver?

Tie him up, attack him with arrows.

Is this an expected view? (Theme: size and power)

Why do they begin to treat him more kindly?

How much do you think the Emperor trusts Gulliver?

Not much: Emperor keeps his distance. He also has Gulliver's possessions removed.

Chapter 2



Chapter 2



Chapter 3

- Satire very important
- Chapter reflects King George's court under the Walpole government
- Court is described: tricks, king's cushions (pg 38-39)
- Gulliver wins trust (horse through handkerchief) and is granted more freedom: eight conditions

Chapter 3

- Gulliver must:
 1. Not leave Lilliput without permission
 2. Give two hours' warning of a visit
 3. Keep to the main roads as he walks
 4. Take care as he moves
 5. Carry messages when required
 6. Defend Lilliput from its enemies
 7. Help with the building by lifting heavy stones
 8. Measure the kingdom

Chapter 3

Question

What is Swift trying to tell us about promotion in this chapter?

Promotions in England are arbitrary and not based on merit

Film intermezzo



Characters

- Main Friend:
 - Reldresal: Principal Secretary of Private Affairs
(Motif: good person in bad society)
- Main Enemies:
 - Skyris Bolgolam: High Admiral (*Earl of Nottingham, bishop*) (reputation diminished after Gulliver defeated Blefuscu)
 - Flimnap: Lord High Treasurer to the Emperor (*Robert Walpole*) suspected Gulliver of having affair with wife

Chapter 4

- This chapter = account of England and its contemporary history (e.g. the “bloody war” is the war of the Spanish Succession)
- Gulliver describes Mildendo city (style?)
- Gulliver discusses Lilliput’s politics with Reldresal
- Gulliver willingly agrees to help Lilliput in their war with Blefuscu

Chapter 4

- Reldresal = Principal Secretary of Private Affairs
- He explains two political parties in Lilliput:
 - Tramecksan (High-Heels): largest and more traditional party (= Tories)
 - Slamecksan (Low-Heels): favoured by Emperor and are in power (=Whigs)
- At the time, Charles II favoured Whigs but the Crown Prince kept in favour with both parties and was said to “hobble” with one heel higher than the other

Chapter 5

- Gulliver helps in war against Blefuscu
 - Made a “Nardac” as a reward
 - Gulliver refuses to completely destroy Blefuscu
 - Relationship between Gulliver and Emperor breaks down (pg 51-52)
- Putting out the fire:
 - Swift’s relationship with Queen Anne
 - War of Spanish Succession: Treaty of Utrecht, where Bolingbroke and Oxford used illegal means to extinguish a dispute
- Gulliver’s enemies thought him guilty of treason

Chapter 6

- Beware of this chapter: some parts seem a description of Utopia, other are a satirical commentary.
- Gulliver describes Lilliputian customs and education
 - e.g. write diagonally, buried head down
 - Recruitment: good character more important than ability
 - Family: children raised by community, may be fines for parents
 - Education: single-sex schools with differences in content
 - Differences in English vs Lilliputian law:
 - People punished for making false accusations
 - Embezzlers and people who are ungrateful are executed
 - Atheists are not allowed public service (ref Swift)
 - Law-abiding people rewarded

Chapter 7

- Gulliver victim of a plot and sentenced to death (blinding and starvation) for treason, so escapes to Blefuscu
- Accused of four crimes:
 - Urinating on palace
 - Refusing to crush Blefuscu
 - Showing friendliness towards enemy
 - Planning to travel to and side with Blefuscu(Lilliputian formal language used to detail crimes ridicules them – Swift's satire!)

Chapter 8

- Gulliver finds a boat
- Lilliputians demand Gulliver's return but are refused
- Gulliver rescued by an English ship and returns home
- Gulliver sets sail again

Chapter 8

Has Gulliver's attitude changed towards people in authority?

