



## Musical Farce, Vaudeville, and Broadway Revues

---

### Instructions:

In your group, using Web and print resources, research the genres of musical farce, Vaudeville, and Broadway revues. Your research should address the following issues:

- Gather information about the series of musical farces developed by American writers in the late 19th century, featuring regional and immigrant characters (ex., a series built around the Mulligan Guards). Note the colloquial flavor of the music and lyric scores.
- Collect background information on the entertainment style and features of Vaudeville. What is the mode of presentation? What is a “billboard?” What does it mean “to play the Palace?” What is the implication of the phrases “born in a trunk” and “take it on the road?”
- How would you characterize the music and choreography of Vaudeville? Homogenous? Eclectic? Explain your perception with specific evidence.
- Share information on some of the famous Vaudeville acts, such as the Four Cohans (George M. Cohan); Eddie Foyer and family; Ed Wynn; Eddie Canter; Al Jolson; W. C. Fields, etc.