

WHEN I WAS A LAD
A Ballad for Senior University
(Performed to the Music of "When I Was a Lad"
From *H.M.S. Pinafore* by William S. Gilbert and Arthur S. Sullivan)

By Paul R. Lehman

(1) *Solo*: When I was a lad [lass] I longed to be
A member of Senior University,
But they would not let me in the door
Until I'd been around for fifty years or more.

Chorus: Until he'd been around for fifty years or more.

Solo: I did not qualify, you see,
For enrollment yet in Senior University.

Chorus: He did not qualify, you see,
For enrollment yet in Senior University.

(2) *Solo*: I sought alternatives there might be;
I checked with A & M and U of T.
But no place else I found would do;
They all required exams and lots of homework too.

Chorus: They all required exams and lots of homework too.

Solo: Of grades no other school was free
As thoroughly as Senior University.

Chorus: Of grades no other school was free
As thoroughly as Senior University.

(3) *Solo*: I pondered how I might contrive
To inflate the years that I had been alive,
But as time went by I saw with glee
That the problem would resolve itself quite easily.

Chorus: That the problem would resolve itself quite easily.

Solo: The calendar alone made me
Admissible to Senior University.

Chorus: The calendar alone made he
Admissible to Senior University.

(4) *Solo*: When at last I enrolled in Senior U.

The courses available were quite a few.

I could not choose when told I should,

So I rolled the dice and reasoned that they'd all be good.

Chorus: So he rolled the dice and reasoned that they'd all be good.

Solo: Remarkably diverse is the

Curriculum of Senior University.

Chorus: Remarkably diverse is the

Curriculum of Senior University.

(5) *Solo*: I studied this and I studied that,

And so today I am proficient at

Explaining nature, describing man,

And the silliness that Gilbert wrote with Sullivan.

Chorus: And the silliness that Gilbert wrote with Sullivan.

Solo: If a course name ends with "ology"

It has a place in Senior University.

Chorus: If a course name ends with "ology"

It has a place in Senior University.

(6) *Solo*: It's clear that when each year is o'er

I know more than I did the year before;

I've a breadth of knowledge from A to Z

Because of this propitious opportunity.

Chorus: Because of this propitious opportunity.

Solo: I live my life contentedly

And I owe it all to Senior University.

Chorus: We live our lives contentedly

And we owe it all to Senior University!