**Item #7: Pollyanna**

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**Category: Literature**

**What I Already Know About This Item:**

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**(For this slide you should be writing down 3 things: name of allusion, background information, how it is used today.)**

Pollyanna is a character in children’s stories written by Eleanor H. Porter. She is a little girl who teaches everyone she meets to play the “glad game,” a game in which a person tries to find something to be glad about in any situation, no matter how bad the situation is.

A “Pollyanna” has come to refer to someone who is *unusually optimistic* and *always looking at the bright side*. The term often has connotations of being *excessively* *cheerful* and *naïve*.

**(For this slide you should be writing down 2 things: 1 given example and 1 original example.)**

**Examples:** (copy ONE)

**I hate to sound like a Pollyanna, but I think maybe it’s a good think you lost your job. I believe you will have the opportunity to find a position that will be more fulfilling for you.**

**The mayor must be living in some Pollyanna dream world if he thinks the city is getting better and better under his leadership; almost every problem the city faces has worsened since he took office.**

**My Own Original Example:** (write ONE)