

Gay = happy

Mirth = happiness

Dirge = sad song

Livery = uniforms

Festal = festive

Teems = full of

Lay = song

Scott's poem:

Fill the bright goblet, spread the festive board!
Summon the gay, the noble, and the fair!
Through the loud hall in joyous concert pour'd,
Let mirth and music sound the dirge of Care!
But ask thou not if Happiness be there,
If the loud laugh disguise convulsive throe,
Or if the brow the heart's true livery wear;
Lift not the festal mask! – enough to know,
No scene of mortal life but teems with mortal
woe.

With beakers' clang, with harpers' lay,
With all that olden time deem'd gay,
The Island Chieftain feasted high;
But there was in his troubled eye
A gloomy fire, and on his brow
Now sudden flush'd, and faded now,
Emotions such as draw their birth
From deeper source than festal mirth.
By fits he paused, and harper's strain
And jester's tale went round in vain,
Or fell but on his idle ear
Like distant sounds which dreamers hear.
Then would he rouse him, and employ
Each art to aid the clamorous joy,
 And call for pledge and lay,
And, for brief space, of all the crowd,
As he was loudest of the loud,
Seem gayest of the gay.

Modernised version:

Fill your glass and put food on the table
Call the happy, highborn, and beautiful people!
Through the loud, happy room
Let music and happiness get rid of worries.
But don't ask if everyone is happy,
Don't ask if laughter covers pain and difficulty,
Or if people's faces show their true feelings;
Don't see if people are hiding their feelings,
It's enough to know
That there's sadness at every human event.

With the chink of glasses and musicians' songs
With everything people in the old days liked
The island chief had a great party;
But his eyes were sad
And on his forehead
Strong emotions that have their origin
In feelings deeper than happiness
Flashed.
At times he did not listen; the music
And the funny stories
...
Sounded far away like in a dream.
Then he would wake himself and do
Everything he could to increase the joy
And call for songs
And for a little while, amongst all the people
He was the loudest of the loud,
And the happiest of the happy.



Walter Scott 1771-1832

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- Imagine you are at the feast with Robert the Bruce and the Lord of the Isles (the 'Island Chieftain'). What can you see, hear, taste, smell, and touch?
- How do you know that the Lord of the Isles is trying to hide his feelings?
- How does Scott use contrast to show the Lord of the Isles' feelings?
- Why do you think people hide their true feelings?
- What do you think someone should do if they have unwanted feelings?

FISH

Aberdeen is a coastal city. Traditionally, people used to eat a lot of seafood. Down the coast, the town of Arbroath is famous for its smoked haddock (Arbroath Smokies). In the north, the town of Cullen is famous for Cullen Skink, a fish soup.



Smoked fish Photo by TonyNojmanSK:
<https://www.pexels.com/photo/smoked-fish-in-a-row-12245130/>



Photo by Lex Ryder

KEY FEATURES



LOCAL PRODUCE

Lots of food can be grown locally, including nonnative vegetables.



TRADITIONAL RECIPES

People still sometimes make and eat traditional food.



INTERNATIONAL FOOD

Food travels to Aberdeen from around the world



NEW RECIPES

People cook all sorts of food, including lots of global recipes.

FOOD IN ABERDEEN



Photo by Anna Fancett



Photo by Lex Ryder

ABERDONIAN FEAST

People in Aberdeen cook and eat different types of food. In the picture above, the cook has included traditional elements, like runner beans, mushrooms, garlic and Yorkshire puddings, to make a modern remix.



Photo by Lex Ryder



Photo by Lex Ryder

Vegetables

Lots of vegetables can be grown in Aberdeen. Some of these have been grown in Aberdeen for centuries. Others were introduced later. Potatoes, for example, first came to Scotland in the seventeenth century, but they grow well in Aberdeen now.

MEAT

People eat a variety of meat in Aberdeen. Aberdeen Angus cattle are from the Aberdeen area. Farms in the area also have sheep and chicken. In the past, people used to hunt deer, but venison is not widely eaten anymore.



Photo by Tom Small: <https://www.pexels.com/photo/brown-aberdeen-angus-on-green-grass-field-7797637/>