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UG TRB ENGLISH 2022-2023



UNIT-1 (Volume-1) HISTORY OF ENGLISH LITERATURE

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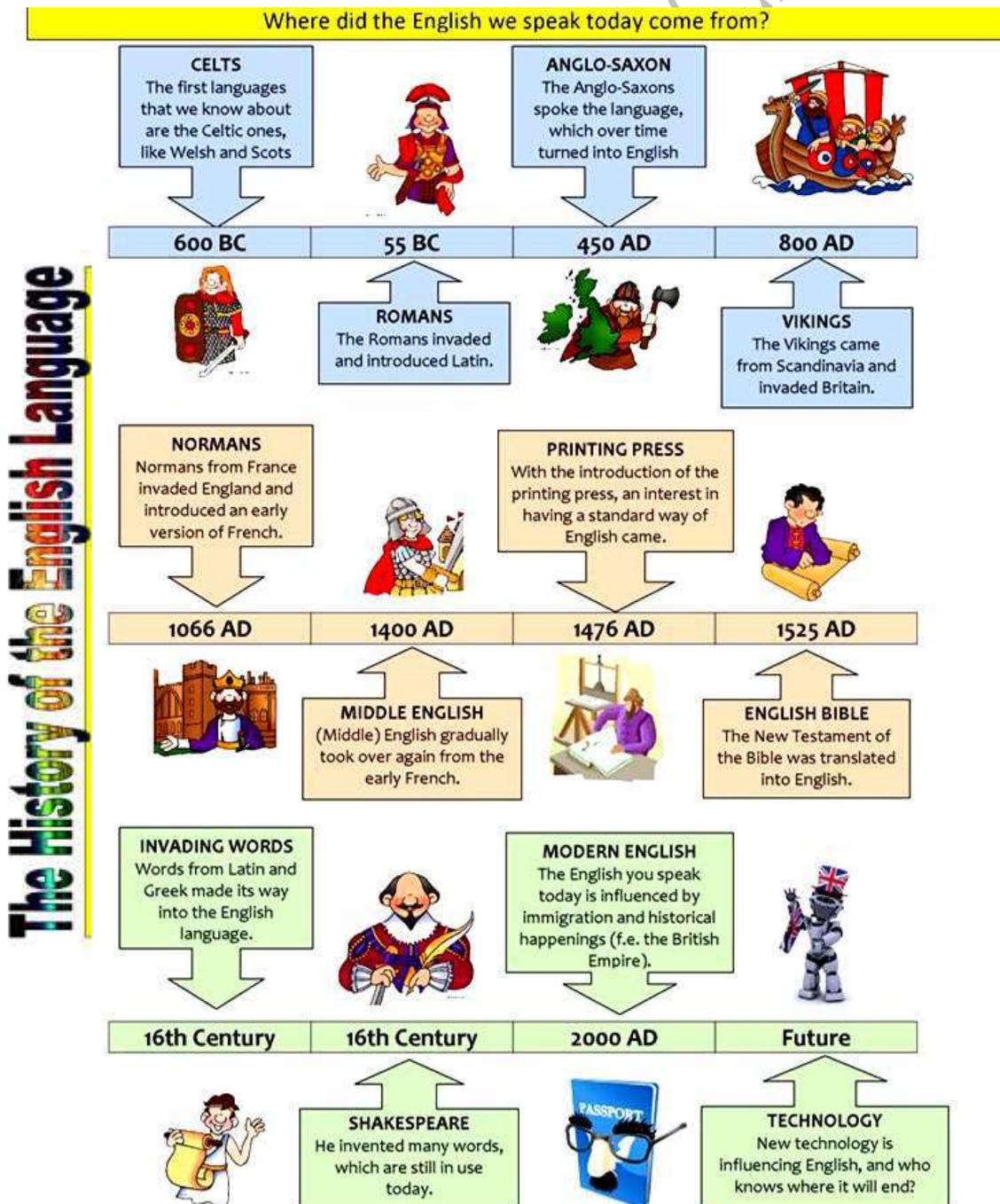
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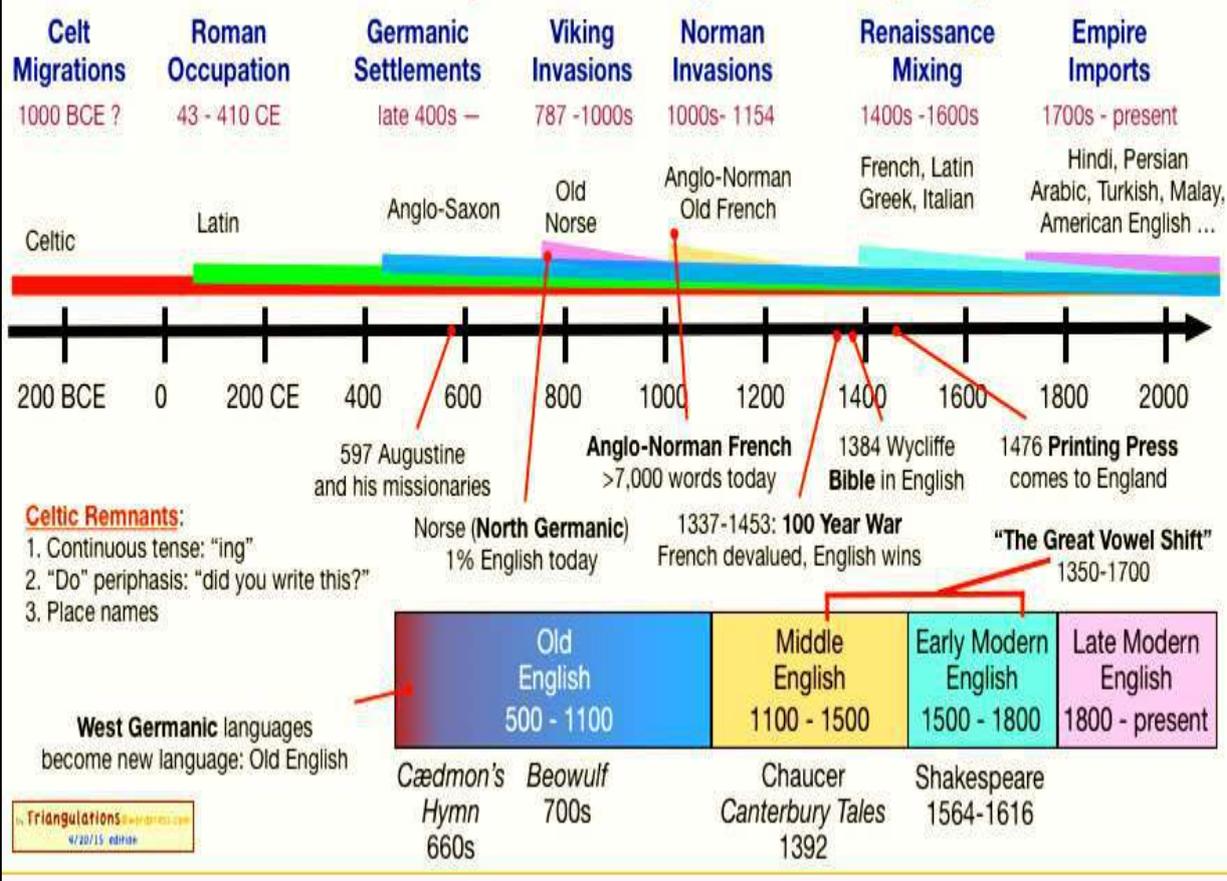
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UNIT-I - HISTORY OF ENGLISH LITERATURE (Vol -1)



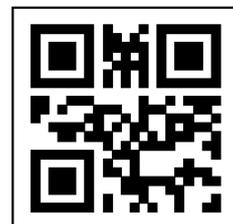
The History of the English Language



Time Span	Period Name
450-1066 A.D.	Old English (O.E) or Anglo-Saxon Period
1066-1350 A.D.	Anglo-Norman Period
1350-1400 A.D.	The Age of Chaucer
1066-1500 A.D.	Middle English Period
1500-1600 A.D.	The Renaissance or the Early Modern Period
1558-1603 A.D.	The Elizabethan Age
1603-1625 A.D.	The Jacobean Age
1625-1649 A.D.	The Caroline Age

1649-1660 A.D.	The Commonwealth Age
1620-1660 A.D.	The Puritan Age or The Age of Milton
1600-1785 A.D.	The Neo-classical Period
1660-1700 A.D.	The Restoration Period or The Age of Dryden
1700-1750 A.D.	The Age of Pope
1700-1745 A.D.	The Augustan Age or The Classic Age
1745-1783 A.D.	The Age of Sensibility
1740-1800 A.D.	The Age of Transition
1785-1830 A.D. or 1800-1850 A.D.	The Romantic Period
1832-1901 A.D.	The Victorian Period
1848-1860 A.D.	The Pre-Raphaelites
1880-1901 A.D.	Aestheticism and Decadence
1901-1910 A.D.	The Edwardian Period
1910-1914 A.D.	The Georgian Period
1914-1945 A.D. or 1890-Onwards	The Modern Period
1945- Present Day	The Post Modern Period

- ❖ Literary study involves not only the reading of books and the consideration of them on abstract aesthetic grounds, but also a study of the outward manifestations of the spirit of the ages.
- ❖ For better understanding and better study, many historians have categorised the entire History of English literature in certain periods.

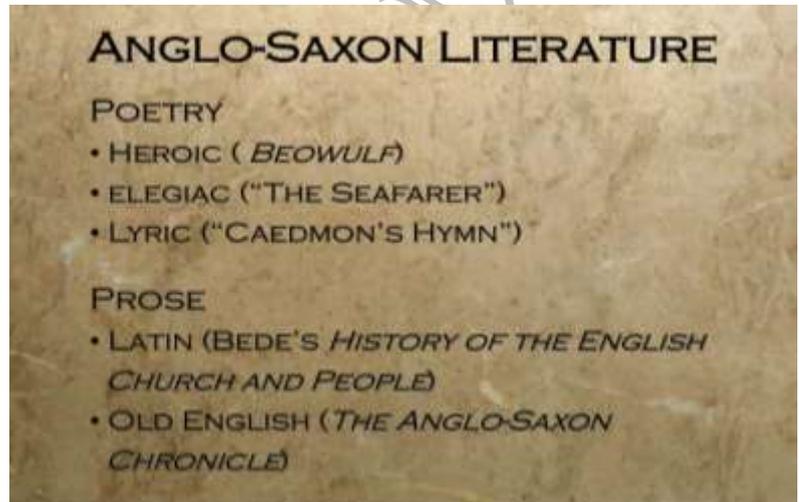


English literature before Chaucer (450-1340)

Anglo-Saxon period (450-1050)

The Beginnings:

- ❖ English literature began far back with the beginnings of the history of the English people on the continent of Europe.
- ❖ It began with songs and stories of a time when the Teutonic ancestors of English people were living on the borders of the North Sea.
- ❖ The Jutes, Angles and Saxons, the three tribes of these ancestors, conquered Britain in the latter half of the fifth century, and laid the foundation of the English nation.
- ❖ The early settlers were pagans. The Irish missionaries in Northumbria area began to Christianise the pagan English tribes.
- ❖ Thus, pagan or secular and Christian or religious elements commingled in English temperament from the very beginning.
- ❖ The early English literature is called the Anglo-Saxon period (450-1050) or the Old English period.



Anglo-Saxon poetry:

Anglo-Saxon poetry represents the temperament and character of their creators, who were splendid warriors, great lovers of nature and were also capable of profound emotions.

- ❖ The great and hidden life of the Anglo-Saxons finds expression in all their literature.
- ❖ Their poetry is permeated with the spirit of adventure; love of the sea and plunging boats, battles, brave deeds, the glory of warriors and the love of home.

- ❖ It is earnest and somber. It contains fatalism and deep religious feeling. William J. Long remarks: "Briefly, it is summed up in five great principles, —their love of personal freedom, their responsiveness to nature, their religion, their reverence for womanhood, and their struggle for glory as a ruling motive in every noble life."

The important works of this period are listed below:

1. Beowulf:

It is the first Old English epic. It recounts the great deeds and death of Beowulf.

- ❖ It is written on continental Germanic theme.
- ❖ The Angles brought the story to England in the form of short songs about the hero.
- ❖ It was rewritten in its present form by a poet of eighth century, who imparted a few Christian applications to a pagan story.
- ❖ The extant text is written in West Saxon dialect.
- ❖ The story of Beowulf is full of episodes and digressions.
- ❖ It narrates the heroic adventures and exploits of the protagonist, Beowulf, who rids the Danish king Hrothgar of a terrible monster Grendel. Beowulf also killed Grendel's mother.
- ❖ He feasted with Hrothgar and returned to his native land. He became the king of the Geatas.
- ❖ He was a great and successful ruler. After a prosperous reign of about forty years he slew a fire-drake who robbed and ravaged his country.
- ❖ In the fight Beowulf died of the dragon's fiery breath.
- ❖ The poem closes with the description of his burial: Sad in mind
- ❖ They complained of the sorrow of their hearts, the death of their liege lord. Beowulf has an abiding social interest. It describes the manners and customs of the forefathers of Englishmen before they came to England.
- ❖ W. H. Hudson remarks: "Vivid pictures of life in war and peace among our remote forefathers add greatly to the value of a fine old poem."



- ❖ It is also conspicuous for the description of the fierce aspects of nature. It contains vivid character-drawing of men and women.
- ❖ The character portrayal of the hero, both in his youth and in his age, is superb.
- ❖ It is also remarkable for the poignant note of pathos which lends dignity to the entire poem. The language of the poem is characterized with forcefulness, directness, simplicity, expressiveness and precision.
- ❖ As the earliest poetic masterpiece in Old English, its place in the literary history of England is immortal.
- ❖ In the words of Stop ford A. Brooke: "The whole poem, Pagan as it is, is English to its very root.
- ❖ It is sacred to us, our Genesis, the book of our origin.

2. Widsith:

- ❖ It consists of about 150 lines of verse.
- ❖ It is an account of the wanderings of Widsith, a supposed wanderer.
- ❖ It also recounts the places and people the hero had visited.

3. Waldera:

- ❖ It consists of about sixty-three lines, which narrate some of the exploits of Walter of Aquitaine.
- ❖ Its language is noticeable for vigour and power.

4. Miscellaneous Poems:

- ❖ Three poetical fragments The Fight at Finnsburh, The Battle of Brunaburh and The Battle of Maldon have little literary importance.
- ❖ They are important only historically.

5. The Exeter Book:

- ❖ It contains seven short elegies of abiding human interest.
- ❖ They are Ruin, the Wanderer, the Seafarer, the Wife's Complaint, the Husband's Complaint, Deor, Wulf and Eaducer.

- ❖ Ruin is the mourning of a traveller over a deserted city, and the Wanderer expands the mourning motive of Ruin over the desolation of the whole world of man. It is an artistic whole.
- ❖ The Seafarer describes "the dangers and the fascination of the sea, breathes the spirit which filled the hearts of our forefathers while they sang and sailed, and is extraordinarily modern in note."
- ❖ The Wife's Complaint and The Husband's Complaint deal with love-passion.
- ❖ Wulf and Eadwacer is an early example of dramatic monologue.
- ❖ Deor or Deor's Lament depicts the manly sorrow of a minstrel.
- ❖ According to William J. Long, Deor "is much more poetic than Widsith, and is the one perfect lyric of the Anglo-Saxon period."
- ❖ Such expressions as "His sorrow passed away; so will mine" have catholicity of appeal and abiding human interest.

Christianity and Old English Poetry:

The early Anglo-Saxon literature was pagan.

- ❖ It represents the poetry which the Anglo-Saxons probably brought with them in the form of oral sagas.
- ❖ Literature was slowly developed out of this crude material on the English soil.
- ❖ The early poetry was full of sea and war. It was pagan but it was not irreligious.
- ❖ Anglo-Saxons were a religious people even as heathen. But with the advent of Christianity a new spirit of ardent religious fervour entered their life and literature.
- ❖ The note of fatalism in old poetry is modified by the faith that the fate is the will of a good God.
- ❖ The sorrow is relieved by an undercurrent of joy.
- ❖ The imaginative delight and the supernatural element do not disappear but they find a refined expression in the legends of saints and visions of angels.
- ❖ The ancient pagan faith still finds subdued expression in poetry, written under the Christian influence.