Yes – consider his response to the welcome given by the monarch of Blefuscu

Compare the ways in which the Emperors of Blefuscu and of Lilliput treat Gulliver

Emperor of Lilliput: suspicion, uses Gulliver for his own aim, then turns against him

Emperor of Blefuscu: forgives and forgets what Gulliver did to his naval fleet, he is kind and courteous, welcomes Gulliver and helps him go home

Compare the description of Gulliver's homecoming to his journey to Lilliput

Lacking details provide high contrast

Gulliver's Travels

Part 2

Part 2

- General comments:
 - Lack of politics in this chapter, more focussed on three-tier society (king, noblemen, commoners)
 - Physical size remains a theme.
 - Three possible interpretations:
 - Refers to England's power in respect to the colonies
 - Refers to a society supposedly guided by what is right
 - Refers to humans' self-importance: destabilises humans at the centre of the universe by showing that size/power are relative
 - In Lilliput his huge size made him powerful and respectable. In Brobdingnag it made him a toy, a clown.

Chapter 1

- Main events:
 - Gulliver sets sail again, arrives in Brobdingnag
 - His shipmates abandon him
 - A giant farmer takes Gulliver home
- Realistic elements:
 - Cornwall
 - Nautical detail (does it go too far? – satirical?? Compare detail in Part 1, Ch1 with this chapter)
- Satirical elements:
 - Note how Gulliver's "curiosity" leads him into trouble (pg 81)
 - Folly and ugliness of mankind (pg 82, 87)
 - Gulliver "discharged the necessities of nature" (pg 89)

Chapter 1

Second paragraph – parody/pastiche of Samuel Sturmy's Mariner's Magazine (1678) – to imitate/satirize Travelogue style

It bloweth a Storm.

It is like to over-blow ; Take in your Sprit-fail, stand by to hand the Fore-fail. Cast off the Top-fail Sheets, Clue-garnets, Leech-lines, Bunt-lines ; stand by the Sheet, and brace ; loure the Yeard, and furl the Sail (here is like to be very much Wind) See that your main Hallyards be clear, and ^{hawl} all the rest of your Geer clear and cast off. (It is all clear.) Loure the main Yard. All down upon your doone hall ; now the Yard is down, hawl up the Clue-garnets, Lifts, Leach-lines, and Bunt-lines, and furl the Sail fast, and fasten the Yards, that they may not travers and gall. Thus have you the Ship a trije under a Mizen.

Chapter 2

- Main events: Glumdalclitch (= little nurse)
 - She looks after Gulliver (Grildrig = Mannikin)
 - To her I chiefly owe my preservation in that country: we never parted while I was there (pg 90)
 - Gulliver is put on display for money
 - Compare/contrast to Part 1
 - Journey to Lorbrulgrud (= London)
- Contrast with part 1:
 - How Gulliver is perceived: hero vs freak
 - How Gulliver feels: strong vs vulnerable
 - Relationships: people in power vs farmers

Chapter 3

- Main events:
 - Gulliver moves to court
 - The dwarf
 - Flies and wasps
- Note:
 - How quickly Gulliver settles down to a comfortable life in the palace
 - How Gulliver's own attitude towards size changes (pg 101)
 - How Gulliver's attitude changes: first defensive of the English court to agreeing that English Lords and Ladies are ridiculous (pg 101)
 - The dwarf (pg 101): was the smallest and least powerful until Gulliver arrived. Sees he is physically larger => becomes aggressive.

