

The Rape of the Lock

Part I

Choose one of the following card games and...

- Describe the rules and how you play the game—
- if you have never played any of these, then describe a card game you do know how to play.

- *War*
- *Hearts*
- *Spades*
- *Spit*
- *ERS*
- *Rummy*
- *Gin Rummy*
- *Shanghai*

Now, revisit your description and *personify* the cards as if they are really battling it out

Which would you most likely use in real life?



Which description is more entertaining?

Now Remember...

- Boasting speeches of heroes and heroines
- Elaborate descriptions of warriors and their weapons
- Involvement of gods and goddesses in the action
- Epic similes, or elaborate comparisons in the style of Homer that sometimes use the words like, as, or so
 - Antithesis—placing side by side, and in similar grammatical structures, strongly contrasting words, clauses, sentences, or ideas.

Setting



- London; Early 1700's
- ONE DAY: start as NOON
 - Canto I: Belinda's residence
 - Canto II: Belinda on a boat traveling up the Thames
 - Canto III-V: Hampton Court—a former residence of King Henry VIII (brief scene in Canto IV in the cave of the Queen of Spleen)



Characters

- **Belinda** Beautiful young lady with wondrous hair, two locks of which hang gracefully in curls.
- **The Baron** Young admirer of Belinda who plots to cut off one of her locks.
- **Ariel** Belinda's guardian sylph (supernatural creature).
- **Clarissa** Young lady who gives the Baron scissors.
- **Umbriel** Sprite who enters the cave of the Queen of Spleen to seek help for Belinda.
- **Queen of Spleen** Underworld goddess who gives Umbriel gifts for Belinda.
- **Thalestris** Friend of Belinda. Thalestris urges Sir Plume to defend Belinda's honor.
- **Sir Plume** Beau of Thalestris. He scolds the Baron.

Canto I

John Caryl:
Pope's friend
who encouraged

What dire offence from am'rous

What mighty contests rise

I sing—This ye

This, ev'ry

and he approve my lays.

Satire: He doesn't invoke a goddess
he invokes a friend as the muse—a
male friend no less—haha!

Four kings in majesty revered



Four fair queens whose hands
sustain a flower



Four knaves in garbs succinct



Who are the main characters?

- Belinda
- Baron

What is the author's purpose?

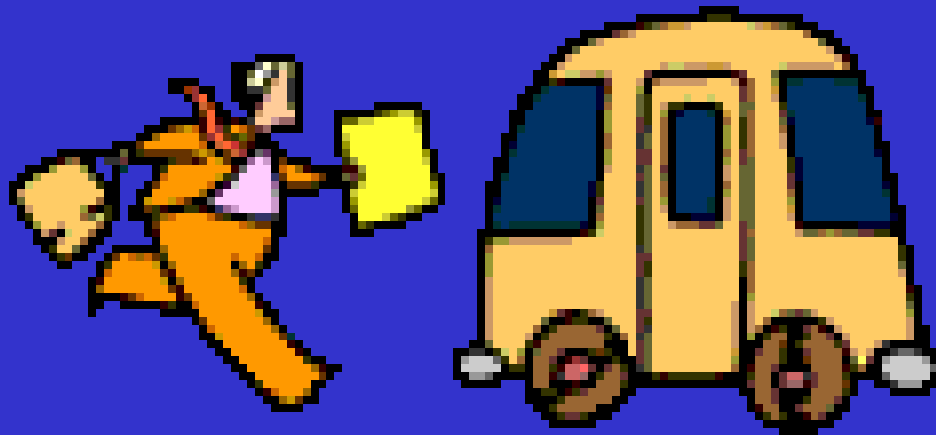
- To entertain?
- To ridicule?
- To record an event?
- To preach?
- To scold?
- To condemn?
- To criticize?

Rape of the Lock

- Begins with...
- Continues with...
- And I think it will end with...