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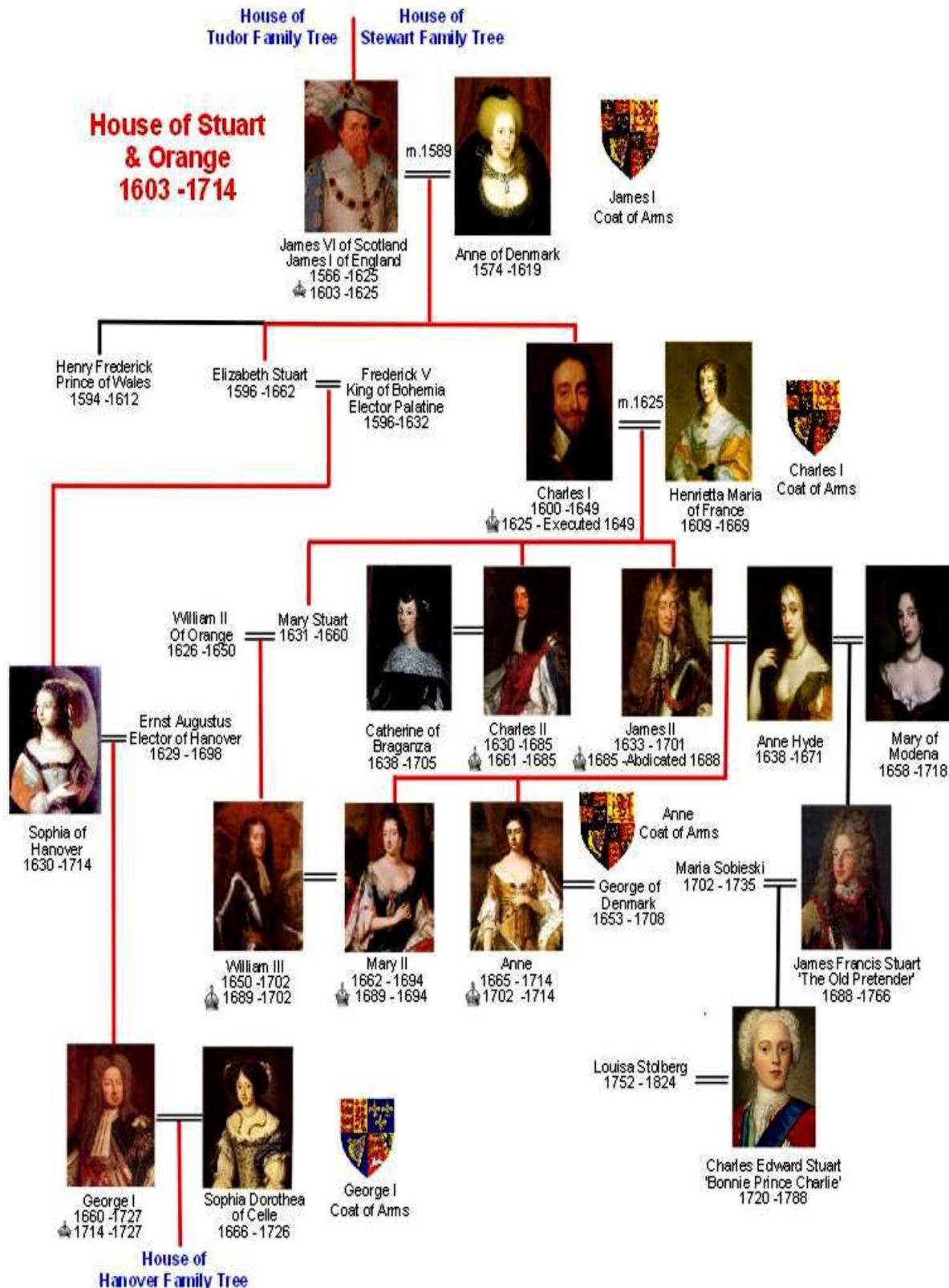
UNIT-I

HISTORY OF ENGLISH LITERATURE

(VOLUME – 2)

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1.6. THE AGE OF POPE (1700-1744)



- ❖ The earlier part of the eighteenth century or the Augustan Age in English literature is called the Age of Pope, because Pope was the dominating figure in that period.
- ❖ Though there were a number of other important writers like Addison and Swift, but Pope was the only one who devoted himself completely to literature.

- ❖ Moreover, he represented in himself all the main characteristics of his age, and his poetry served as a model to others.



(a) Poetry

- ❖ It was the Classical school of poetry which dominated the poetry of the Age of Pope. During this age the people were disgusted with the profligacy and frivolity of the Restoration period, and they insisted upon those elementary decencies of life and conduct which were looked at with contempt by the preceding generation.
- ❖ Moreover, they had no sympathy for the fanaticism and religious zeal of the Puritans who were out to ban even the most innocent means of recreation.
- ❖ So they wanted to follow the middle path in everything and steer clear of the emotional as well as moral excesses.
- ❖ They insisted on the role of intelligence in everything. The poets of this period are deficient on the side of emotion and imagination.
- ❖ Dominated by intellect, poetry of this age is commonly didactic and satirical, a poetry of argument and criticism, of politics and personalities.
- ❖ In the second place, the poets of this age are more interested in the town, and the 'cultural' society.
- ❖ They have no sympathy for the humbler aspects of life—the life of the villagers, the shepherds; and no love for nature, the beautiful flowers, the songs of birds, and landscape as we find in the poets of the Romantic period.
- ❖ Though they preached a virtuous life, they would not display any feeling which smacked of enthusiasm and earnestness.
- ❖ Naturally they had no regard for the great poets of the human heart—Chaucer, Shakespeare and Milton.
- ❖ They had no attachment for the Middle Ages and their tales of chivalry, adventure and visionary idealism. Spenser, therefore, did not find favour with them.
- ❖ In the poetry of this age, form became more important than substance. This love of superficial polish led to the establishment of a highly artificial and conventional style.
- ❖ The closed couplet became the only possible form for serious work in verse.

Naturally poetry became monotonous, because the couplet was too narrow and inflexible to be made the vehicle of high passion and strong imagination.

- ❖ Moreover, as great emphasis was laid on the imitation of ancient writers, originality was discouraged, and poetry lost touch with the real life of the people.
- ❖ Prose being the prominent medium of expression, the rules of exactness, precision and clarity, which were insisted in the writing of prose, also began to be applied to poetry.
- ❖ It was demanded of the poet to say all that he had to say in a plain simple and clear language. The result was that the quality of suggestiveness which adds so much to the beauty and worth of poetry was sadly lacking in the poetry of this age.
- ❖ The meaning of poetry was all on the surface, and there was nothing which required deep study and varied interpretation.

Alexandar Pope (1688-1744).

- ❖ Pope is considered as the greatest poet of the Classical period. He is 'prince of classicism' as Prof. Etton calls him.
- ❖ He was an invalid, of small stature and delicate constitution, whose bad nerves and cruel headaches made his life, in his own phrase, a 'long disease'.
- ❖ Moreover, being a Catholic he had to labour under various restrictions. But the wonder is that in spite of his manifold handicaps, this small, ugly man has left a permanent mark on the literature of his age.
- ❖ He was highly intellectual, extremely ambitious and capable of tremendous industry. These qualities brought him to the front rank of men of letters, and during his lifetime he was looked upon as a model poet.
- ❖ The main quality of Pope's poetry is its correctness. It was at the age of twenty-three that he published his Essay on Criticism (1711) and since then till the end of his life he enjoyed prodigious reputation.
- ❖ In this essay Pope insists on following the rules discovered by the Ancients, because they are in harmony with Nature:
- ❖ Those rules of old discovered, not devised Are Nature still, but Nature methodised.
- ❖ Pope's next work, The Rape of the Lock, is in some ways his masterpiece. It is



'mock heroic' poem in which he celebrated the theme of the stealth, by Lord Petre of lock of hair from the head of Miss Arabella.

- ❖ Though the poem is written in a jest and deals with a very insignificant event, it is given the form of an epic, investing this frivolous event with mock seriousness and dignity.
- ❖ By this time Pope had perfected the heroic couplet, and he made use of his technical skill in translating Homer's Iliad and Odyssey which meant eleven years' very hard work. The reputation which Pope now enjoyed created a host of jealous rivals whom he severely criticised and ridiculed in The Dunciad.
- ❖ This is Pope's greatest satire in which he attacked all sorts of literary incompetence. It is full of cruel and insulting couplets on his enemies.
- ❖ His next great poem was The Essay on Man (1732-34), which is full of brilliant off-quoted passages and lines. His later works—Imitations of Horace and Epistle—are also satires and contain biting attacks on his enemies.
- ❖ Though Pope enjoyed a tremendous reputation during his lifetime and for some decades after his death, he was so bitterly attacked during the nineteenth century that it was doubted whether Pope was a poet at all.
- ❖ But in the twentieth century this reaction subsided, and now it is admitted by great critics that though much that Pope wrote is prosaic, not of a very high order, yet a part of his poetry is undoubtedly indestructible.
- ❖ He is the supreme master of the epigrammatic style, of condensing an idea into a line or couplet.
- ❖ Of course, the thoughts in his poetry are commonplace, but they are given the most appropriate and perfect expression. The result is that many of them have become proverbial sayings in the English language. For example:

Who shall decide when doctors disagree?

Thou wert my guide, philosopher, and friend.

Know then thyself, presume not God to scan;

The proper study of mankind is man.

Hope springs eternal in the human breast;

Man never is, but always to be, blest.



Minor Poets of the Age of Pope:

- ❖ During his age Pope was by far the greatest of all poets. There were a few minor

poets—Matthew Prior, John Gay, Edward Young, Thomas Parnell and Lady Winchelsea.

Matthew Prior (1664-1721):

- ❖ He was a diplomat and active politician wrote two long poems: *Solomon on the Vanity of The World* and *Alma or the Progress of the Mind*.
- ❖ These are serious poems, but the reputation of Prior rests on 'light verse' dealing with trifling matters.
- ❖ He is not merely a light-hearted jester, but a true humanist, with sense of tears as well as laughter as is seen in the "Lines written in the beginning of Mezeray's History of France".

John Gay (1685-1732):

- ❖ He is the master of vivid description of rural scenes as well of the delights of the town. Like Prior he is full of humour and good temper.
- ❖ As a writer of lyrics, and in the handling of the couplet, he shows considerable technical skill. His best-known works are: **Rural Sports; Trivia, or the Art of Walking the Streets of London; Black-Eyed Susan and some Fables.**
- ❖ Prior and Gay were the followers of Pope, and after Pope, they are the two excellent guides to the life of eighteenth-century London. The other minor poets, Edward Young, Thomas Parnell and Lady Winchelsea, belonged more to the new Romantic spirit than to the classical spirit in their treatment of external nature, though they were unconscious of it.

Edward Young (1683-1765):

- ❖ He in his *Universal Passions* showed himself as skilful a satirist as Pope. His best-known work is *The Night Thoughts* which, written in blank verse, shows considerable technical skill and deep thought.

Thomas Parnell (1679-1718) excelled in translations. His best-known works are *The Night-Piece on Death* and *Hymn to Contentment*, which have a freshness of outlook and metrical skill.

Lady Winchelsea (1660-1725), though a follower of Pope, showed more sincerity and genuine feeling for nature than any other poet of that age.

- ❖ Her Nocturnal Reverie may be considered as the pioneer of the nature poetry of the new Romantic age.
- ❖ To sum up, the poetry of the age of Pope is not of a high order, but it has distinct merits—the finished art of its satires; the creation of a technically beautiful verse; and the clarity and succinctness of its expression.

(b) Prose of the Age of Pope

- ❖ The great prose writers of the Age of Pope were Defoe, Addison, Steele and Swift. The prose of this period exhibits the Classical qualities—clearness, vigour and direct statement.
- ❖ Daniel Defoe (1661-1731) is the earliest literary journalist in the English language. He wrote on all sorts of subjects—social, political, literary, and brought out about 250 publications.
- ❖ He owes his importance, in literature, however, mainly to his works of fiction which were simply the offshoots of his general journalistic enterprises.
- ❖ As a journalist he was fond of writing about the lives of famous people who had just died, and of notorious adventurers and criminals. At the age of sixty he turned his attention to the writing of prose fiction, and published his first novel 'Robinson Crusoe' the book by which he is universally known.
- ❖ It was followed by other works of fiction; The Memoirs of a Cavalier, Captain Singleton, Moll Flanders, Colonel Jack, Roxana and Journal of the Plague Year.
- ❖ In these works of fiction Defoe gave his stories an air of reality and convinced his readers of their authenticity.
- ❖ That is why they are appropriately called by Sir Leslie Stephen as 'Fictitious biographies' or "History minus the Facts'.
- ❖ All Defoe's fictions are written in the biographical form. They follow no system and are narrated in a haphazard manner which give them a semblance of reality and truth.

(b) Prose of the Age of Pope

The great prose writers of the Age of Pope were:

- Defoe
- Addison
- Steele and Swift.

The prose of this period exhibits the Classical qualities—clearness, vigour and direct statement.

- ❖ His stories, told in the plain, matter-of-fact, business-like way, appropriate to stories of actual life, hence they possess extraordinary minute realism which is their distinct feature.
- ❖ Here his homely and colloquial style came to his help. On account of all these qualities Defoe is credited with being the originator of the English novel.
- ❖ As a writer of prose his gift of narrative and description is masterly. As he never wrote with any deliberate artistic intention, he developed a natural style which made him one of the masters of English prose.
- ❖ **Jonathan Swift (1667-1745)** was the most powerful and original genius of his age. He was highly intellectual but on account of some radical disorder in his system and the repeated failures which he had to face in the realisation of his ambition to rise in public life, made him a bitter, melancholy and sardonic figure.
- ❖ He took delight in flouting conventions, and undermining the reputation of his opponents. His best-known work, Gulliver's Travels, which is a very popular children's book, is also a bitter attack on contemporary political and social life in particular, and on the meanness and littleness of man in general.
- ❖ The Tale of a Tub which, like Gulliver's Travels, is written in the form of an allegory, and exposes the weakness of the main religious beliefs opposed to Protestant religion, is also a satire upon all science and philosophy.
- ❖ His Journal to Stella which was written to Esther Johnson whom Swift loved, is not only an excellent commentary on contemporary characters and political events, by one of the most powerful and original minds of the age, but in love passages, and purely personal descriptions, it reveals the real tenderness which lay concealed in the depths of his fierce and domineering nature.
- ❖ Swift was a profound pessimist. He was essentially a man of his time in his want of spiritual quality, in his distrust of the visionary and the extravagant, and in his thoroughly materialistic view of life.
- ❖ As a master of prose-style, which is simple, direct and colloquial, and free from the ornate and rhetorical elements, Swift has few rivals in the whole range of English literature. As a satirist his greatest and most effective weapon is irony.
- ❖ Though apparently supporting a cause which he is really opposing, he pours ridicule upon it until its very foundations are shaken.
- ❖ The finest example, of irony is to be found in his pamphlet 'The Battle of Books', in

which he championed the cause of the Ancients against the Moderns. The mock-heroic description of the great battle in the King's Library between the rival hosts is a masterpiece of its kind.

Joseph Addison (1672-1719) and Sir Richard Steele (1672-1729):

- They worked in collaboration, were the originators of the periodical essay.
- Steele who was more original led the way by founding The Tatler, the first of the long line of eighteenth-century periodical essays.
- This was followed by the most famous of them The Spectator, in which Addison, who had formerly contributed to Steele's Tatler, now became the chief partner.
- It began on March 1, 1711, and ran till December 20, 1714 with a break of about eighteen months. In its complete form it contains 635 essays.
- Of these Addison wrote 274 and Steele 240; the remaining 121 were contributed by various friends.
- ❖ The Characters of Steele and Addison were curiously contrasted. Steele was an emotional, full-blooded kind of man, reckless and dissipated but fundamentally honest and good-hearted.
- ❖ What there is of pathos and sentiment, and most of what there is of humour in the Tatler and the Spectator are his. Addison, on the other hand, was an urbane, polished gentleman of exquisite refinement of taste. He was shy, austere, pious and righteous.
- ❖ He was a quiet and accurate observer of manners of fashions in life and conversation.
- ❖ The purpose of the writings of Steele and Addison was ethical. They tried to reform society through the medium of the periodical essay.
- ❖ They set themselves as moralistic to break down two opposed influences—that of the profligate Restoration tradition of loose living and loose thinking on the one hand, and that of Puritan fanaticism and bigotry on the other.
- ❖ They performed this work in a gentle, good-humored manner, and not by bitter invective. They made the people laugh at their own follies and thus get rid of them.
- ❖ So they were, to a great extent, responsible for reforming the conduct of their contemporaries in social and domestic fields. Their aim was moral as well as

educational.