Chapter 3

- Compare the various reactions to Gulliver in this chapter
 - Gulliver's master exploits him for money (pg 95)
 - The Queen and her attendants are “delighted” by Gulliver (pg 95)
 - Glumdalclitch is overjoyed to be able to stay at the palace (pg 96)
 - At first, the King thinks Gulliver is a splacknuck (clockwork toy) (pg 96)
 - The scholar's suggestions (pg 97-98)

Chapter 4

- Main events:
 - Brobdingnag is described, and Gulliver dislikes it.
- Note:
 - Gulliver's obsession with relating everything to size
 - Comparisons with England (Westminster Hall, Salisbury Cathedral, St Paul's Cathedral)
 - King's Kitchen – St Paul's Cathedral (built during Swift's lifetime after original destroyed in Great Fire of London)
 - Compare the descriptions of Mildendo (1.4) and of Brobdingnag (2.4)

Chapter 5

- Main events:
 - His “littleness” gets him into “several ridiculous and troublesome accidents”
 - Dwarf bombards him with apples
 - Stuck by giant hailstones
 - Picked up by a spaniel
 - Nearly caught by a kite
 - Falls into molehill
 - Hurts leg on a snail’s shell
 - Pecked at by birds
 - Note – in chapter 1 his curiosity gets him into trouble, now it is his size

Chapter 5

- The Queen's Maids of Honour (pg 110)

The maids of honour often invited Glumdalclitch to their apartments, and desired she would bring me along with her, on purpose to have the pleasure of seeing and touching me. They would often strip me naked from top to toe, and lay me at full length in their bosoms; wherewith I was much disgusted because, to say the truth, a very offensive smell came from their skins; which I do not mention, or intend, to the disadvantage of those excellent ladies, for whom I have all manner of respect; but I conceive that my sense was more acute in proportion to my littleness, and that those illustrious persons were no more disagreeable to their lovers, or to each other, than people of the same quality are with us in England.

- Swift comments here on Court morals and is accusing the maids of immorality and sexual licence: sexual submission / domination vs. disgust at their size & smell. We are limited by our own senses.

Chapter 5

- The execution (pg 111)

One day, a young gentleman, who was nephew to my nurse's governess, came and pressed them both to see an execution. It was of a man, who had murdered one of that gentleman's intimate acquaintance. Glumdalclitch was prevailed on to be of the company, very much against her inclination, for she was naturally tender-hearted: and, as for myself, although I abhorred such kind of spectacles, yet my curiosity tempted me to see something that I thought must be extraordinary. The malefactor was fixed in a chair upon a scaffold erected for that purpose, and his head cut off at one blow, with a sword of about forty feet long. The veins and arteries spouted up such a prodigious quantity of blood, and so high in the air, that the great *jet d'eau* at Versailles was not equal to it for the time it lasted: and the head, when it fell on the scaffold floor, gave such a bounce as made me start, although I was at least half an English mile distant.