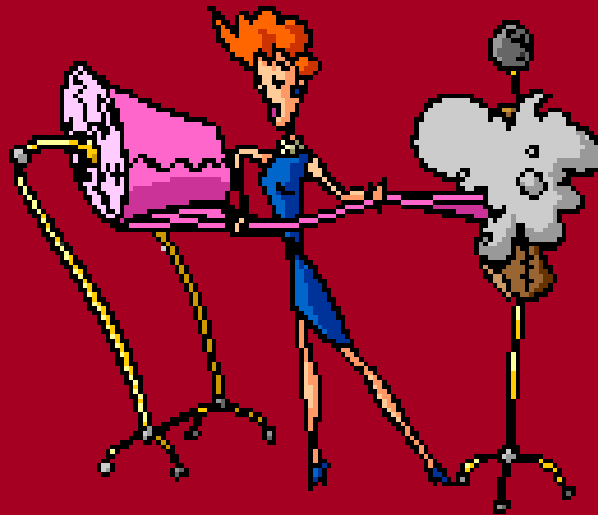
How can the following scenario be turned into a *mock epic*?

An eight year old child misses the bus.



How can the following scenario be turned into a *mock epic*?

A 17 year old girl needs to find a prom dress.



How can the following scenario be turned into a *mock epic*?

A man has run out of milk for his morning cereal



Epic Elements

Epic Convention	Lines in <i>The Rape of the Lock</i>	Trivial Activity Described
invocation of a muse		
elevated language		
epic similes		
“brave” hero		
perilous journey		
existence of the Underworld		
battle/war		
appeals to or involvement of gods		
description of warriors		

Classical Allusions?