- ❖ Thus they discussed in a light-hearted and attractive manner art, philosophy, drama, poetry, and in so doing guided and developed the taste of the people.
- ❖ For example, it was by his series of eighteen articles on Paradise Lost, that Addison helped the English readers have a better appreciation of Milton and his work.
- ❖ In another direction the work of Addison and Steele proved of much use. Their character studies in the shape of the members of the Spectator Club—Sir Roger de Coverley and others—presented actual men moving amid real scenes and taking part in various incidents and this helped in the development of genuine novel.
- ❖ Both Steele and Addison were great masters of prose. Their essays are remarkable as showing the growing perfection of the English language. Of the two, Addison was a greater master of the language. He cultivated a highly cultured and graceful style—a style which can serve as a model.
- ❖ Dr. Johnson very aptly remarked: “Whoever wishes to attain an English style, familiar but not coarse, and elegant but not ostentatious, must give his days and nights to the volumes of Addison.” And again he said: “Give nights and days, Sir, to the study of Addison if you mean to be a good writer, or what is more worth, an honest man.”
- ❖ It was poet Oliver Goldsmith who first designated the early 18th century, as the Augustan Age. The age has also been called the Age of Pope.
- ❖ The Augustan age includes the age of Dryden and Pope. The restoration of Stuart monarchy in 1660 marked the beginning of the Augustan age. The Stuart monarchy in England was restored in 1660
- ❖ Eighteenth century in England was an age equal to the age of Augustus Caesar, when the Roman society had reached the peak of its glory.
- ❖ The name Augustan Age was chosen by writers who saw in Pope, Addison, Swift, Johnson and Burke the modern parallels to Horace, Virgil and Cicero, and all that brilliant company who made Roman literature famous in the day of Augustus.
- ❖ Past ages of England were looked upon as barbarous, and the classics of Greece and Rome were regarded as models which men of taste were to follow.

MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS:

UNIT – I

HISTORY OF ENGLISH LITERATURE

1. Match the correct pair:

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| (I) George Eliot | 1. Ellis Bell |
| (II) Saki | 2. Mary Anne Evans |
| (III) Emily Bronte | 3. Samuel Langhorne Clemens |
| (IV) Mark Twain | 4. H. H. Munro |

- | | (I) | (II) | (III) | (IV) |
|-----|-----|------|-------|------|
| (A) | 2 | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| (B) | 2 | 4 | 1 | 3 |
| (C) | 1 | 3 | 4 | 2 |
| (D) | 3 | 2 | 1 | 4 |



2. Who is the author of Ecclesiastical History of the English People?

- | | |
|------------|------------|
| A) Bede | B) Chaucer |
| C) Johnson | D) Bacon |

3. One of the following Canterbury Tales is in prose, identify.

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| A) The Pardoner's Tale | B) The Parson's Tale |
| C) The Monk's Tale | D) The Knight's Tale |

4. The Hundred Years of War between _____

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| A) England and France | B) England and Germany |
| C) France and Germany | D) Ireland and England |
| E) England and France | |

5. In which year the peasant Revolt happened?

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| A) 1381 | B) 1300 |
| C) 1350 | D) 1400 |

6. Who is the author of 'Piers Plowman'?

- | | |
|------------|---------|
| A) Caedmon | B) Bede |
|------------|---------|

C) William Langland

D) Layamon

E) William Langland

7. The earliest surviving English poem

A) king horn

B) piers plowman

C) brut

D) Beowulf

8. Which of the following statements on John Dryden is incorrect?

1) John Milton and John Dryden were contemporaries.

2) Dryden was a Royalist, while Milton fiercely opposed monarchy.

3) Dryden wrote a play on the Mughal Emperor Humayun.

4) Dryden was appointed the Poet Laureate of England in 1668.

A) (1) is incorrect.

B) (4) is incorrect.

C) (3) is incorrect.

D) (A1) is correct

9. The Middle Age was held to begin in England with.....

A) hundred years war

B) peasant revolt

C) black death

D) the norman conquest

10. Who led The Norman Conquest?

A) James I

B) William the duke of Normandy

C) Julius Caesar

D) William Wycliffe

11. Name of the elegy written by Chaucer on the death of Blanche, the wife of John of Gaunt

A) The house of Fame

B) Troilus and Criseyde

C) The book of the Duchesse

D) The Roman de la Rose

12. When did 'The General Prologue' of Canterbury Tales compose?

A) 1387

B) 1300

C) 1400

D) 1378

13. The first English Printer, who set up printing press in 1476

A) gower

B) caxton

C) william bailey

D) malory

14. Given below are the two statements, one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other labelled as Reason (R).

Assertion (A): The literature of the Jacobean Age is dominated by works revealing symptoms of melodrama and sensationalism.

Reason (R): The Jacobean Age is generally ruled by the spirit of decadence.

In the context of the two statements which one of the following is correct?

A) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).

B) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).

C) (A) is true but (R) is false.

D) (A) is false but (R) is true.

15. A short traditional and popular story in verse of unknown authorship is called _____

A) Lyric

B) Ballad

C) Elegy

D) Sonnet

16. Who wrote Treatise on the Astrolabe?

A) John Wycliffe

B) Spenser

C) William Langland

D) Chaucer

17. Confessio Amentis is the work of _____

A) Gower

B) Chaucer

C) William Langland

D) Robert Burn

18. The Magna Carta was signed in

A) 1210

B) 1214

C) 1200

D) 1239

19. Who did start The Hundred Years War with France?

A) Edward I

B) Edward II

C) Edward III

D) Edward IV

20. Who among the following writers describes novels as “not form which you see but emotion which you feel”?

A) D.H. Lawrence

B) Jean Rhys

C) Virginia Woolf

D) Joseph Conrad

21. Which incident is considered as the beginning of the Renaissance in England?

A) reign of queen Elizabeth

B) death of chaucer

C) end of war of roses

D) birth of Shakespeare

22. In Paradise Lost, Milton invokes his ‘Heavenly Muse’, ‘Urania’ at the beginning of:

Codes:

I. Book one

II. Book four

III. Book nine

IV. Book seven

The right combination according to the code is

A) I and II are correct.

B) I, III and IV correct.

C) II and III are correct.

D) I and IV are correct.



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UG TRB ENGLISH 2022-2023



UNIT – II

BRITISH LITERATURE-I

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UG TRB – ENGLISH – 2022-23

UNIT - II

BRITISH LITERATURE – I

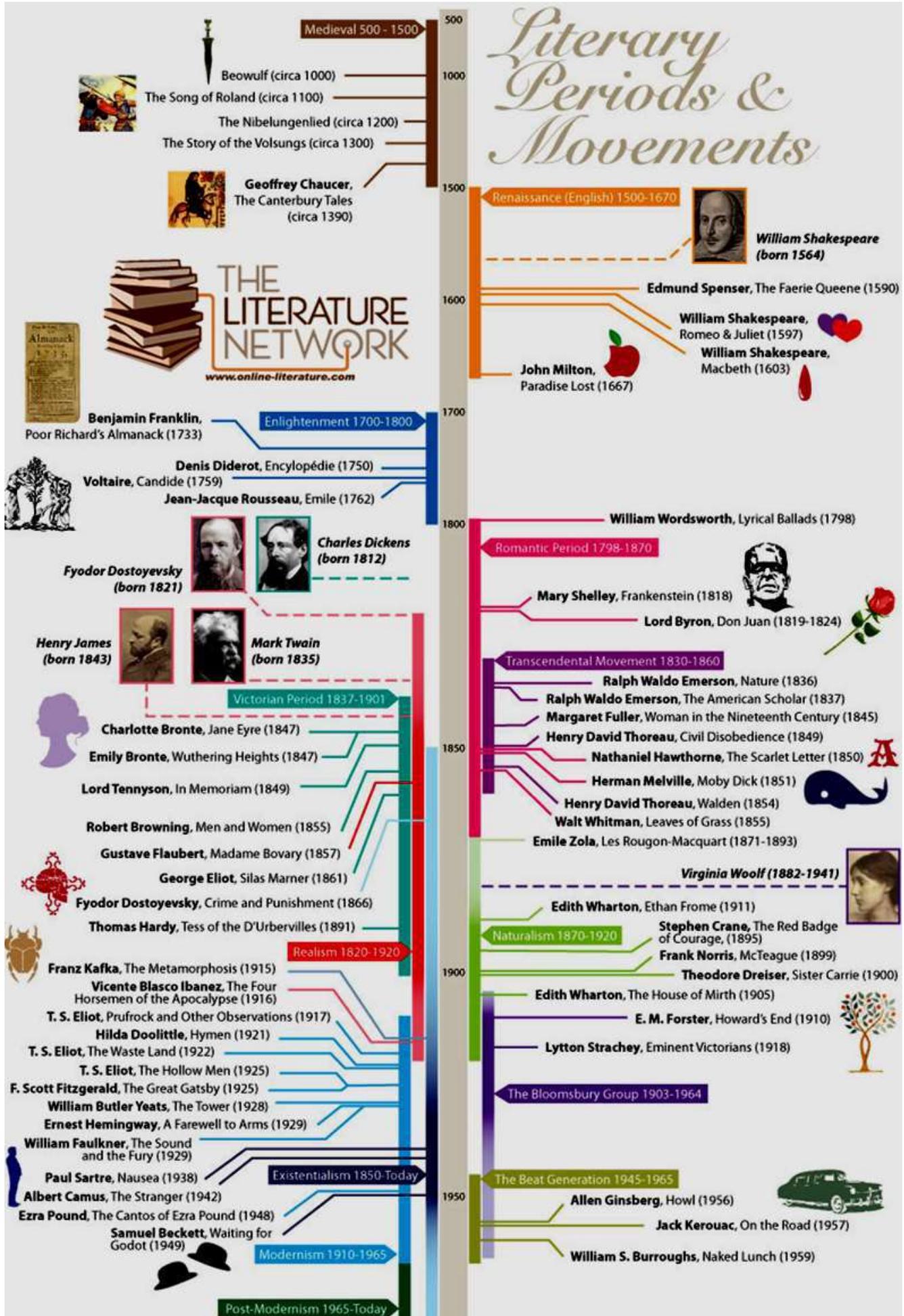
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Literary Periods & Movements



	<p>Poetry</p> <p>Satire</p>	<p>classical myths</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The greatness of Rome -Propaganda -Mockery of public folly and vulgarity 	<p>Romulus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -753-509 BCE Roman monarchy -509-31 BCE The Roman Republic -27 BCE-312 CE The Roman Principate -312-1453 CE The later Roman Empire 	<p>Playwrights: Livius Andronicus, Terence, Plautus</p> <p>Philosophers: Marcus Aurelius</p> <p>Satirists: Martial, Juvenal</p> <p>Rhetoricians: Cicero, Quintilian</p>
<p>Patristic (c. 70 -749 CE)</p> <p>-time and writing of the Church Fathers, early Christians who defended the Gospel</p>	<p>Sermons</p> <p>Bible commentaries</p> <p>Church history</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Orthodox doctrine -Exegesis – analysis & explanation of scriptures -Faith “apologies” – defending the faith -Battle against infidelity: apostasy, heresy, schism 		<p>Early Christian writings: St. Augustine, St. Jerome, (about 100 Church Fathers)</p> <p><i>The Nicene Creed</i></p>
<p>Old English/Anglo Saxon (499-1066)</p>	<p>Oral tradition of literature</p> <p>Poetry dominant genre</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -unique verse form • caesura • alliteration • repetition 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Strong belief in Fate -Juxtaposition of church & pagan worlds -Admiration of heroic warriors who prevail in battle -Express religious faith & give moral instruction through literature 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Life centered around ancestral tribes/clans that ruled themselves -At first, the people in Britain were invading warriors from outlying areas: Angles, Saxons, Jutes, & Danes. -Later, they were agricultural. 	<p><i>Beowulf</i></p> <p>The Venerable Bede <i>Exeter Book</i></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • four-beat rhythm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Christianity helps literacy to spread -Introduces Roman alphabet to Britain -Oral tradition helps unite diverse peoples & their myths 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Norman Conquest ended this period. -The Bayeux Tapestry thought to be commissioned ca 1070 to tell the story of William the Conqueror & Harold, Earl of Wessex, & the Battle of Hastings in 1066. 	
<p>Middle English/Medieval (1066-1485 roughly)</p>	<p>Oral tradition continues</p> <p>Folk ballads</p> <p>Mystery & miracle plays</p> <p>Morality plays</p> <p>Stock epithets</p> <p> kennings</p> <p>Frame stories</p> <p>Moral tales</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Plays that instruct the illiterate masses in morals & religion (can see & hear the literature) -Chivalric code of honor -Romances -Religious devotion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Crusades bring development of a money economy for the first time in Britain. -Trading increases dramatically as a result of the Crusades. -William the Conqueror crowned king in 1066. -Henry III crowned king in 1154 – brings judicial system royal courts, juries, & chivalry to Britain. -Renaissance begins in Italy ca 1300. -1347 Bubonic Plague reaches Europe, killing millions. -Joan of Arc is burned at the stake. -In Germany, the Gutenberg Bible is produced on a printing press. 	<p><i>Sir Gawain and the Green Knight</i></p> <p><i>Domesday Book</i></p> <p><i>L'Morte de Arthur</i></p> <p>Geoffrey Chaucer, <i>The Canterbury Tales</i></p> <p>Boccaccio</p> <p>Dante</p>

<p>The Renaissance (1485-1660)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Elizabethan Period: reign of Elizabeth I, 1586-1603 -Jacobean Period: reign of James I of England, 1603-1625 -Caroline Age: 1625-1649 -Commonwealth Period: 1649-1660 	<p>Poetry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the sonnet • metaphysical poetry – elaborate & unexpected metaphors called conceits <p>Drama</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • written in verse • supported by royalty • tragedies, comedies, histories 	<p>-World view shifts from religion & after to stressing human life on earth.</p> <p>-Development of human potential</p> <p>-Aspects of love</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • unrequited love • constant love • timeless love • courtly love • love subject to change <p>-Commoners welcomed at some play productions (like ones at the Globe), but conservatives try to close the theaters on grounds that they promote brazen behaviors.</p> <p>-Not all middle class embrace metaphysical poets & their abstract conceits.</p>	<p>-War of Roses ends in 1485, bringing political stability.</p> <p>-Printing press helps stabilize English as a language and allows more people to read a variety of literature.</p> <p>-1492 Columbus sets sail to Western Hemisphere</p> <p>-Economy changes from farm-based to one of international trade.</p> <p>-1543 Copernicus publishes theory earth & planets revolve around sun.</p> <p>-1607 English settlers establish Jamestown colony in Virginia.</p> <p>-1620 Pilgrims set sail on the <i>Mayflower</i>.</p> <p>-1633 Galileo condemned for supporting Copernicus's theory.</p>	<p><i>The Book of Common Prayer</i></p> <p>Sir Thomas Wyatt</p> <p>William Shakespeare, Christopher Marlowe</p> <p>Metaphysical Poets, John Donne, Andrew Marvell</p> <p>Cavalier Poets, Ben Jonson, Robert Herrick</p> <p>John Milton</p> <p>Miguel Cervantes, <i>Don Quixote</i></p>
<p>Neoclassical (1660-1798)</p> <p>a.k.a</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Age of Reason -Age of Enlightenment -The Restoration 	<p>Satire</p> <p>Poetry</p> <p>Essays</p> <p>Letters, diaries, biographies</p>	<p>-Emphasis on reason & logic; disdain for superstition</p> <p>-Stresses harmony, stability, & wisdom</p> <p>-Locke: A social contract exists between the gov't. & the people. Gov't. governs guaranteeing "natural rights" of life, liberty, &</p>	<p>-50% of males are functionally literate (a dramatic rise).</p> <p>-1665 Great Plague of London</p> <p>-1666 Great Fire of London</p> <p>-1687 Sir Isaac Newton publishes law of gravity.</p> <p>-1718 Lady Mary Wortley</p>	<p>John Dryden</p> <p>Alexander Pope</p> <p>Philosopher John Locke, <i>Two Treatises on Government</i></p> <p>Daniel Defoe,</p>