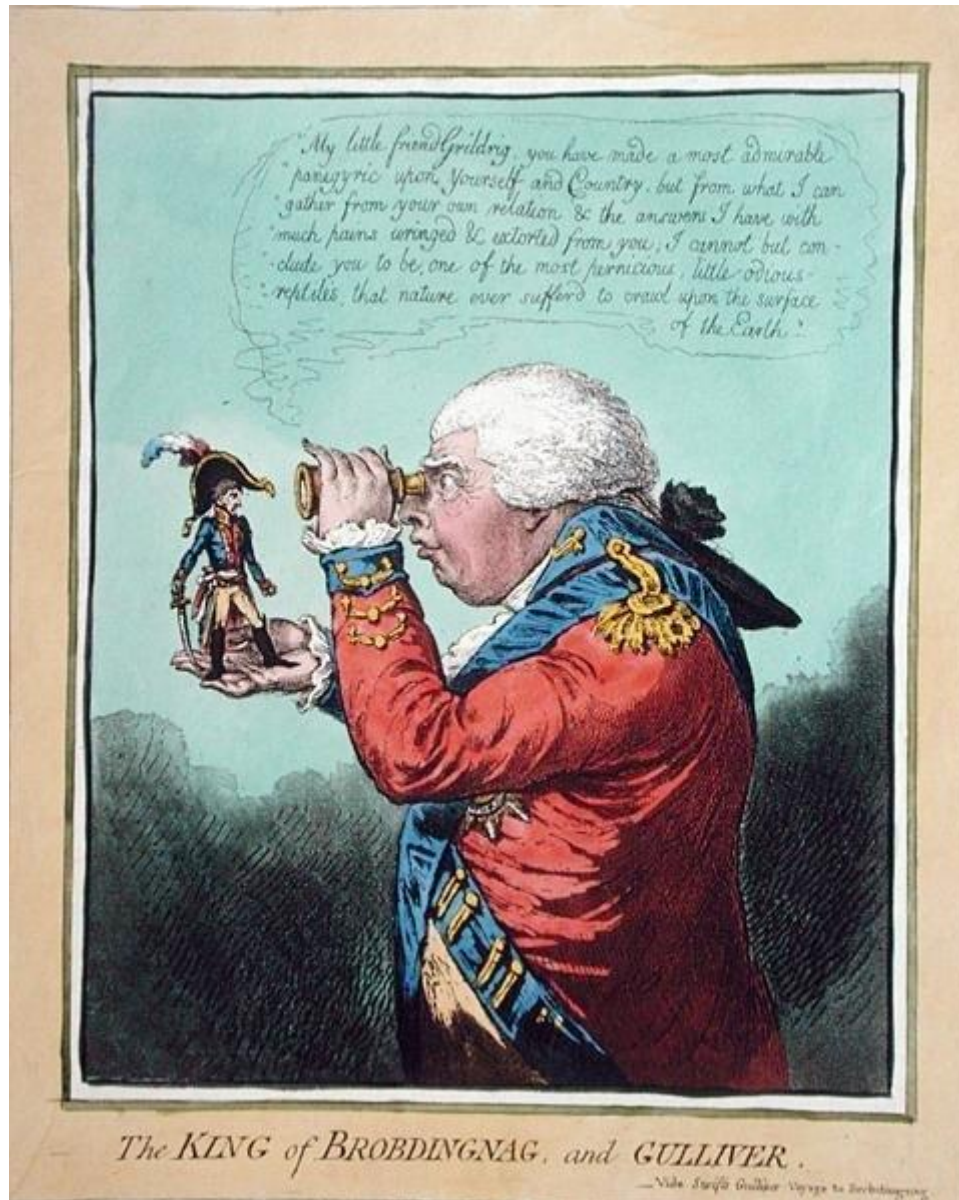
- Detached description

Chapter 6

- Main events:
 - Gulliver makes things (comb, purse, furniture ...)
 - King interviews Gulliver on:
 - The Lords
 - The Commoners
 - Justice
 - Treasury
 - Army
 - Gambling

This chapter: a historical account of England, very positively worded – but what about the King's concluding verdict?

King unimpressed – small size = small morals



"My little friend Gildig, you have made a most admirable panegyric upon yourself and Country, but from what I can gather from your own relation & the answers I have with much pains wringed & extorted from you, I cannot but conclude you be one of the most pernicious, little odious-reptiles that nature ever suffered to crawl upon the surface of the Earth—"

James Gillray

"The King of Brobdingnag and Gulliver"

1803

Napoleon I as Gulliver and King George III as the king of Brobdingnag

Chapter 7

- Main events:
 - Gulliver explains why the King was unimpressed
 - The values of Brobdingnag are discussed
- Main themes: condemns hypocrisy and political corruption
- Some important quotes, but why?

Chapter 7

(Pg 123) Nothing but an extreme love of truth could have hindered me from concealing this part of my story. It was in vain to discover my resentments, which were always turned into ridicule; and I was forced to rest with patience, while my noble and beloved country was so injuriously treated. I am as heartily sorry as any of my readers can possibly be, that such an occasion was given: but this prince happened to be so curious and inquisitive upon every particular, that it could not consist either with gratitude or good manners, to refuse giving him what satisfaction I was able. Yet thus much I may be allowed to say in my own vindication, that I artfully eluded many of his questions, and gave to every point a more favourable turn, by many degrees, than the strictness of truth would allow.

