

THE USE OF RHYMES IN THE TEACHING OF HISTORY

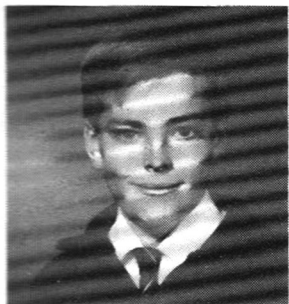
Mrs Hilda Herholdt
Colin Mann Primary — Germiston

1. PUPIL'S WORK

HISTORY STANDARD 5

Topic: The Development of Science in Ancient Civilisations.

Written by: Andrew Venning (13 years)
Pupil of Colin Mann Primary School



Question: Write an advertisement in the Nile News to advertise your funeral parlour. Describe your expertise in mummifying bodies.

NILE NEWS

When one day you're going to die
Give us a buzz and we'll drop by
Draw up a contract and you'll see
We aren't as bad as on T.V.
We'll wait right there until you're dead
And we'll take you with us - IN YOUR BED

We'll take an iron hook, . . . oh, close your eyes
We'll take out your brain and when it dries
We'll fill up the head with lots of dyes.

The stomach will be cut with a big knife
And we'll see what you've eaten most of your life
Then fill these holes up with lots of spice
(That's to keep out all the lice)

The body will be wrapped with linen rag
Lest your spirit from the afterworld rag
A mask is fitted nice and tight
To keep you supple overnight
Your Ka will know when he flies by
That you've got a face like Lady Di.

2. EXAM QUESTION IN RHYME FORM

STANDARD 5 S.A. HISTORY EXAMINATION

Fill in the missing words:

"I am a seaman in my heart
I find the home-life boring
Even in my girlfriend's arms
I hear the ocean roaring."

Yes, this is why
In years gone by
Sailors white and brown
Made their way to Cape

The Trekboers although awfully nice
Were guilty of one shocking vice.

They had so many farms on
And travelled to a place unknown.
Their means of transport was of course
Nothing but a splendid

Van, yes that was his name
A commissioner who tried in vain
To keep a check on things so far
And that without a motor-car!

Once there even came
A beautiful lady of British fame
Who made a very clever plan
(Did you know her name was Lady?)
To have a super castle ball
And to invite the Governor and all?

And not too many years later
A Dutch lady even greater.
Went with her dad into the interior
She never did anything inferior!

Her dad known as Adv. de
Wouldn't dream of showing a fist
Instead he ruled this lovely land
With a wise and sympathetic hand.

And in the year eighteen o
Again the Cape was in a fix
Because across the sea so blue
The British fleet was once more due.
At the soldiers landed
After a short struggle the Cape was handed
To the British in all their glory
And that is the end of our lovely story!

3. PLAY IN RHYME FORM

This was performed by the Standard 4 pupils at
the end of the year.

This year in Standard Five
Our History has come alive
So can you all guess what?
Our lovely little library's got?
Yes, a display so big and bright
It surely is a lovely sight
So come along one and all
To see your books up on the wall

The teachers of this school you know
Are proud of this delightful show

But what's it all about, you might say
Well, it all started in Table Bay
When in the year 16 fifty two
A certain Jan said "How do you do?"
To a most peculiar brownish nation
"I would like to start a refreshment station"

And so without much further ado
They started keeping a cow or two
And in the shade of mighty Table Mountain
Vegetables were grown near a fountain
Eventually the independent boers
Preferred to explore the distant moors
And in the oxwagon they packed
All their belongings nicely stacked
Some mighty rivers they had to cross
And suffered many a loss.

The Blacks attacked with shield and spear
The Voortrekkers, however, did not fear,
And bravely fought with horse and gun
And managed even to have some fun
They trekked and trekked and wondered when . .
The end would come . . . And then . . .

They saw a land as pretty as can be
And gazed at it quite longingly
No sooner had they settled down
A diamond suitable for a crown
Was discovered one bright and sunny day
And drew many a people from far away
Johannesburg a mighty city
Was built because of something equally pretty
Yes the shining sparkling gold
Is what we all would like to hold

Paul Kruger cried "Bravissimo! -
- Our country can now really grow!"
But before you could count to ten
A war was flaring up again
Many a battle was bravely fought
And no solution these ever brought
Until a Union in 1910 was formed
And a new future for all of us dawned
This marvellous land that makes us all tick
Has now become our very own Republic
And our wish for the future is
A land filled with love and PEACE.