	<p>Novels</p>	<p>property. -Emphasis on the individual -Belief that man is basically evil -Approach to life: "the world as it should be"</p>	<p>Montagu introduces inoculation in England. -1757 British rule over India begins (ends 1947). -1775 British go to war with colonies in N. America. -1783 Treaty of Paris = American independence -1793 British go to war with revolutionary France. -Fenced enclosures of land cause demise of traditional village life. -Factories begin to spring up as industrial revolution begins. -Impoverished masses grow as farming life declines, and factories build. -Coffee houses- educated men spend evenings with literary & political associates -In America, this era encompasses the Colonial Period and the Age of Reason.</p>	<p><i>Robinson Crusoe</i> Jonathan Swift, <i>Gulliver's Travels</i> Samuel Johnson, <i>A Dictionary of the English Language</i> John Bunyan Voltaire Racine Moliere America: colonial writers Bradstreet, Taylor, Edwards, Wheatley & revolutionary writers Franklin, Jefferson, & Paine</p>
<p>Romantic (1798-1832) -Gothic writings (c. 1790-1890)</p>	<p>Novels Poetry • lyrical ballads</p>	<p>-Human knowledge consists of impressions & ideas formed in the individual's mind. -Introduction of Gothic elements & terror/horror stories & novels</p>	<p>-Napoleon rises to power in France and opposes England militarily and economically. 1815 Duke of Wellington defeats Napoleon at Waterloo.</p>	<p>Novelists • Mary Shelly, <i>Frankenstein</i> • Bram Stoker, <i>Dracula</i></p>

<p>overlap with the Romantic and Victorian periods.</p>		<p>-In nature, one can find comfort & peace that the man-made urbanized towns & factory environments cannot offer. -Evil attributed to society, not to human nature -Belief that man is basically good -Movement of protest: a desire for personal freedom -Children seen as hapless victims of poverty & exploitation</p>	<p>-Gas lamps developed. -Tory philosophy that gov't should NOT interfere with private enterprise -1832 Middle class men gain voting rights in Britain. -Railroads begin to run. -In America, this is also the Romantic Era, comprised of both Transcendental writings and Gothic writings.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jane Austen, <i>Pride and Prejudice</i> <p>Poets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Robert Burns • William Blake • William Wordsworth • Samuel Taylor Coleridge • Lord Byron • Percy Shelley • John Keats <p>Germany: Goethe, <i>Faust</i>; Brothers Grimm fairytales</p> <p>France: Victor Hugo, <i>The Hunchback of Notre Dame</i></p> <p>Russia: Aleksandr Pushkin</p> <p>America: Emerson, Thoreau, Hawthorne, Poe</p>
<p>Victorian (1832-1900)</p>	<p>Novels</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bildungsroman 	<p>-Conflict between those in power & the common masses of laborers</p>	<p>-Paper becomes cheap, so magazines & novels are cheap</p>	<p>Novelists</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Charles Dickens

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Political novels • Detective novels (Sherlock Holmes) • Serialized novels (Charles Dickens) <p>Elegies</p> <p>Poetry: easier to understand</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dramatic monologues <p>Drama</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • comedies of manners <p>Magazines offer stories to the masses.</p>	<p>& the poor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Shocking life of urban poor & sweatshops is highlighted in literature to insist on reform. -Country v. city life -Sexual discretion (or lack of it) -Strained coincidences -Romantic triangles -Heroines in physical danger -Aristocratic villains -Misdirected letters -Bigamous marriages -Literature begins to reach the masses. 	<p>to mass produce.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Unprecedented growth of industry & business in Britain -1833 Factory Act bans factory work for children under 9; slavery is abolished in British Empire. -1844 Morse sends first long-distance telegraph message. -1845 Irish Potato Famine begins (ends 1851). -1861 Alexander II frees serfs in Russia; U.S. civil war erupts (ends 1865). -1870 Local governments establish public schools; Married Women's Act gives women economic rights. -1874 Alexander Graham Bell develops telephone. -1879 Ireland presses for home rule; Thomas Edison invents light bulb. -1884 Reform Bill gives vote to almost all adult males. -1893 Henry Ford develops gasoline-powered autos. -1895 Guglielmo Marconi invents first radio. -1896 First modern Olympic Games in Greece 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thomas Hardy • Rudyard Kipling • Robert Louis Stevenson • George Eliot (a.k.a. Mary Ann Evans) • Sir Arthur Conan Doyle • H.G. Wells • The Brontë's • Jane Austen <p>Playwright, Oscar Wilde</p> <p>Poets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alfred Lord Tennyson • Gerard Manley Hopkins • Robert Browning • Elizabeth Barrett Browning • Pre-Raphaelites, the Rossettis
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<p>Modern (1900-1945 subject to debate)</p>	<p>Poetry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Free Verse <p>Epiphanies begin to appear in literature.</p> <p>Speeches</p> <p>Memoirs</p> <p>Novels</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stream of consciousness • Detached. 		<p>-Unparalleled dominance of nations, economies, and trade abroad: China/Hong Kong, India, Sudan, South Africa, Nigeria, Australia</p>	<p>Charles Darwin, <i>The Origin of Species</i></p> <p>Russia: Karl Marx & Friedrich Engels, <i>Communist Manifesto</i> (1848); Fyodor Dostoevsky, <i>Crime and Punishment</i> (1866)</p> <p>Austria: Sigmund Freud, <i>The Interpretation of Dreams</i></p> <p>America: Crane, Dickinson, Whitman</p>
	<p>-Lonely individual fighting to find peace & comfort in a world that has lost its absolute values & traditions</p> <p>-Man is nothing except what he makes of himself.</p> <p>-Belief in situational ethics-no absolute values. Decisions are based on the situation of the moment.</p> <p>-Mixing of fantasy with nonfiction blurs lines of reality for reader.</p> <p>-Loss of the hero in literature</p>	<p>-British Empire loses one million soldiers to WWI.</p> <p>-1921 Irish Free State is established; Northern Ireland remains part of Great Britain.</p> <p>-Winston Churchill leads Britain through WWII, and the Germans bomb England directly.</p> <p>-British colonies demand independence.</p> <p>-In American, the Modern Period included writers of the "Lost Generation" and the</p>	<p>Novelists</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • James Joyce • Virginia Woolf • Joseph Conrad • D.H. Lawrence • Graham Greene • Dylan Thomas • George Orwell <p>Poets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • W.H. Auden • William Butler Yeats • T.S. Eliot 	

	<p>unemotional, humorless</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present tense • Magic realism 	<p>-Destruction made possible by technology.</p> <p>-Approach to life: "Seize life for the moment, and get all you can out of it."</p>	<p>"Harlem Renaissance."</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Playwrights <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • George Bernard Shaw America: Fitzgerald, Stein, Hemingway, Faulkner, Baldwin, Ellison
<p>Postmodern / Contemporary (1945-onward)</p>	<p>Novels, Short Stories, Drama</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Mixing of fantasy with nonfiction; blurred lines of reality -Meta-fiction -Magical Realism -Science Fiction -Multicultural in theme & style -Narratives: fiction & nonfiction -Storytelling emphasized 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -No heroes or flawed heroes -Concern with the individual in isolation -Social issues, writers align with feminists & ethnic groups -Humorless or ironic in theme -Self-publishing opportunities -Media culture overtly interprets values -Numbness, apathy, disassociation of western culture -Fast pace/technology -Culture of "watchers" / willful seclusion -Reality TV -Homogenization of suburbia / media culture -Pharmaceuticals / medicated society -Economic & political globalization – end of national 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -1945 British civilian & military losses total 360,000 at end of WWII. -1947 India & Pakistan are granted independence. -1952 Queen Elizabeth II ascends to the throne. -1961 South Africa withdraws from British Commonwealth. -1977 The first practical home computer, Apple II, hits the market. -1981 Prince Charles marries Lady Diana Spencer. -1989 Berlin Wall falls; students demonstrating for Chinese democracy are killed in Beijing's Tiananmen Square. -1997 Britain returns Hong Kong to China after 155 years 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Novelists <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John Fowles • Doris Lessing Poets <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stevie Smith • Ted Hughes • Seamus Heaney Playwrights <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Samuel Beckett • Tom Stoppard South Africa: Nadine Gordimer America: Salinger, Vonnegut, Ginsberg, The Beat Poets, Angelou, Morrison, Walker, Soto, O'Brien,

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Anti-heroes -Young Adult Literature -Irony, cynicism elements -"Pop" novel readership Poetry -Confessional: detailed, personal issues faced in open, conversational poetry -Autobiographical 	sovereignty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> of colonial rule; Princess Diana dies in Paris in auto accident. -2001 Irish Republican Army begins disarmament; terrorist acts in the U.S. kill nearly 3,000 people. -2003 U.S.-led troops invade Iraq. -2005 London underground bombings -2009 Barack O' Bama becomes first African American president of the U.S. 	King, Grisham, Crichton, Clancy, Kingsolver, Krakauer
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PROSE: DETAILED STUDY

2.1. OF REVENGE

– Francis Bacon

Biography

Francis Bacon was born January 22 1561. His mother was Anne (Cooke) Bacon and his father was Sir Nichol Bacon. He attended Cambridge university for his college education. He married Alice Barnham in 1606. He was an intelligent philosopher during the scientific revolution. He published many books on science and philosophy and practiced the scientific method. Many people still use his works and studies to this day.

Francis
Bacon



Accomplishments

He has had many accomplishments in his lifetime. He was very successful in royal power with the queen and king at the time. He also had many political jobs like attorney general, treasurer, Lord Chancellor, and temporary Regent of England.

He also was a very good philosopher, scientist, and author. He practiced the scientific theory throughout all his works. In his lifetime he published 6 books, most of them on science and the scientific method.

Lasting Impact

After Francis Bacon's death he continues to remain highly influential. He remains influential as a philosophical advocate and a practitioner of the scientific method.

Timeline

- 1561- Francis Bacon was born.
- 1573- Went to Cambridge University.
- 1584- Took a seat in parliament for Dorsetshire.
- 1591- Became the confidential advisor to the earl of Essex.
- 1607- Received office of solicitor.
- 1608- Named treasurer of Gray's Inn.
- 1613- Became attorney general.
- 1617- Appointed the temporary Regent of England.
- 1618- Made Lord Chancellor.
- 1620- Published *Novum Organum*.
- 1621- Sentenced and fined to prison.
- 1623- Published *De Augmentis Scientiarum*.
- 1624- Published *Apothegms*.
- 1626- Died from pneumonia.

2.1.1. About author (Bacon):

Name	: SIR FRANCIS BACON
Identity	: Philosopher, Essayist, Diplomat, Scientist
Nationality	: British
Born on	: 22 January 1561
Sun Sign	: Aquarius
Born in	: Strand, London, England
Died on	: 09 April 1626
Died At Age	: 65
Place of death	: Highgate, London, England
Father	: Sir Nicholas Bacon
Mother	: Anne (Cooke) Bacon
Siblings	: Anthony Bacon
Spouse	: Alice Barnham (m. 1606–1625)
Education	: Trinity College Cambridge, University of Poitiers, University of Cambridge



- ❖ Bacon was actually a beacon of the **Age of Renaissance in the 16th century**. A brand new world was coming to light with the exploration of ocean and the sea-way by the Portuguese and the Spanish.
- ❖ **He was called the Father of Empiricism.**
- ❖ Other notable people who lived in the same era as Bacon include Galileo and William Shakespeare, both born in 1564, and Johannes Kepler, born in 1571.
- ❖ Bacon's father was Sir Nicholas Bacon, who held the powerful government position of Lord Keeper of the Great Seal.
- ❖ His mother was Anne Cooke, a scholar, translator, and holder of strong Puritan beliefs. She tried hard to ensure that her children were as well-educated and as puritanical as she was.
- ❖ Anne Cooke's father, Sir Anthony Cooke had been tutor to King Henry the Eighth's son, who became King Edward the Sixth of England.

- ❖ Her sister was the wife of **the Queen Elizabeth's Chief Minister, Lord Burleigh.**
- ❖ This connection attracted Bacon to the royal court and even as a child the **motherly Queen called him her "Little Lord Keeper."**
- ❖ It is believed that junior Bacon received education at home only, in the starting years of his life due to bad health. He received tuitions from John Walsall who was a graduate of Oxford with a strong bending towards Puritanism.
- ❖ His lessons were conducted entirely in Latin, focusing on arithmetic, astronomy, geometry, grammar, music theory, logic, and rhetoric.
- ❖ **On April 5, 1573, Bacon gained admission in Trinity College, Cambridge at the age of 12.** He lived there for three years with his older brother, Anthony under the personal guardianship of Dr John Whitgift, future Archbishop of Canterbury.
- ❖ The whole system of education appeared to him as something radically wrong. Even he denounced the system of Aristotle, which was considered the basis of all philosophy those days. **He called it mere "a childish delusion" and scornfully declared that in the course of centuries Aristotelian system had produced no fruits, but only "jungles of dry and useless branches".**
- ❖ **In 1576 he went to English Embassy in Paris as a junior Secretary to Sir Amyas Paulet, the Ambassador of England.**
- ❖ Here he polished his experience as a diplomat. Following three years, Bacon visited Blois, Poitiers, Tours, Italy and Spain.
- ❖ **In 1579, his return to England was prompted by the sudden and untimely death of his father.**
- ❖ As a youngest son his inheritance was meager. He found himself face to face with the stern realities of life. He was at sore monetary straits at that time.
- ❖ He sought help from his uncle Burleigh for any lucrative position in the court. But Burleigh misjudged him as a dreamer and self-seeker. He refused to help Bacon.
- ❖ Much against his inclination he began his studies in law at Gray's Inn. Following two years, he worked at Gray's Inn, only to be admitted as an outer barrister in 1582.
- ❖ **In 1584 at the age of 22 he became Member of Parliament at Melcombe in Dorset and afterwards for Taunton in 1586.**

UNIT-II

IMPORTANT MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS:

1. Give Below are two statements one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the other is labelled as Reason (R)

Assertion (A): Many modern British writers infused their works with an entrance sense of uncertainty, disillusionment and despair.

Reasons (R): The Waste Land ends in a flurry of random allusions.

In the light of the above two statements, choose the correct option:

- A) Both (A) and (R) are true and is the correct explanation of (A)
- B) Both (A) and (R) true and is not the correct explanation of (A)
- C) A) is true, but is (R) false
- D) (A) is false, but is (R) true

2. In which of the following essays did Charles Lamb first use the pseudonym/persona, Elia?

- A) "My First Play"
- B) "The Two Races of Men"
- C) "New Year's Eve"
- D) "The South Sea House"



3. Who among the following are the two great masters of the French language that T. S Eliot contrasts with Dryden and Milton in The Metaphysical Poets'?

- A) Francois Villon
- B) Jean Racine
- C) Charles Baudelaire
- D) Arthur Rimbaud

4. Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

- A) A and C only
- B) A and D only
- C) B and C only
- D) B and D only

5. Which of the following fictional characters is in the right Chronological order?

- A) Uncle Toby- Man Friday- Stephen Dedalus- Miss Havisham
- B) Stephen Dedalus- Man Friday – Uncle Toby- Miss Havisham
- C) Man Friday- Uncle Toby- Miss Havisham –Stephen Dedalus
- D) Miss Havisham- Uncle Toby- Stephen Dedalus- Man Friday

6. To which mythological character is Faustus compared in the Prologue of Dr. Faustus?

- A) Perseus
- B) Theseus
- C) Icarus
- D) Achilles

7. Arrange the following 18TH -century magazines in the chronological order of publication:

- A) The Critical Review
- B) The Monthly Review
- C) The Gentleman's Magazine
- D) The Rambler

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

- A) A, D, B, C
- B) D, A, B, C
- C) B, A, C, D
- D) C, B, D, A

8. Given below are two statements: one is labelled as Assertion A and the other is labelled as Reason R

Assertion A: The introduction of English in India was primarily for the benefit and consolidation of British power.

Reason R: English catered to the social and economic aspirations of the emerging middle class and urban elites in India.

In light of the above statements, choose the correct answer from the options given below

- A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A
- B) Both A and R are true but R is NOT the correct explanation of A
- C) A is true but R is false
- D) A is false but R is true

9. Arrange the following authors in the chronological order of their birth:

- A) Oscar Wilde
- B) William Langland
- C) Geoffrey Chaucer
- D) John Dryden
- E) Alexander Pope

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

- A) B, C, D, E, A
- B) A, B, C, E, D
- C) B, C, D, A, E
- D) C, B, A, D, E

10. Match List I and List II

List I

Lines

- A. "Monuments of unaging intellect"
- B. "in the foul rag-and-bone shop of the heart"
- C. "So mastered by the brute blood of the air"
- D. "As weary-hearted as that hollow moon"

Poems

- I. "Leda and the Swan"
- II. "Adam's Curse"
- III. "Sailing to Byzantium"
- IV. "The Circus Animals' Desertion"

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

- A) A – III, – IV, C – II, D – I
- B) A – III, B – I, C – IV, D – II
- C) A – III, B – IV, C – I, D – II
- D) A – II, B – I, C – IV, D – III



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UNIT – III SHAKESPEARE

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UNIT - III

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

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3.1. INTRODUCTION

3.1.1. About Shakespeare:

Parents: John Shakespeare & Mary Shakespeare (nee Arden).