Chapter 7

(Pg 124) But great allowances should be given to a king, who lives wholly secluded from the rest of the world, and must therefore be altogether unacquainted with the manners and customs that most prevail in other nations: the want of which knowledge will ever produce many prejudices, and a certain narrowness of thinking, from which we, and the politer countries of Europe, are wholly exempted.

Chapter 7

(Pg 125) The king was struck with horror at the description I had given of those terrible engines, and the proposal I had made. “He was amazed, how so impotent and grovelling an insect as I” (these were his expressions) “could entertain such inhuman ideas, and in so familiar a manner, as to appear wholly unmoved at all the scenes of blood and desolation which I had painted as the common effects of those destructive machines; whereof,” he said, “some evil genius, enemy to mankind, must have been the first contriver. As for himself, he protested, that although few things delighted him so much as new discoveries in art or in nature, yet he would rather lose half his kingdom, than be privy to such a secret; which he commanded me, as I valued any life, never to mention any more.”

Chapter 7

(Pg 126) He professed both to abominate and despise all mystery, refinement, and intrigue, either in a prince or a minister. He could not tell what I meant by secrets of state, where an enemy, or some rival nation, were not in the case.

Chapter 7

(Pg 126) And he gave it for his opinion, “that whoever could make two ears of corn, or two blades of grass, to grow upon a spot of ground where only one grew before, would deserve better of mankind, and do more essential service to his country, than the whole race of politicians put together.”

The learning of this people is very defective, consisting only in morality, history, poetry, and mathematics, wherein they must be allowed to excel.

Chapter 8

- Main events:
 - Gulliver longs to return to England
 - Eagle carries him off / rescued by an English ship
 - Gulliver tells his story to the captain
 - Arrival back in England

Assignment

- Watch the second part in the film adaptation. What is the same as in the book, and what is different?

Gulliver's Travels

Part 3

General comments

- Structure: bridge between parts 2 and 4
- Part 3 = move away from differences in *size* to differences in *intellect*, and some reader *intellect* is required for part 3
- Swift portrays the intellectuals as disassociated from reality. Less intellectual people are more practical and are more able to run the island.

Satire in Part 3

- Satirical elements:
 - False learning and bizarre research
 - Balnibarbi: Anglo-Irish issues
 - Struldbruggs: unrewarded efforts, political corruption, desire for eternal life
- Target of satire: science, learning, and abstract thought => a critique of excessive rationalism during the Enlightenment.
- Reason for satire: to warn against abuse of science

Chapter 1

- Main events:
 - Sets sail as Surgeon on the Hope-Well
 - Captured by pirates
 - Fate decided between Dutch/Japanese pirates
 - Gulliver sees Laputa in the sky

Chapter 2

- Main events:
 - The inhabitants of Laputa are described
- It seems people in Laputa judged on their “quality” rather than appearance (pg 148, 149)
- Laputans:
 - Heads turned either left or right
 - Eye turned inwards: introvert
 - Eye turned up: astronomers (see also clothing)

Chapter 2

Flappers: only if they could be afforded

“it seems the minds of these people are so taken up with intense speculation, that they neither can speak nor attend to the discourses of others, without being roused by some external taction and the business was gently to strike with his bladder the mouth of him who is to speak, and the right ear of him or them to whom the speaker addresseth himself” (pg 148)

Chapter 3

- Main events:
 - Gulliver explains the island's propulsion system
 - How the king maintains rule over Balnibari
- Pg 155: "Philopsophical Account" ref to Royal Society's journal "Philosophical Transactions"
- Loadstone drives island by magnetic force.
King exerts power on Balnibarbi via loadstone.