FORMAT: 25 points total

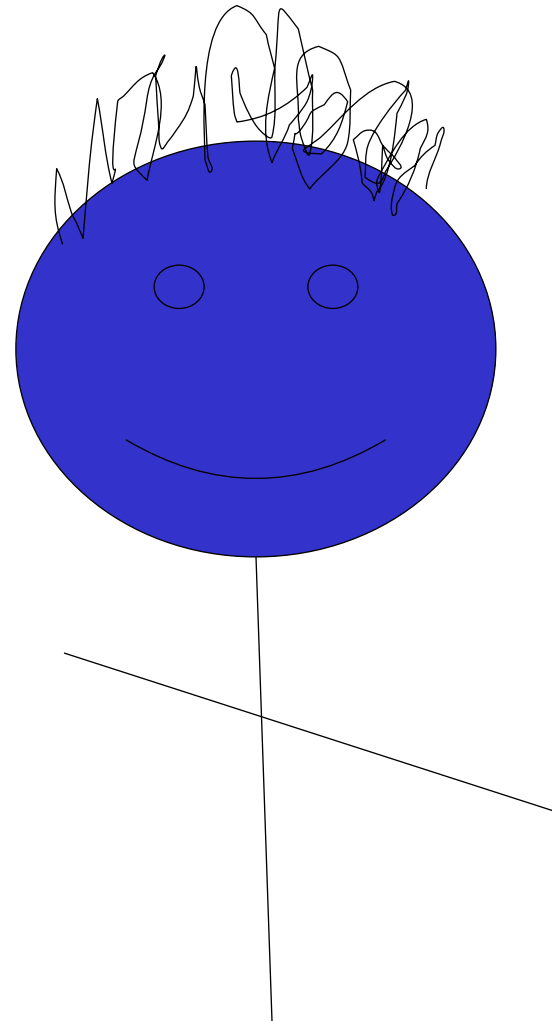
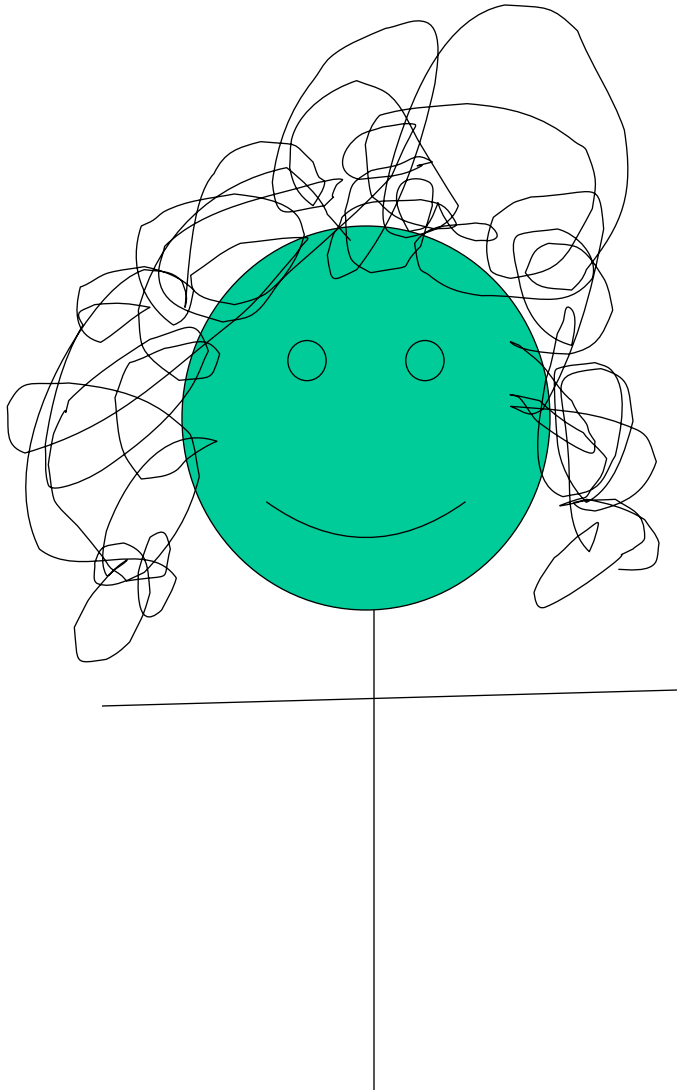
The epic is handwritten NEATLY or typed in MLA format	0	1	2	3	4	5
The glaring errors in the epic	0	1	2	3	4	5
The epic includes a first-page header and subsequent page-number headings.	0	1	2	3	4	5
The epic has an adequate title, centered on the first page.	0	1	2	3	4	5
The epic contains line numbers every five lines to guide the reader.	0	1	2	3	4	5

STYLE, GRAMMAR, and MECHANICS: 35 points total

The epic has a complete story line	0	1	2	3	4	5
The epic has some character development	0	1	2	3	4	5
The epic uses elevated language and rhyming couplets	0	1	2	3	4	5
The epic uses at least 1 classical allusion	0	1	2	3	4	5
The epic demonstrates adequate sentence variety, avoiding run-ons or fragments.	0	1	2	3	4	5
The epic has at least 20 lines	0	1	2	3	4	5
The epic has an appropriate tone and is about something insignificant	0	1	2	3	4	5

TOTAL

Who are YOUR main characters?
Describe them in Round 1



What is YOUR purpose?

- To entertain and to ridicule!

TENSION

Write your tension in round 2

- A prom date shows up late; a bowling enthusiast forgets his favorite bowling shoes; a traveling rodeo clown loses his job to robotic rodeo clowns; a dog tries to bite its tail; the search for an every day object; etc. BE CREATIVE! BE UNIQUE!

Epic Elements

Round 3—outline your plot

Epic Convention	What you want to do	Trivial Activity Described
invocation of a muse	Who is your muse?	
elevated language	Rhyming Couplets!	
epic similes	Compare your search to something GRAND	
“brave” hero	Your awesome characters! How are they “heroic”?	
perilous journey	What are they doing? The tension!	
existence of the Underworld	If you want	
battle/war	The tension!	
appeals to or involvement of gods	Classical allusions!	
description of warriors	The tension!	