Born: Generally accepted as **23 April 1564**, as he was baptized **26 April 1564**.

Hometown: Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire, England.

Wife: Anne Hathaway.

Children: Susanna, Hamnet & Judith

Works: 37 plays (at least), 154 sonnets, many poems.

Died: Shakespeare died on 23 April 1616 and was buried at Holy Trinity Church in Stratford-upon-Avon.



William Shakespeare

Shakespeare's father made gloves for a living:

- ❖ Shakespeare's parents were **John and Mary Shakespeare**.
- ❖ John came to Stratford upon Avon from Snitterfield before 1532 as an apprentice **Glover and tanner of leathers**.
- ❖ He prospered and began to deal in farm products and wool before being elected to a multitude of civic positions.
- ❖ John Shakespeare's glove workshop at the Shakespeare Birthplace, complete with the window where he displayed and sold his gloves to passersby.



Shakespeare was born 23rd April 1564:

- ❖ There is documentary proof that **Shakespeare was baptized on 26th April 1564**, and scholars believe that, in keeping with the traditions of the time, he would have been baptized when he was three days old, meaning **Shakespeare was probably born on April 23rd**.
- ❖ However, as Shakespeare was born under the old Julian calendar, what was April 23rd during Shakespeare's life would actually be May 3rd according to today's Gregorian calendar.

Shakespeare had seven siblings:

- ❖ Shakespeare had seven siblings: **Joan (b 1558, only lived 2 months); Margaret (b 1562); Gilbert (b 1566); another Joan (b 1569); Anne (b 1571); Richard (b 1574) and Edmund (b 1580)**.

Anne Hathaway

Shakespeare married an older, pregnant lady at 18:

- ❖ Shakespeare married his wife Anne Hathaway when he was 18.
- ❖ She was 26 and three months pregnant with Shakespeare's child when they married.
- ❖ Their first child Susanna was born six months after the wedding.
- ❖ Anne Hathaway Painting by Roger Brian Dunn (2010) based on a drawing by Nathaniel Curzon (1708)



Shakespeare had three children:

- ❖ Shakespeare and Anne Hathaway had three children together – a son, Hamnet, who died in 1596, and two daughters, Susanna and Judith.
- ❖ His only granddaughter Elizabeth – daughter of Susanna – died childless in 1670.
- ❖ Shakespeare, therefore, has no descendants.

Shakespeare moved to London as a young man:

- ❖ Shakespeare left Stratford upon Avon – likely in the late 1580s – and went to London.
- ❖ The first record of William Shakespeare in London is of him living in Bishops gate in 1596.
- ❖ The address is unknown, though is thought to be in the vicinity of Leaden Hall Street and St Mary Avenue.

Shakespeare was an actor, as well as a writer:

- ❖ Few people realise that apart from writing his numerous plays and sonnets, Shakespeare was also an actor who performed many of his own plays as well as those of other playwrights.
- ❖ There is evidence that he played the ghost in Hamlet and Adam in As You Like It.

Shakespeare wore a gold hoop earring:

Gold Hoop Earring

- ❖ It's likely that Shakespeare wore a gold hoop earring in his left ear – a creative, bohemian look in the Elizabethan & Jacobean eras.
- ❖ This style is evidenced in the Chandos portrait, one of the most famous depictions of Shakespeare.



- ❖ The Chandos portrait of Shakespeare, complete with gold hoop earring.

Shakespeare became very wealthy:

- ❖ During his lifetime Shakespeare became a very wealthy man with a large property portfolio.
- ❖ He was a brilliant businessman – forming a joint-stock company with his actors meaning he took a share in the company's profits, as well as earning a fee for each play he wrote.

Shakespeare lived between London and Stratford:

- ❖ Shakespeare lived a double life.
- ❖ By the seventeenth century, he had become a famous playwright in **London but in his hometown of Stratford upon Avon**, where his wife and children were, and which he visited frequently, he was a well-known and highly respected businessman and property owner.

Shakespeare's Stratford home was called 'New Place':

- ❖ Shakespeare's family home in Stratford upon Avon was called New Place.
- ❖ The house stood on the corner of Chapel Street and Chapel Lane, and was the largest house in the town at that time.
- ❖ View of knot garden in New Place, Stratford, with views to Great Garden and Royal Shakespeare Theatre



Shakespeare performed before both Queen Elizabeth I and King James I:

- ❖ During his life William Shakespeare and his theatre company performed before both **Queen Elizabeth I and, later, James I**, who was an enthusiastic patron of his work.

Shakespeare was a favorite of King James I:

- ❖ Shakespeare had **close connections with King James I**.
- ❖ The King made the actors of Shakespeare's **company 'Grooms of Chamber'**, in response to which Shakespeare changed the company's name from the **'Lord Chamberlain's Men'** to the **'King's Men'**.

- ❖ The new title made Shakespeare a favourite with the King and in much demand for Court performances.

Shakespeare had his own family coat of arms:



- ❖ Sometime after his unsuccessful application to become a gentleman, William Shakespeare took his father to the College of Arms to secure **their own Shakespeare family crest.**

- ❖ The crest was a yellow spear on a yellow shield, with the Latin inscription **“Non Sans Droict”, or “Not without Right”.**

- ❖ The Shakespeare family coat of arms.

Shakespeare left his wife his “second best best”:

- ❖ On his death, Shakespeare made several gifts to various people but left his property to his daughter, Susanna.
- ❖ The only mention of his wife in Shakespeare’s own will is: **“I gyve unto my wief my second best bed with the furniture”.** The “furniture” was the bedclothes for the bed.

Shakespeare died on his birthday:

- ❖ William Shakespeare’s burial at **Holy Trinity Church in Stratford upon Avon** is documented as happening on **25th April 1616.**
- ❖ In keeping with traditions of the time it’s likely he would have been buried two days after his death, meaning Shakespeare likely died **23rd April 1616 – his 52nd birthday.**

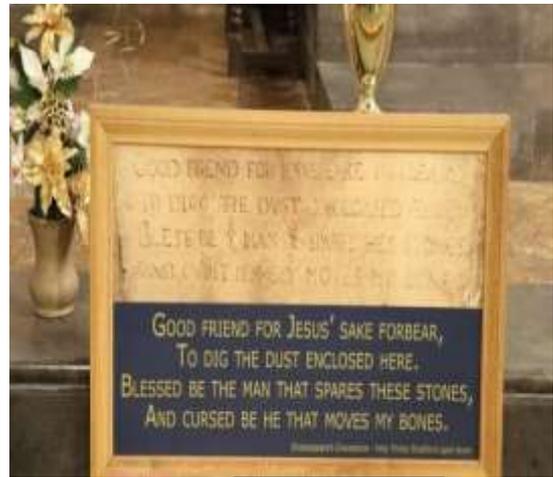
Shakespeare put a curse on his grave:

- ❖ Shakespeare penned a curse for his grave, daring anyone to move his body from that final resting place.

His epitaph was:

- ❖ **Good friend for Jesus’ sake forbear, To dig the dust enclosed here: Blest be the man that spares these stones, And curst be he that moves my bones.**

- ❖ Though it was customary to dig up the bones from previous graves to make room for others, the remains in Shakespeare's grave are still undisturbed.
- ❖ The curse on Shakespeare's gravestone in Holy Trinity Church – cursed be he that moves my bones!



Gravestone

Shakespeare was a Catholic:

- ❖ Although Catholicism was effectively illegal in Shakespeare's lifetime, the Anglican Archdeacon, Richard Davies of Lichfield, who had known him wrote some time after Shakespeare's death that he had been a Catholic.

Shakespeare was both an Elizabethan and Jacobean:

- ❖ Shakespeare is most often referred to as an **Elizabethan playwright**, but as most of his most popular plays were written after Elizabeth's death he was actually more of a Jacobean writer.
- ❖ His later plays also show the distinct characteristics of **Jacobean drama**.

There was no such thing as copyright:

- ❖ Copyright didn't exist in William Shakespeare's time, as a result of which there was a thriving trade in copied plays.
- ❖ To help counter this, actors got their lines only once the play was in progress – often in the form of cue acting where someone backstage whispered them to the person shortly before he was supposed to deliver them.

Waves of plague closed all theatres:

- ❖ An outbreak of the plague in Europe resulted in all London theatres being closed between 1592 and 1594. As there was no demand for plays during this time, Shakespeare began to write poetry, completing his **first batch of sonnets in 1593, aged 29.**

Females were not allowed to perform on stage:

- ❖ It was illegal for women and girls to perform in the theatre in Shakespeare's lifetime so all the female parts were written for boys.

- ❖ The text of some plays like **Hamlet and Antony and Cleopatra** refer to that.
- ❖ It was only much later, during the Restoration, that the first woman appeared on the English stage.

The Globe Theatre burned down:

- ❖ **Shakespeare's Globe Theatre** came to a premature end on **29th June 1613** after a cannon shot set fire to the thatched roof during a performance of Henry VIII.
- ❖ Within two hours the theatre was burnt to the ground, to be rebuilt the following year.

Writing by candlelight didn't happen:

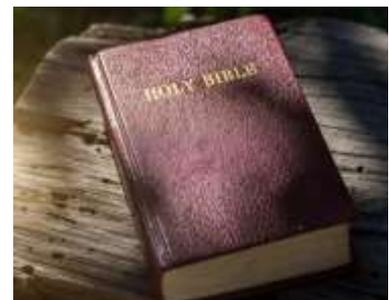
- ❖ Candles were very expensive in Shakespeare's time so they were used only for emergencies, for a short time.
- ❖ Most writers wrote in the daytime and socialised in the evenings.
- ❖ There is no reason to think that William Shakespeare was any different from his contemporaries.

Shakespeare was incredibly productive:

- ❖ During his life, William Shakespeare wrote at least **37 plays, 154 sonnets, and a number of poems!** that we know of.
- ❖ In addition, there are a number of "**lost plays**" and plays that Shakespeare collaborated on.
- ❖ This means Shakespeare wrote an average of 1.5 plays a year since he first started writing in 1589.

Shakespeare is bested only by the bible for quotes:

- ❖ According to the **Oxford Dictionary of Quotations**, William Shakespeare wrote close to a tenth of the most quoted lines ever written or spoken in English.
- ❖ What's more, according to the Literature Encyclopaedia, Shakespeare is the second most quoted English writer after the writers of the bible.



There are 13 suicides in Shakespeare's plays:

- ❖ Suicide occurs an unlucky thirteen times in Shakespeare's plays, with three suicides occurring in both **Antony & Cleopatra** and **Julius Caesar**, and two suicides in **Romeo and Juliet**.

Two of Shakespeare's plays are written completely in verse:

- ❖ Only two of Shakespeare's plays are written entirely in verse: they are **Richard II** and **King John**. Many of the plays have half of the text in prose.

Shakespeare wrote at least two plays that have been lost:

- ❖ It's certain that Shakespeare wrote at least two plays that have been lost – titled **Cardenio**, and **Love's Labour's Won**.
- ❖ It's likely that Shakespeare wrote many more plays that have been lost.

Shakespeare's longest play is three times longer than his shortest:

- ❖ Shakespeare's shortest play, **The Comedy of Errors** contains just 1,770 lines and is only a third of the length of his longest, **Hamlet**, which takes four hours to perform.

Two Shakespeare plays are available in

Klingon: Two of Shakespeare's plays, **Hamlet** and **Much Ado About Nothing**, have been translated into Klingon.

- ❖ The Klingon Language Institute plans to translate more! (If you're into quirky

William Shakespeare facts check out our **list of 23 things you never knew about Shakespeare**.)



Shakespeare wrote his final play aged 49:

- ❖ Shakespeare's last play – **The Two Noble Kinsmen** – is reckoned to have been written in 1613 when he was 49 years old.

There's a conspiracy that Shakespeare didn't write his plays:

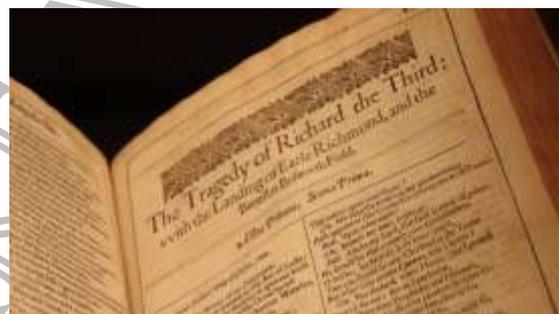
- ❖ Some scholars have maintained that Shakespeare did not write the plays attributed to him, with at least fifty writers having been suggested as the "real" author.
- ❖ However, the evidence for Shakespeare's having written the plays is very strong.

Shakespeare was a great collaborator:

- ❖ In Elizabethan theatre circles it was common for writers to collaborate on writing plays.
- ❖ Towards the end of his career, Shakespeare worked with other writers on plays that have been credited to those writers.
- ❖ Other writers also worked on plays that are credited to Shakespeare.
- ❖ We know for certain that **Timon of Athens was a collaboration with Thomas Middleton; Pericles with George Wilkins; and The Two Noble Kinsmen with John Fletcher.**

Shakespeare was never published in his lifetime:

- ❖ Shakespeare's plays were never actually published during his lifetime.
- ❖ They are known today only because two of his fellow actors – John Hemminges and Henry Condell – recorded and published **36 of them posthumously under the name 'The First Folio'**, which is the source of all William Shakespeare books published **(First Folio)**
- ❖ **First Folio inside pages, containing 36 of Shakespeare's plays**



Shakespeare got panned by critics in his time:

- ❖ Although Shakespeare is almost universally considered as one of the finest writers in the English language, his contemporaries were not always as impressed.
- ❖ The first recorded reference to Shakespeare, written by theatre critic **Robert Greene in 1592**, was as an “upstart crow, beautified with our feathers”.

The first purchase by the National Portrait Gallery was a Shakespeare portrait:

- ❖ **The National Portrait Gallery in London's first acquisition in 1856 was the 'Chandos' portrait of Shakespeare, attributed to the artist John Taylor.**
- ❖ It's now considered the only representation of the writer that has any real claim to having been painted from life.

Shakespeare's relative was executed for plotting against the queen

- ❖ One of Shakespeare's relatives on his mother's side, William Arden, was arrested for plotting against **Queen Elizabeth I**, imprisoned in the Tower of London and executed.



Tower of London

- ❖ A public execution in front of the Tower of London

Did you know...

- ❖ 'William Shakespeare' is an anagram of 'I am a weakish speller'.

The bible contains a hidden message to Shakespeare:

- ❖ In the King James Bible the 46th word of Psalm 46 is 'shake' and the 46th word from the end of the same Psalm is 'spear'.
- ❖ Some think this was a hidden birthday message to the Bard, as the King James Bible was published in 1611 – the year of Shakespeare's 46th birthday.

Uranus' moons are named after Shakespeare characters:

- ❖ The moons of Uranus were originally named in 1852 after magical spirits from English literature.
- ❖ The International Astronomy Union subsequently developed the convention to name all further moons of Uranus (of which there are 27) after characters in Shakespeare's plays or Alexander Pope's *The Rape of the Lock*.

Starlings exist in the USA because of Shakespeare:

- ❖ The United States has Shakespeare to thank for its estimated 200 million starlings.
- ❖ In 1890 an American bardolator, Eugene Schiffelin, embarked on a project to import each species of bird mentioned in Shakespeare's works that were absent from the US.

Abraham Lincoln and his assassin were both bang into Shakespeare:

- ❖ The American President Abraham Lincoln was a great lover of Shakespeare's plays and frequently recited from them to his friends.
- ❖ His assassin, John Wilkes Booth was a famous Shakespearean actor.