Chapter 3

- Anglo-Irish Issues:
 - War and colonisation in the 16th and 17th centuries brought Ireland under English control.
 - Wood's Halfpenny (1722-1725) . In a heated public dispute, more than 100 pamphlets protested against the English Government's granting a patent for coining copper money for Ireland to an English manufacturer.
 - 1782: near independence of Ireland
 - 1798: rebellion demanding full independence
 - 1801: creation of UK of GB and Ireland
 - 1922: Secession of Ireland from UK

Chapter 3

Short [video](#) on Irish history in the time of Swift.
(22:00 to 43:00)

Chapter 4

- Main events:
 - Gulliver goes to Balnibari, which is very poor compared to Laputa
 - Gulliver visits the Academy of Projectors
- Balnibari:
 - Poor (parody of 18th Century Ireland, where the poor starved while the economists argued over political reforms)
 - Munodi: compare palace to land outside
 - Swift wrote *A Modest Proposal* (1729) as a direct parody of this chapter

Chapter 5

- Main events:
 - Gulliver visits the Academy Of Lagado
 - Bizarre research described
 - Note Swift's tongue-in-cheek condemnation of academics. Many of these bizarre examples were based on actual papers produced by the Royal Society = satire.

Chapter 6

- Main events:
 - Sensible ideas are considered abnormal
 - Inversion of satirical elements:
 - Doctor devised physical ways of bringing about improved government by shortening debates, prompt action by ministers and an insistence that members vote in an opposite way to the views they have expressed. The most peculiar is to surgically fuse two halves of brains that hold opposite views, therefore bringing about political reconciliation.
 - Gulliver suggests some ideas for improvement
 - Contributes the idea that men could be taken away and their letters and papers searched for evidence of spying. Direct reference to the trial of Francis Atterbury.

Chapter 7

- Main Events:
 - Gulliver sails to Glubbdubdrib, where he encounters a number of ghosts:
 - Alexander the Great (died in 324BC after defeating Darius of Persia in 331BC)
 - Hannibal (Carthaginian general who took 60,000 men and crossed the Alps on elephants to invade Italy)
 - Caesar and Pompey (two Roman leaders)
 - Brutus (committed suicide after murdering Caesar), who lives in a Sextumvirate with his ancestors (note Sir Thomas More)

Chapter 8

- Main Events:
 - More ghosts are called up and he learns the “true” version of historical events
 - This chapter contains Swift’s most damning criticism of Europe, past and present

Chapter 9

- Main events:
 - Gulliver sails to Luggnagg and is received by the king.
- Note Gulliver introduces himself as a “Hollander”

Chapter 10

- Main events:
 - Gulliver praises the Luggnaggians
 - Struldbruggs are described, they horrify Gulliver:
 - Gulliver delights at the idea of immortality at first
 - He has good intentions of using his meeting with the Struldbruggs to stop the progressive corruption of the human race
 - Gulliver changes to see immortality as a “dreadful prospect”(pg 196), and he finds the Struldbruggs to be “not only opinionative, peevish, covetous, morose, vain, talkative, but incapable of friendship, and dead to all natural affection (pg 196)
 - This chapter could be interpreted as a sermon by Swift to help people come to terms with death and welcome the Christian prospect of a life after death.

Chapter 11

- Main events:
 - Gulliver refuses a job offer.
 - He sails to Japan, then Amsterdam, then England.
- Note: Japan / Dutch

Gulliver's Travels

Part 4

Chapter 1

- Main events:
 - Gulliver has a difficult voyage to the South Seas
 - He is marooned on a strange land
 - He encounters the Yahoos (“ugly monsters”) and the Houyhnhnms (horses)

Chapter 2

- Main events:
 - Yahoos take Gulliver to a house. Horses in houses, Yahoos in stables/kennel.
 - Gulliver compared to a Yahoo

Chapter 3

- Main events:
 - Gulliver learns how to communicate with Houyhnhnms
 - Further comparison Gulliver/Yahoo
- At the end of the chapter the Houyhnhnm concludes that without clothes and except for his preference for walking on his hind legs, Gulliver would be a Yahoo. Swift identifies only two differences between humans and animals:
 - Men wear clothes
 - Men write their thoughts on paper (see also pg 251)

Chapter 4

- Main events:
 - Paragraph 1: concept of Lying
 - Gulliver describes horses (and their uses) to the Houyhnhnms
 - Why humans are physically “worse” than Yahoos
 - The master Houyhnhnm wishes to know more about Gulliver’s provenance

Chapter 5

- Main events:

- Swift scathing explains of war and law, through Gulliver.

