

Agenda:

Focus: Can ancient texts  
have contemporary value?

Poem prompt (journal work)  
Reading of Lysistrata  
Structure of Comedy (notes)

**Next class: bring your novel next class!**

Homework: Read novel; create a visual vocab sheet

## Typical Structure of a Comedy

Aristophanic comedies have a more elaborate structure than the typical tragedy. The chorus is also larger: 24 (as opposed to 12-15).

**Prologue:** As in tragedies.

**Parode (Entrance Ode):** As in tragedies, but the chorus takes up a position either for or against the hero.

**Agôn (Contest):** Two speakers debate the issue (typically with eight feet per line), and the first speaker loses. Choral songs may occur towards the end.

**Parabasis (Coming Forward):** After the other characters have left the stage, the chorus members remove their masks and step out of character to address the audience.

First the chorus leader chants in anapests (eight per line) about some important, topical issue, typically ending with a breathless tongue twister.

Next the chorus sings, and there are typically four parts to the choral performance:

**Ode:** Sung by one half of the chorus and addressed to a god.

**Epirrhema (Afterword):** A satyric or advisory chant (eight trochees [long-short] per line) on contemporary issues by the leader of that half-chorus.

**Antode (Answering Ode):** An answering song by the other half of the chorus in the same meter as the ode.

**Antepirrhema (Answering Afterword)** An answering chant by the leader of the second half-chorus, which leads back to the comedy.

**Episode:** As in tragedies, but primarily elaborating on the outcome of the agon.

**Exode (Exit Song):** As in tragedy, but with a mood of celebration and possibly with a riotous revel (cômos), joyous marriage, or both.

## Visual Vocab

What is a visual vocab sheet? It is simply a visual way to help you remember the meanings of the words.

**COWER**  
(KOW ur) v.  
to cringe in fear; to shrink away

Link: [COW](#)



*"Bessie, the **COWERING COW**, never could stand the sight of her own milk."*

Taken from *Vocabulary Cartoons, SAT Word Power*

Of course, not being able to draw would mean stick figures for me...that is fine! The point is to draw something that helps you remember the word.

Include the part of speech, phonetic spelling and definition as well.