Shakespeare was John Keats' creative muse:

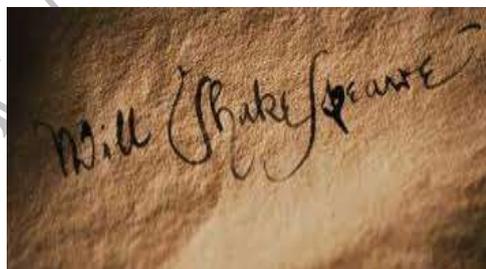
- ❖ Rumour has it that poet John Keats was so influenced by Shakespeare that he kept a bust of the Bard beside him while he wrote, hoping that Shakespeare would spark his creativity.

The RSC perform to half a million people each year:

- ❖ The Royal Shakespeare Company sells more than half a million tickets a year for Shakespeare productions at their theatres in Stratford-on-Avon, London, and Newcastle – introducing an estimated 50,000 people to a live Shakespeare performance for the first time each year.

Shakespeare's name was spelled at least 80 ways:

- ❖ There are more than 80 variations recorded for the spelling of Shakespeare's name.
- ❖ In the few original signatures that have survived, Shakespeare spelt his name "Willm Shaksp," "William Shakespe," "Wm Shakspe," "William Shakspere," "Willm Shakspere," and "William Shakspeare".
- ❖ There are no records of him ever having spelt it "William Shakespeare", as we know him today.



Shakespeare's grave now shows him holding a quill:

- ❖ Shakespeare's original grave marker showed him holding a bag of grain. Citizens of Stratford replaced the bag with a quill in 1747.

Shakespeare introduced 3,000 words to the English language:

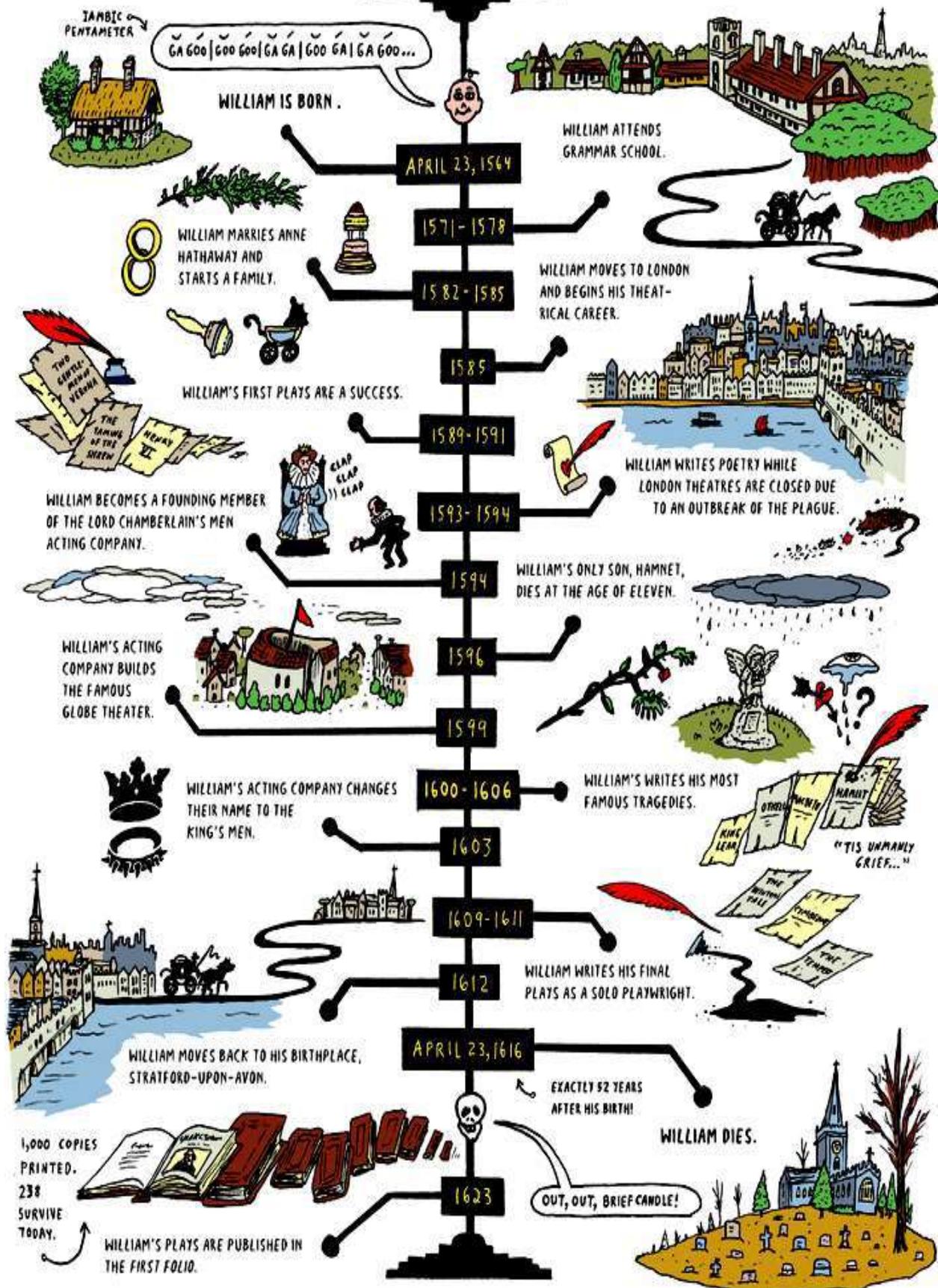
- ❖ Shakespeare has been credited by the Oxford English Dictionary with introducing almost 3,000 words to the English language.
- ❖ Estimations of his vocabulary range from 17,000 to a dizzying 29,000 words – at least double the number of words used by the average conversationalist.

Shakespeare used 7,000 words just once each in his works

- ❖ According to Shakespeare professor Louis Marder, "Shakespeare was so facile in employing words that he was able to use over 7,000 of them – more than occur in the whole King James Version of the Bible – only once and never again.

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE - AN ILLUSTRATED BIOGRAPHY

ILLUSTRATED BY DAVID HEATLEY



UNIT- III - SHAKESPEARE

IMPORTANT MCQ

1. Assertion (A): Drama is not considered to be the pure form of literature.

Reason (R): It is a composite Art.

Codes:

A) A. is true, (R) is false.

B) A. is true, (R) is true.

C) A. is false, (R) is false.

D) A. is false, (R) is true.

2. The following phrases from Shakespeare have become the titles of famous works.

Identify the correctly matched group.

(I) Pale Fire

(a) Thomas Hardy

(II) The Sound and the Fury

(b) Somerset Maugham

(III) Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead

(c) William Faulkner

(IV) Under the Greenwood Tree

(d) Tom Stoppard

(V) Of Cakes and Ale

(e) Vladimir Nabokov

(I) (II) (III) (IV) (V)

A) (e) (d) (c) (a) (b)

B) (d) (e) (b) (c) (a)

C) (e) (c) (d) (a) (b)

D) (c) (d) (b) (e) (a)



3. William Shakespeare's Julius Caesar, Antony and Cleopatra and Coriolanus are based on _____.

(A) Holinshed's Chronicles

(B) Folk-tales and legends

(C) Older Roman Plays

(D) Plutarch's Lives

4. Shakespeare's plays are still performed over the world because of

A. Strong characterization

B. Dialogues and Monologues

C. Performance Strength

D. Attraction for Artists

5. Identify the statement that is NOT TRUE among those that explain "stage directions" in drama.

A) Stage directions inform readers how to stage, perform or imagine the play.

B) The place, time of action, design of the set and at times characters' actions or tone of voice are indicated by stage directions.

C) Stage directions are often italicized in the text of a play in order to be spoken aloud.

D) Stage directions may appear at the beginning of a play, before a scene or attached to a line of dialogue.

6. A poet laureate said "I do not think that since Shakespeare there has been such a master of the English language as I" Who is the poet?

- A) Stephen Spender
- B) John Dryden
- C) Alfred Lord Tennyson
- D) Ted Hughes

7. Venus and Adonis is a long narrative poem by:

- A) Shakespeare
- B) Marlowe
- C) Drayton
- D) Sydney

8. "It is a tale told by an idiot, full of sound and fury, signifying nothing, Where do these lines appear?

- A) Macbeth
- B) Othello
- C) Hamlet
- D) King Lear

9. "Ripeness is all" occurs in:

- A) King Lear
- B) Hamlet
- C) Macbeth
- D) Julius Caesar

10. A. C. Bradley's Shakespearean Tragedy was published in:

- A) 1903
- B) 1904
- C) 1905
- D) 1906

11. Thomas and Henrietta Bowler's edition of The Family Shakespeare gave rise to the word Bowdlerize. What does it mean ?

- A) the expurgation of indelicate language
- B) the modernization of archaic vocabulary
- C) the insertion of bawdy songs
- D) the expansion of female characters

12. Who among Shakespeare's contemporaries did not write tragedies ?

- A) Thomas Kyd
- B) John Lyly
- C) Christopher Marlowe
- D) Ben Jonson



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UNIT-IV

BRITISH LITERATURE - II

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UNIT - IV

BRITISH LITERATURE - II

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POETRY:

4.1. SOLITARY REAPER

- William Wordsworth

4.1.1. About Wordsworth:

Born : 7 April, 1770

Died : 23 April, 1850

Nation : Kingdom of United Kingdom

Occupation : Poet

Alma Mater : Cambridge University

Literary Movement: Romanticism

Notable Works : Lyrical Ballads, Poems in Two Volumes, The Excursion, The Prelude



- ❖ William Wordsworth (7 April 1770 – 23 April 1850) was a major English Romantic poet who, with Samuel Taylor Coleridge, helped to launch the Romantic Age in English literature with the 1798 joint publication Lyrical Ballads.
- ❖ Wordsworth's magnum opus is generally considered to be The Prelude, a semiautobiographical poem of his early years which he revised and expanded a number of times.
- ❖ It was posthumously titled and published, prior to which it was generally known as "the poem to Coleridge".
- ❖ Wordsworth was **Britain's Poet Laureate** from 1843 until his death in 1850.

Early life:

- ❖ The second of five children born to John Wordsworth and Ann Cookson, William Wordsworth was born on 7 April 1770 in Wordsworth House in Cockermouth, Cumberland part of the scenic region in northwest England, the Lake District.
- ❖ **His sister**, the poet and diarist **Dorothy Wordsworth**, to whom he was close all his life, was born the following year, and the two were baptised together.
- ❖ **They had three other siblings: Richard**, the eldest, who became a lawyer; **John**, born after Dorothy, who went to sea and died in 1805 when the ship of which he was

Master, the Earl of Abergavenny, was wrecked off the south coast of England; and **Christopher**, the youngest, who entered the Church and rose to be Master of Trinity College, Cambridge.

- ❖ Their father was a legal representative of James Lowther, 1st Earl of Lonsdale and, through his connections, lived in a large mansion in the small town.
- ❖ Wordsworth, as with his siblings, had little involvement with their father, and they would be distant from him until his death in 1783.
- ❖ Wordsworth's father, although rarely present, taught him poetry, including that of Milton, Shakespeare and Spenser, in addition to allowing his son to rely on his own father's library.
- ❖ Along with spending time reading in Cockermouth, Wordsworth would also stay at his mother's parents' house in Penrith, Cumberland.
- ❖ At Penrith, Wordsworth was exposed to the moors. Wordsworth could not get along with his grandparents and his uncle, and his hostile interactions with them distressed him to the point of contemplating suicide.
- ❖ After the death of their mother, in 1778, Wordsworth's father sent him to Hawkshead Grammar School in Lancashire (now in Cumbria) and Dorothy to live with relatives in Yorkshire; she and Wordsworth would not meet again for another nine years.
- ❖ Although Hawkshead was Wordsworth's first serious experience with education, he had been taught to read by his mother and had attended a tiny school of low quality in Cockermouth.
- ❖ After the **Cockermouth School**, he was sent to a school in Penrith for the children of upper-class families and taught by Ann Birkett, a woman who insisted on instilling in her students traditions that included pursuing both scholarly and local activities, especially the festivals around Easter, May Day, and Shrove Tuesday.
- ❖ Wordsworth was taught both the Bible and the *Spectator*, but little else. It was at the school that Wordsworth was to meet the Hutchinsons, including Mary, who would be his future wife.
- ❖ Wordsworth made his debut as a writer in 1787 when he published a sonnet in *The European Magazine*. That same year he began attending St John's College, Cambridge, and received his B.A. degree in 1791.
- ❖ He returned to Hawkshead for his first two summer holidays, and often spent later holidays on walking tours, visiting places famous for the beauty of their landscape.

- ❖ In 1790, he took a walking tour of Europe, during which he toured the Alps extensively, and visited nearby areas of France, Switzerland, and Italy.

4.1.2. First publication and Lyrical Ballads:

- ❖ In his "Preface to Lyrical Ballads", which is called the "manifesto" of English Romantic criticism, Wordsworth calls his poems "experimental."
- ❖ The year 1793 saw Wordsworth's first published poetry with the collections *An Evening Walk* and *Descriptive Sketches*.
- ❖ He received a legacy of £900 from Raisley Calvert in 1795 so that he could pursue writing poetry. That year, he met Samuel Taylor Coleridge in Somerset.
- ❖ The two poets quickly developed a close friendship.
- ❖ In 1797, Wordsworth and his sister Dorothy moved to Alfoxton House, Somerset, just a few miles away from Coleridge's home in Nether Stowey.
- ❖ Together, Wordsworth and Coleridge (with insights from Dorothy) produced *Lyrical Ballads* (1798), an important work in the English Romantic movement.
- ❖ The volume gave neither Wordsworth's nor Coleridge's name as author.
- ❖ One of Wordsworth's most famous poems, "Tintern Abbey", was published in the work, along with Coleridge's "The Rime of the Ancient Mariner".
- ❖ The second edition, published in 1800, had only Wordsworth listed as the author, and included a preface to the poems, which was augmented significantly in the 1802 edition.
- ❖ This Preface to *Lyrical Ballads* is considered a central work of Romantic literary theory.
- ❖ In it, Wordsworth discusses what he sees as the elements of a new type of poetry, one based on the "real language of men" and which avoids the poetic diction of much 18th-century poetry.
- ❖ Here, Wordsworth gives his famous definition of poetry as "the spontaneous overflow of powerful feelings: it takes its origin from emotion recollected in tranquility."
- ❖ A fourth and final edition of *Lyrical Ballads* was published in 1805.



Germany and move to the Lake District:

- ❖ Wordsworth, Dorothy and Coleridge travelled to Germany in the autumn of 1798.
- ❖ While Coleridge was intellectually stimulated by the trip, its main effect on Wordsworth was to produce homesickness.
- ❖ During the harsh winter of 1798–99, Wordsworth lived with Dorothy in Goslar, and, despite extreme stress and loneliness, he began work on an autobiographical piece later titled *The Prelude*.
- ❖ He wrote a number of famous poems, including "The Lucy poems".
- ❖ He and his sister moved back to England, now to Dove Cottage in Grasmere in the Lake District, and this time with fellow poet Robert Southey nearby.
- ❖ Wordsworth, Coleridge and Southey came to be known as the "Lake Poets".
- ❖ Through this period, many of his poems revolve around themes of death, endurance, separation and grief.

Marriage and children

- ❖ In 1802, Lowther's heir, William Lowther, 1st Earl of Lonsdale, paid the £4,000 debt owed to Wordsworth's father incurred through Lowther's failure to pay his aide.
- ❖ It was this repayment that afforded Wordsworth the financial means to marry, and on October 4, following his visit with Dorothy to France to arrange matters with Annette, Wordsworth married a childhood friend, Mary Hutchinson.
- ❖ Dorothy continued to live with the couple and grew close to Mary. The following year, Mary gave birth to the first of five children, three of whom predeceased William and Mary:

The Poet Laureate and other honours:

Wordsworth received an honorary Doctor of Civil Law degree in 1838 from Durham University, and the same honour from Oxford University the next year.

- ❖ In 1842 the government awarded him a civil list pension amounting to £300 a year. With the death in 1843 of Robert Southey, Wordsworth became the Poet Laureate.



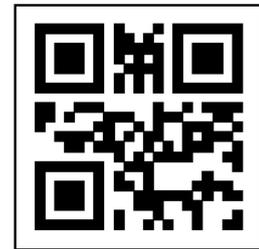
- ❖ He initially refused the honour, saying he was too old, but accepted when Prime Minister Robert Peel assured him "you shall have nothing required of you" (he became the only laureate to write no official poetry).
- ❖ When his daughter, Dora, died in 1847, his production of poetry came to a standstill.