War:

- causes of war listed

- soldiers are just trained killers

- Master Houyhnhnm can't understand how the European is so strong when man is so physically inferior

- Master Houyhnhnm concludes Europeans must be more corrupted than the naturally vicious Yahoos

Question:

- Why does the master think that humans are more corrupt than Yahoos?

Answer:

- Although both humans and Yahoos are capable of “brutality”, Yahoos could not be blamed for it, because it comes naturally to them. Humans, on the other hand, pretend to possess reason, and so the results of the brutality are worse

Chapter 5

- Main events:

- Swift scathing explains of war and law, through Gulliver.

War:

- causes of war listed

- soldiers are just trained killers

- Master Houyhnhnm can't understand how the European is so strong when man is so physically inferior

- Master Houyhnhnm concludes Europeans must be more corrupted than the naturally vicious Yahoos

Law:

- Lawyers are trained to prove the opposite of truth

- Precedents: if injustice has prevailed, the worst of errors thereby perpetuated.

- Legal language (confusing language to confuse the reader!)

- Gulliver asserts that lawyers are the most ignorant and prejudiced professionals

Chapter 6

- Main events
 - Swift's (most?) scathing attack continues.
 - Money, disease and “Minister of State” are discussed.

Chapter 7

- Main events:
 - Gulliver starts to change his opinion of mankind, even wants to stay in the land of the Houyhnhnms.
 - Gulliver and the master compare humans with Yahoos ... again
 - Master concludes:
 - Humans have limited intellect, which they use to increase corruption
 - Intellectual similarity Yahoos & humans. Yahoos are also quarrelsome, selfish and greedy
 - Gulliver portrays the human race as a people who are intelligent but overindulgent and wicked

Chapter 7

- Diamonds = Swift's satirical comment on avarice, jealousy and greed.
- Gluttony = Yahoos eat anything they can steal. Need laxatives after over-eating. Nearly all the ill-health is due to greed.
- Sexual promiscuity and dirtiness among Yahoos
- Hard work cures an attack of low spirit
- The master Houyhnhnm portrays the Yahoos as cunning and savage animals who ironically demonstrate the same vices as humans.

Chapter 8

- Main events:
 - A female Yahoo accosts Gulliver when he is bathing.
 - Gulliver describes the lifestyle of the Houyhnhnms.

Chapter 9

- Main events:
 - A council meeting (held once every four years) discusses the Yahoos: should they “be exterminated from the Face of the Earth”?
 - Swift himself had a passion for writing, history and poetry, but these are denounced in this chapter, as the perfect world of the Houyhnhnms does not study these topics.
 - They are not afraid of death
 - Only negative word (suffix) in their language is “Yahoo”

Chapter 10

- Main events:
 - Gulliver feels happy and settled
 - The council decides he must leave, for they fear he may organise the Yahoos into mutiny

Chapter 11

- Main events:
 - Gulliver returns home, via a small island and then Portugal.
 - He clearly prefers the company of horses to people

Chapter 12

- Main event:
 - Gulliver asserts the truth of his story

Extra bits

- Seven deadly sins: *wrath, greed, sloth, pride, lust, envy, gluttony* – how many of these are present in Gulliver's Travels? Why?
- Addressing the Reader increases in Part 4. Why?
- Main themes and structure of book, change in tone throughout the parts. Comment.