



## Horace Satires

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### Ideas for Further Study

#### Translation Comparison

Compare and contrast two translations of any of these poems, perhaps taking one from the 19<sup>th</sup> century and one from more recent times. Many translations are in the public domain on sites such as

[www.perseus.tufts.edu](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu)

or use Google Books to access other translations.

#### Horace and Humour

Horace claims that he is ‘telling the truth with a smile’. Explore the extent to which he succeeds in this: does he end up being a light-hearted writer whose use of serious material is just a convenient vehicle for rude jokes? Or a serious writer trying to be amusing as he writes?

#### Horace and Other Satirists

Place Horace in the history of Satire through the ages, comparing and contrasting his work with that of:

Lucilius

Juvenal

Persius

Petronius (*Dinner with Trimalchio*)

Seneca (*Pumpkinification of Claudius*)

Swift

Pope

#### Horace and Modern Satire

How does Horace bear comparison with modern forms of social satire such as: *Have I Got News For You*, *Newzoids*, *Private Eye*?



B L O O M S B U R Y

### **Horace and Metre**

Examine the contribution of the metre to the success of these poems. Would they work just as well in prose?

### **Horace's Persona**

To what extent do you feel that we hear the opinions of the 'real' Horace in these poems and to what extent are they performances where the speaker is the target as well as the medium of the satire?

### **Modernise Horace**

Modernise any one of these satires into a 'self-help' text to persuade us to adopt healthy living.