Death:

- ❖ William Wordsworth died by re-aggravating a case of pleurisy on 23 April 1850, and was buried at St. Oswald's church in Grasmere.
- ❖ His widow Mary published his lengthy autobiographical "poem to Coleridge" as *The Prelude* several months after his death.
- ❖ Though this failed to arouse great interest in 1850, it has since come to be recognised as his masterpiece.

His Works:

- ❖ Lyrical Ballads, with a Few Other Poems (1798)
- ❖ "Simon Lee"
 - ❖ "We are Seven"
- ❖ "Lines Written in Early Spring"
- ❖ "Expostulation and Reply"
- ❖ "The Tables Turned"
- ❖ "The Thorn"
- ❖ "Lines Composed A Few Miles above Tintern Abbey"
- ❖ Lyrical Ballads, with Other Poems (1800)
- ❖ Preface to the Lyrical Ballads
- ❖ "Strange fits of passion have I known"
- ❖ "She Dwelt among the Untrodden Ways"
- ❖ "Three years she grew"
- ❖ "A Slumber Did my Spirit Seal"
- ❖ "I travelled among unknown men"
- ❖ "Lucy Gray"
- ❖ "The Two April Mornings"



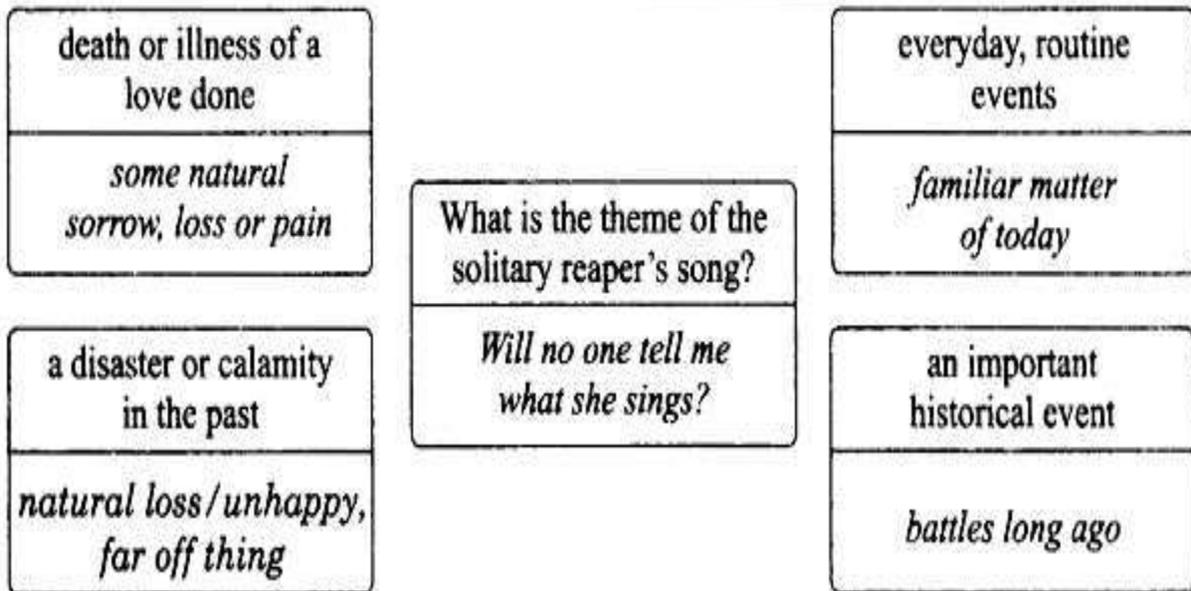
- ❖ "Nutting"
- ❖ "The Ruined Cottage"
- ❖ "Michael"
- ❖ "The Kitten At Play"
- ❖ Poems, in Two Volumes (1807)
- ❖ "Resolution and Independence"
- ❖ "I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud" Also known as "Daffodils"
- ❖ "My Heart Leaps Up"
- ❖ "Ode: Intimations of Immortality"
- ❖ "Ode to Duty"
- ❖ "The Solitary Reaper"
- ❖ "Elegiac Stanzas"
- ❖ "Composed upon Westminster Bridge, September 3, 1802"
- ❖ "London, 1802"
- ❖ "The World Is Too Much with Us"
- ❖ Guide to the Lakes (1810)
- ❖ " To the Cuckoo "
- ❖ The Excursion (1814)
- ❖ Laodamia (1815, 1845)
- ❖ The Prelude (1850)

4.1.3. The Solitary Reaper (text):

Behold her, single in the field,
 Yon solitary Highland Lass!
 Reaping and singing by herself;
 Stop here, or gently pass!
 Alone she cuts and binds the grain,
 And sings a melancholy strain;
 O listen! for the Vale profound

Is overflowing with the sound.
No Nightingale did ever chaunt
More welcome notes to weary bands
Of travellers in some shady haunt,
Among Arabian sands:
A voice so thrilling ne'er was heard
In spring-time from the Cuckoo-bird,
Breaking the silence of the seas
Among the farthest Hebrides.
Will no one tell me what she sings?—
Perhaps the plaintive numbers flow
For old, unhappy, far-off things,
And battles long ago:
Or is it some more humble lay,
Familiar matter of to-day?
Some natural sorrow, loss, or pain,
That has been, and may be again?
Whate'er the theme, the Maiden sang
As if her song could have no ending;
I saw her singing at her work,
And o'er the sickle bending; -
I listened, motionless and still;
And, as I mounted up the hill,
The music in my heart I bore,
Long after it was heard no more.

Theme:



4.1.4. Popularity of "The Solitary Reaper":

- ❖ William Wordsworth, a renowned English romantic poet wrote 'The Solitary Reaper'.
- ❖ It was first published in 1807.
- ❖ The poem speaks about the hidden sorrow of a young girl who sings while working in the field.
- ❖ It also illustrates how that sweet melody captures the speaker's heart and provides him with a never-ending bliss.



Introduction

- ❖ **The Solitary Reaper** by William Wordsworth is a romantic ballad poem that is set in the rural area.
- ❖ According to Must See Scotland, Wordsworth got inspiration to write the poem from a village in Scotland which he visited along with his sister in 1803. Below is the picture of that place.
- ❖ The poem has been divided into four stanzas having 8 lines each and it follows a rhyme scheme of ABABCCDD.

4.1.5. Stanza wise Summary:

Stanza: 1

- ❖ The poet says that one day while traveling, he sees a *lass* (girl) far away on **highland** i.e. hilly area who was alone there. She is **reaping** the crops and **singing songs by herself**.
- ❖ The poet asks the passersby to **stop** there and listen to her or **gently pass** i.e. go away silently without disturbing her. The solitary reaper is cutting and binding the grains and also singing a **melancholy strain** (sad song).
- ❖ The poet asks the passersby to listen to her as her song is so melodious and sad that the whole **Vale profound** (deep valley) is echoing with it.

Stanza: 2

- ❖ In the second stanza, the poet compares the voice of the solitary reaper with that of the nightingale. Note that in Romantic Poetry the sound of the nightingale is described as very melodious and welcoming.
- ❖ Before going forward let us try understanding the concept of Arabian Sands mentioned in this stanza. In Arab, they are deserts in which it takes months for people to cross them. Many times they forget the way or die because of the extreme heat of thirst.
- ❖ In such a desert, if **weary bands** i.e. tired travelers who may be taking rest under **shady haunt** (i.e. shade of desert tree) happen to hear the nightingale's **chaunting** (chanting), it will be the most joyful voice for them because they will come to know that it is the end of the dread desert.
- ❖ The poet says that the voice of solitary reaper is more melodious and sweeter than that of nightingale's voice mentioned above. Just think what brilliant example the poet has given!
- ❖ Now the poet compares the singing of solitary reaper with the voice of **Cuckoo-bird**. According to the poet, the voice of solitary reaper was so melodious that he never **heard** it **from the Cuckoo-bird in spring-time** which breaks **the silence of the seas among the farthest Hebrides** (a group of 500 islands in Scotland).
- ❖ Again, here the poet is using the brilliant image. Just imagine how delighting the voice of nightingale would be in a dead silent sea after long winter. Again, according the poet, the voice of solitary reaper is better even that sound of Cuckoo.

Stanza: 3

- ❖ In this stanza, the poet is expressing his unfamiliarity with the language of the song sung by the solitary reaper. He wonders if there is anyone who will be able to **tell** him **what she** is singing.
- ❖ He guesses that it might be **plaintive numbers** i.e. sad and mournful song in her own language (that of Scotland) which are about **unhappy** past or lost **things** or some **battle** which might have taken place **long ago**.
- ❖ The poet again guesses that the song can also be about **humble lay** i.e. of ordinary nature and day to day matters. It can be **some natural sorrow** or **loss** or **pain** which might have taken place in her life recently or she might fear for facing it **again**.

Stanza 4

- ❖ In the final stanza, the poet says that **whatever** may be **the theme** of the song sung by **the maiden** (that solitary reaper), she sang so sweetly and profoundly that the poet wished it would never end.
- ❖ The poet repeats the beginning scene. According to him, he **saw her singing at her work** (reaping the crops) and while she was **bending her sickle over** the crops.
- ❖ He listened to her silently and without making any movement. However, when he started traveling up the hill, he could not hear her and the music was inscribed in his heart.

UNIT-IV - BRITISH LITERATURE - II

IMPORTANT MCQS (100)

1. Match the poem with the opening lines:

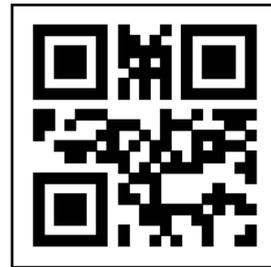
- (a) "Ode to Psyche" (i) "My heart aches, and a drowsy numbness pains
My sense, as though of hemlock I had drunk,"
- (b) "Ode on a Grecian Urn" (ii) "No, no, go not to Lethe, neither twist
Wolfs-bane, tight-rooted, for its poisonous wine,"
- (c) "Ode to a Nightingale" (iii) "Thou still unravish'd bride of quietness,
Thou foster-child of silence and slow time,"
- (d) "Ode on Melancholy" (iv) "O Goddess! hear these tuneless numbers,
By sweet enforcement and remembrance dear,"

(A) (a)-(iv), (b)-(iii), (c)-(i), (d)-(ii)

(B) (a)-(iv), (b)-(i), (c)-(iii), (d)-(ii)

(C) (a)-(i), (b)-(iii), (c)-(ii), (d)-(iv)

(D) (a)-(iii), (b)-(iv), (c)-(ii), (d)-(i)



2. The setting of the poem solitary reaper is in

- (A) America (B) Australia (C) New Zealand (D) Scotland

3. Why was Wordsworth accused of being a 'Lost Leader'?

- (A) Because he accepted the post of the Poet Laureateship of England
(B) Because he started refuting the established poetic theories
(C) Because he gave up the cause of supporting the French Revolution
(D) None

4. Who would be called the English Homer and father of English poetry?

- (A) Bede (B) Sir Thomas Malory
(C) Geoffrey Chaucer (D) Caedmon

5. Which of the following literary sub-periods does NOT fall under the Neoclassical Period?

- (A) The Restoration (B) Jacobean Age
(C) The Augustan Age (D) The Age of Sensibility

6. Historical events often influence literature. Which of the following did NOT occur during the Restoration period?

- (A) Charles Was restored to the throne (B) The French Revolution
(C) The Great Fire of London (D) The Exclusion Bill Crisis

7. A half-sentence in Purchas his Pilgrimage triggered off "Kubla Khan". Whose work was Purchas his Pilgrimage?

- (A) Robert Herrick, the poet's
(B) John Hakluyt's, the collector of traveller's tales
(C) Samuel Purchas, the London Parson's
(D) Edward Purchas, the globe-trotter's

8. Who of the following was not a contemporary of Wordsworth and Coleridge?

- (A) Robert Southey (B) Sir Walter Scott
(C) William Hazlitt (D) A. C. Swinburne

9. "Kubla Khan" takes an epigraph from

- (A) Samuel Purchas' Purchas His Pilgrimage (B) Hakluyt's Voyages
(C) The Book Named the Governour (D) Sir Thomas More's Utopia

10. Which of the following poems uses terzarima?

- (A) John Keats's "Ode to a Nightingale"
(B) P.B. Shelley's "Ode to the West Wind"
(C) William Wordsworth's "The Solitary Reaper"
(D) Alfred Tennyson's "Ulysses"

11. Whom did Keats regard as the prime example of 'negative capability'?
- (A) John Milton (B) William Wordsworth
(C) William Shakespeare (D) P.B. Shelley
12. The works of Gerard Manley Hopkins were published posthumously by
- (A) Edwin Muir (B) Edward Thomas
(C) Robert Bridges (D) Coventry Patmore
13. Which of the following is the correct chronological sequence?
- (A) A Poison Tree – The Deserted Village – The Blessed Damozel– Ozymandias
(B) The Deserted Village – A Poison Tree – Ozymandias – The Blessed Damozel
(C) The Blessed Damozel – A Poison Tree – The Deserted Village – Ozymandias
(D) The Deserted Village – The Blessed Damozel – Ozymandias – A Poison Tree
14. Confessions of an English Opium Eater is a literary work by
- (A) S. T. Coleridge (B) P. B. Shelley
(C) Thomas De Quincey (D) Lord Byron
15. In his distinction between imagination and fancy, Coleridge identifies the following:
- (a) it dissolves, diffuses, dissipates, in order to recreate.
(b) it has aggregative and associative power.
(c) it plays with fixities and definites.
(d) it has shaping and modifying power.

The correct combination reads:

- (A) (a) and (b) for fancy; (c) and (d) for imagination.
(B) (a) and (c) for fancy; (b) and (d) for imagination.
(C) (b) and (c) for fancy; (a) and (d) for imagination.
(D) (c) and (d) for fancy; (a) and (b) for imagination.



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UNIT – V

AMERICAN LITERATURE

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UG TRB – ENGLISH – 2022-23

UNIT - V

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UNIT – V - AMERICAN LITERATURE

5.1. SELF-RELIANCE

-R.W. Emerson

- ❖ Ralph Waldo Emerson (May 25, 1803- April 27, 1882) was an American essayist, poet, and philosopher. Emerson is known as one of the leaders of the transcendentalist movement, which reached its height in mid-19th century New England.
- ❖ With its emphasis on the dignity of the individual, equality, hard work, and respect for nature, Emerson's work remains influential and pertinent to this day.
- ❖ Known For: Founder and leader of the transcendentalist movement

Born : May 25, 1803 in Boston, Massachusetts

Parents : Ruth Haskins and Rev. William Emerson

Died : April 27, 1882 in Concord, Massachusetts

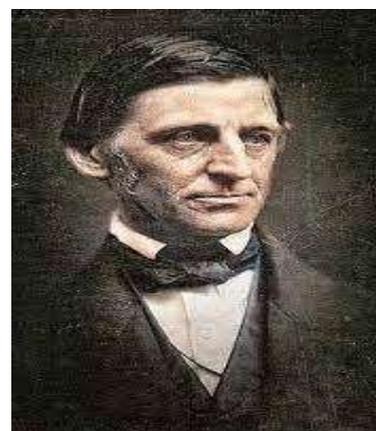
Education: Boston Latin School, Harvard College

Selected Published Works: Nature (1832), "The American Scholar" (1837), "Divinity School Address" (1838),

Essays: First Series, including "Self-Reliance" and "The Over-Soul" (1841),

Essays: Second Series (1844)

Spouse(s): Ellen Louisa Tucker (m. 1829-her death in 1831), Lidian Jackson (m. 1835-his death in 1882)



Children: Waldo, Ellen, Edith, Edward Waldo

Notable Quote: "Let me admonish you, first of all, to go alone: to refuse the good models, even those which are sacred in the imagination of men, and dare to love God without mediator or veil."

He lost his father at an early age:

- ❖ Emerson's father, Reverend William Emerson, was a prominent Boston resident who worked as a Unitarian minister. But he didn't focus solely on matters of God and religion.
- ❖ William Emerson also organized meetings of intellectuals, bringing together open-minded people from a variety of backgrounds to discuss philosophy, science, and books. Unfortunately, Emerson's father died of either stomach cancer or tuberculosis in 1811, when Emerson was just 7 years old. Emerson's mother, Ruth, and his aunts raised him and his five remaining siblings (a brother and sister had previously died young).

He was Harvard's class poet

- ❖ After studying at the Boston Latin School (which is now the oldest school in the U.S.), Emerson began college at 14, a common occurrence at the time.
- ❖ At Harvard College, he learned Latin, Greek, geometry, physics, history, and philosophy. In 1821, after four years of studying there, Emerson agreed to write and deliver a poem for Harvard's Class Day (then called Valedictorian Day), a pre-graduation event.

