



Instructions:

Research on the Web and in print media Richard Rodgers' early musical, *A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court*, and Jerome Kern and Oscar Hammerstein's *Show Boat*. If you wish, you may view a video of *Show Boat*.

- While conducting your research, take notes and answer the following questions:
- What is the basic story line of each musical?
- How do the musical score, song lyrics, and choreography in each musical serve to illuminate the story line and move it forward to a conclusion?
- What is the basic tone of each of the two musicals? Lighthearted? Serious? Eclectic?
- Which musical, in your perspective, offers the best entertainment? Why?
- What favorite song(s) would you pick out of each? What are the reasons for your choice(s)?
- Which of the two musicals was re-written to be placed in a World War II setting? Which of the two was inspired by an Edna Ferber novel?