

A pressed leaf is shown on the left side of the image, with its stem extending horizontally across the bottom. The leaf is dark brown and has a pointed tip. The background is a light, textured surface with some faint, irregular brown spots.


Catch-22

Satire



# Satire

- In *Catch-22*, satire is generally directed at American society and its institutions and/or human nature



Determine the specific elements being satirized and techniques used to create satirical tone.

- Then there was the educated Texan from Texas who looked like someone in Technicolor and felt, patriotically, that people of means--decent folk--should be given more votes than the drifters, whores, criminals, degenerates, atheists and indecent folk--people without means.  
Chapter 1




# Element

- Class prejudice
- Religious prejudice

# Technique

- Reductio ad absurdum
- Hyperbole
- stereotyping



Determine the specific elements being satirized and techniques used to create satirical tone.

- “Racial prejudice is a terrible thing. Yossarian. It really is. It’s a terrible thing to treat a decent, loyal Indian like a nigger, kike, wop or spic.” Chief White Halfoat nodded slowly with conviction. (Chapter 5)




# Element

- Racial bias
- Hypocrisy
- The bias of minorities who should understand the effects of prejudice

# Technique

- Incongruity
- stereotyping



Determine the specific elements being satirized and techniques used to create satirical tone.

- The case against Clevenger was open and shut. The only thing missing was something to charge him with. (Chapter 8)




# Element

# Technique

- The corruptness of the justice system
- How people are often presumed guilty instead of innocent
- How evidence can be fabricated

- Situational irony
- paradox





Determine the specific elements being satirized and techniques used to create satirical tone.

- Major Major's father was a ...God-fearing freedom-loving, law-abiding rugged individualist who held that federal aid to anyone but farmers was creeping socialism. He advocated thrift and hard work and disapproved of loose women who turned him down. His specialty was alfalfa, and he made a good thing out of not growing any. (Chapter 9)




# Element

- Personal hypocrisy
- Abuse of government subsidies

# Technique

- Incongruity
- caricature



Determine the specific elements being satirized and techniques used to create satirical tone.

“What makes you so sure Major Major is a Communist?”

“You never heard him denying it until we began accusing him, did you? And you don’t see him signing any of our loyalty oaths.”

“You aren’t letting him sign any.”

“Of course not,” Captain Black explained.

“That would defeat the whole purpose of our crusade.” (Chapter 11)



# Element

- The Red Scare
- McCarthy hearings

# Technique

- Use of the absurd
- Comic allusion to McCarthy hearings