He ran a school for girls:

- ❖ After graduating from Harvard, Emerson went home to teach young women. His older brother, William, ran a school for girls in their mother's Boston home, and Emerson helped him teach students.
- ❖ Later, when William left to study in Germany, Emerson ran the school himself. He reportedly disliked teaching, though, so he moved on to plan B: grad school.

Then he switched gears and became a minister:

- ❖ In 1825, Emerson enrolled at Harvard Divinity School. He decided to become a minister, following in his father's (and grandfather's) footsteps.

- ❖ Despite struggling with vision problems and failing to graduate from his program, Emerson became licensed to preach in 1826. He then worked at a Unitarian church in Boston.

He was friends with Napoleon Bonaparte's nephew:

- ❖ In late 1826, Emerson wasn't feeling well. He suffered from tuberculosis, joint pain, and vision problems, so he followed medical advice and went south for a warmer climate near the ocean.
- ❖ After spending time in Charleston, South Carolina, Emerson headed to St. Augustine, Florida, where he preached and wrote poetry.
- ❖ He also met and befriended Prince Achille Murat, the nephew of the former French emperor Napoleon Bonaparte, who had renounced his European titles (though his father had already been overthrown) and immigrated to the United States. Murat was also a writer, and the two young men reportedly discussed religion, politics, and philosophy.

His young wife died of tuberculosis:

- ❖ When Emerson was 26, he married 18-year-old Ellen Louisa Tucker. The newlyweds lived happily in Boston, but Tucker was suffering from tuberculosis.
- ❖ Emerson's mother helped take care of her son's ailing wife, but in 1831, less than two years after getting married, Ellen passed away. Emerson dealt with his grief by writing in his journals ("Will the eye that was closed on Tuesday ever beam again in the fullness of love on me? Shall I ever be able to connect the face of outward nature, the mists of the morn, the star of eve, the flowers and all poetry with the heart and life of an enchanting friend? No.
- ❖ There is one birth and baptism and one first love and the affections cannot keep their youth any more than men."), traveling, and visiting her grave. The next year, after an extended period of soul-searching, he decided to leave the ministry to become a secular thinker.

He gave more than 1500 lectures, which made him rich:

- ❖ In 1833, Emerson turned his love of writing into a career as a frequent lecturer. He traveled around New England reading his essays and speaking to audiences about his views on nature, the role of religion, and his travels.

- ❖ In 1838, Emerson gave one of his most famous talks, a commencement speech to graduating students of the Harvard Divinity School. His "Divinity School Address" was radical and controversial at the time, since he expressed his Transcendentalist views of individual power over religious doctrine.
- ❖ He also argued that Jesus Christ was not God, a heretical idea at the time. In cities such as Boston, he paid his own money to rent a hall and advertise his speaking event.
- ❖ Emerson packaged some of his lectures into a series, speaking on a certain theme for several events. Ticket sales were high, and the "Sage of Concord" was able to support his family and buy land thanks to his lectures.

He criticized Jane Austen's writing:

- ❖ Although many readers love Jane Austen's novels, Emerson was not a fan. In his notebooks (published posthumously), he criticized her characters' single-minded focus on marriage in *Pride and Prejudice* and *Persuasion*.
- ❖ He also called Austen's writing vulgar in tone and sterile in creativity. "I am at a loss to understand why people hold Miss Austen's novels at so high a rate," he wrote. "Never was life so pinched and so narrow ... Suicide is more respectable."

He named his daughter after his first wife:

- ❖ In 1835, Emerson married Lydia Jackson (nickname: Lidian), an abolitionist and animal rights activist. The couple had four children—Waldo, Ellen, Edith, and Edward—and they named their first daughter Ellen Tucker to honor Emerson's first wife. Besides naming his daughter after her, Emerson also kept his first wife's rocking chair to remind himself of his love for her.

He Greatly Influenced Henry David Thoreau:

- ❖ No biography of writer and thinker Henry David Thoreau would be complete without mentioning Emerson's impact on the "Civil Disobedience" essayist. Emerson gave Thoreau housing and money, encouraged him to keep a journal, and let him have land to build a cabin on Walden Pond.
- ❖ The two friends often discussed Transcendentalism, and Thoreau thought of Emerson's wife Lidian as a sister. Although they had some intellectual disagreements, Emerson gave the eulogy at Thoreau's 1862 funeral.

Louisa May Alcott had a crush on him:

- ❖ Emerson was friends and neighbors with Amos Bronson Alcott, the father of the *Little Women* author. Louisa May Alcott grew up surrounded by Emerson, Thoreau, and other Transcendentalist thinkers, and their works greatly influenced her.
- ❖ Emerson lent her books from his library and taught her about the joys of nature. She apparently wrote about her crushes on the much-older Emerson and Thoreau in one of her earliest works, a novel called *Moods*, and she was known to leave wildflowers near the front door of Emerson's house.

Meeting Abraham Lincoln changed his mind about the president:

- ❖ Emerson wrote and lectured about the evils of slavery, and he frequently criticized President Lincoln for not doing enough to end it. In 1862, Emerson gave an anti-slavery lecture in Washington, D.C., and was invited to the White House to meet Lincoln.
- ❖ After the meeting, Emerson praised Lincoln's charisma and storytelling ability ("When he has made his remark, he looks up at you with a great satisfaction, and shows all his white teeth, and laughs"), saying that the president "impressed me more favorably than I had hoped." Emerson also called Lincoln a sincere, well-meaning man with a boyish cheerfulness and clarity in speech.



He praised Walt Whitman when few others would, but felt burned when Whitman published his private letters:

1. Emerson's letter to Walt Whitman, dated 21 July, 1855: "I am not blind to the worth of the wonderful gift of 'Leaves of Grass.' I find it the most extraordinary piece of wit and wisdom that America has yet contributed." / U.S. Library of Congress, Wikimedia Commons // Public Domain
- ❖ After reading one of Emerson's poems, Walt Whitman felt inspired. In 1855, he self-published *Leaves of Grass* and sent a copy to Emerson. The controversial collection of poems by the unknown poet got horrible reviews—it was routinely called obscene and profane, and one critic called it "a mass of stupid filth." Sales were dismal.

- ❖ But Emerson read the book and wrote a laudatory letter to Whitman, calling the work a "wonderful gift" and "the most extraordinary piece of wit and wisdom that America has yet contributed."

He Suffered from Memory Problems Late In Life:

- ❖ In the early 1870s, Emerson began forgetting things. Given his symptoms, most historians think Emerson suffered from Alzheimer's, aphasia, or dementia. Although he had difficulty recalling certain words, he continued to lecture until a few years before his death.
- ❖ Despite forgetting his own name and the names of his friends, Emerson reportedly kept a positive attitude towards his declining mental faculties (much as his first wife did while she was dying of tuberculosis).

He helped design the cemetery he's buried in:

- ❖ When Emerson died of pneumonia in 1882, he was buried on "Author's Ridge" in Concord's Sleepy Hollow Cemetery (not the same Sleepy Hollow as in the famed Washington Irving story)—a cemetery that was designed with Emerson's Transcendentalist, nature-loving aesthetics in mind.



- ❖ In 1855, as a member of the Concord Cemetery Committee, Emerson gave the dedication at the opening of the cemetery, calling it a "garden of the living" that would be a peaceful place for both visitors and permanent residents.
- ❖ "Author's Ridge" became a burial ground for many of the most famous American authors who called Concord home—Louisa May Alcott, Henry David Thoreau, Nathaniel Hawthorne, and, of course, Ralph Waldo Emerson.

About title:

- ❖ "Self-Reliance" is an 1841 essay written by American transcendentalist philosopher Ralph Waldo Emerson. It contains the most thorough statement of one of Emerson's recurrent themes: the need for each individual to avoid conformity and false consistency, and follow his own instincts and ideas.

Historical Context of Self-Reliance:

- ❖ “Self-Reliance” and transcendentalism in general reflect a movement to reform the Unitarian religious tradition of Emerson’s childhood and early adult life.
- ❖ Like many of the older faiths of early America, Unitarianism was attacked in the early 1800s because it failed to provide an emotionally satisfying experience for its adherents and it didn’t offer relevant guidance on how to function in a US that was undergoing rapid cultural changes and confronting important political issues, including slavery and the rights of women.
- ❖ Emerson’s work also reflects the influence of Romanticism, a nineteenth century literary movement that celebrated the importance of the individual, imagination, and irrationality.

Other Books Related to Self-Reliance:

- ❖ Emerson’s “Nature,” published in 1836, offered one of the earliest formulations of the ideas later developed fully in “Self-Reliance.” Emerson’s influence is also reflected in the work of other members of the Transcendentalist Club.
- ❖ Henry David Thoreau, arguably the most famous of Emerson’s peers, wrote Walden Pond, or Life in the Woods, (often called just Walden) in 1854.
- ❖ In the work, he recounts how his retreat into nature and solitude allowed him to become a more self-reliant individual and thus enabled him to live out the abstract notions expressed in Emerson’s essay.
- ❖ Margaret Fuller, a woman whose association with the Transcendentalist Club went against the grain of nineteenth century intellectual subordination of women, published “The Great Lawsuit. Man versus Men. Woman versus Women” in 1845 in The Dial, the journal of the Transcendentalist Club.
- ❖ Her work offered a feminist critique of women’s roles and was grounded in important transcendentalist ideas about individualism.

Key Facts about Self-Reliance:

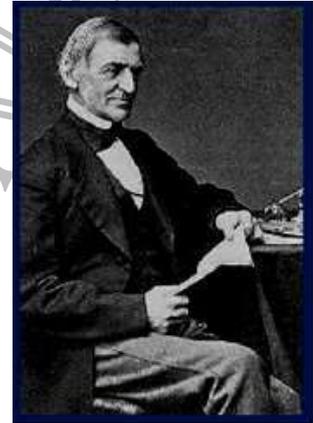
- ❖ Full Title : “Self-Reliance”
- ❖ When Written : 1832 to 1841
- ❖ Where Written : Concord and Boston, Massachusetts
- ❖ When Published : 1841



- ❖ **Literary Period** : American Transcendentalism, American Romanticism
- ❖ **Genre** : Essay, philosophical text
- ❖ **Antagonist** : Conformity
- Point of View** : Multiple points of view, including first-person, second-person, and third-person

Ralph Waldo Emerson (Self-Reliance) - 1841

- ❖ Born in 1803, the son of conservative Unitarian Minister.
- ❖ Father died when he was eight, leaving family in meagre circumstances.
- ❖ Influenced by an eccentric aunt, who encouraged his education and broadminded thinking.
- ❖ Attended Harvard at age 14, graduating at 18 and working as a school master before studying theology.
- ❖ Ordained as Junior Pastor of Boston's Second Church (1829) where Cotton and Increase Mather preached more than a century before.
- ❖ Married Ellen Tucker who died of tuberculosis sixteen months later.
- ❖ Resigned his pastorate in 1832, because of his scepticism with the theological doctrine such as the Lord's Supper.
- ❖ Travelled to Europe meeting well-known writers, Coleridge, William Wordsworth and Thomas Carlyle.
- ❖ Moved to Concord, Massachusetts, began lecturing and writing.
- ❖ Married Lydia Jackson; fathered four children. His first born, Waldo, died in 182 at age 5.



“Self-Reliance” Key Points:

- ❖ Urges his readers to follow their individual will instead of conforming to social expectations.
- ❖ Emphasizes following one's own voice rather than an intermediary's, such as the church.
- ❖ Encourages his readers to be honest in their relationships with others.

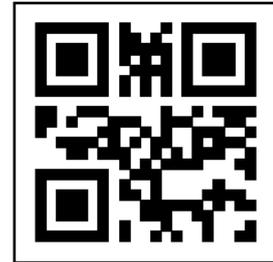
- ❖ Posits the effects of self-reliance: altering religious practices, encouraging Americans to stay at home and develop their own culture, and focusing on individual rather than societal progress.

Ralph Waldo Emerson *Essays, First Series* [1841] Self-Reliance Text

"Man is his own star; and the soul that can
Render an honest and a perfect man,
Commands all light, all influence, all fate;
Nothing to him falls early or too late.
Our acts our angels are, or good or ill,
Our fatal shadows that walk by us still."

Epilogue to Beaumont and Fletcher's *Honest Man's Fortune*

Cast the bantling on the rocks,
Suckle him with the she-wolf's teat"
Wintered with the hawk and fox,
Power and speed be hands and feet.



- ❖ I read the other day some verses written by an eminent painter which were original and not conventional. The soul always hears an admonition in such lines, let the subject be what it may. The sentiment they instill is of more value than any thought they may contain. To believe our own thought, to believe that what is true for you in your private heart is true for all men, -- that is genius. Speak your latent conviction, and it shall be the universal sense; for the inmost in due time becomes the outmost, --and our first thought, is rendered back to us by the trumpets of the Last Judgment. Familiar as the voice of the mind is to each, the highest merit we ascribe to Moses, Plato, and Milton is, that they set at naught books and traditions, and spoke not what men but what they thought. A man should learn to detect and watch that gleam of light which flashes across his mind from within, more than the luster of the firmament of bards and sages. Yet he dismisses without notice his thought, because it is his. In every work of genius, we recognize majesty. Great works of art have no more affecting lesson for us than this. They teach us to abide by our spontaneous impression with good-humored inflexibility then most when the whole cry of voices is on the other side. Else, to-morrow a stranger will say

with masterly good sense precisely what we have thought and felt all the time, and we shall be forced to take with shame our own opinion from another.

- ❖ There is a time in every man's education when he arrives at the conviction that envy is ignorance; that imitation is suicide; that he must take himself for better, for worse, as his portion; that though the wide universe is full of good, no kernel of nourishing corn can come to him but through his toil bestowed on that plot of ground which is given to him to till. The power which resides in him is new in nature, and none but he knows what that is which he can do, nor does he know until he has tried. Not for nothing one face, one character, one fact, makes much impression on him, and another none. This sculpture in the memory is not without preestablished harmony. The eye was placed where one ray should fall, that it might testify of that particular ray. We but half express ourselves, and are ashamed of that divine idea which each of us represents. It may be safely trusted as proportionate and of good issues, so it be faithfully imparted, but God will not have his work made manifest by cowards. A man is relieved and gay when he has put his heart into his work and done his best; but what he has said or done otherwise, shall give him no peace. It is a deliverance which does not deliver. In the attempt his genius deserts him; no muse befriends; no invention, no hope.
- ❖ Trust thyself: every heart vibrates to that iron string. Accept the place the divine providence has found for you, the society of your contemporaries, the connection of events. Great men have always done so, and confided themselves childlike to the genius of their age, betraying their perception that the absolutely trustworthy was seated at their heart, working through their hands, predominating in all their being. And we are now men, and must accept in the highest mind the same transcendent destiny; and not minors and invalids in a protected corner, not cowards fleeing before a revolution, but guides, redeemers, and benefactors, obeying the Almighty effort, and advancing on Chaos and the Dark.
- ❖ What pretty oracles nature yields us on this text, in the face and behaviour of children, babes, and even brutes! That divided and rebel mind, that distrust of a sentiment because our arithmetic has computed the strength and means opposed to our purpose, these have not. Their mind being whole, their eye is as yet unconquered, and when we look in their faces, we are disconcerted. Infancy conforms to nobody: all conform to it, so that one babe commonly makes four or five out of the adults who prattle and play to it. So God has armed youth and puberty and manhood no less with its own piquancy and charm, and made it

enviable and gracious and its claims not to be put by, if it will stand by itself. Do not think the youth has no force, because he cannot speak to you and me. Hark! in the next room his voice is sufficiently clear and emphatic. It seems he knows how to speak to his contemporaries. Bashful or bold, then, he will know how to make us seniors very unnecessary.

- ❖ The nonchalance of boys who are sure of a dinner, and would disdain as much as a lord to do or say ought to conciliate one, is the healthy attitude of human nature. A boy is in the parlour what the pit is in the playhouse; independent, irresponsible, looking out from his corner on such people and facts as pass by, he tries and sentences them on their merits, in the swift, summary way of boys, as good, bad, interesting, silly, eloquent, troublesome. He cumbers himself never about consequences, about interests: he gives an independent, genuine verdict. You must court him: he does not court you. But the man is, as it were, clapped into jail by his consciousness. As soon as he has once acted or spoken with éclat, he is a committed person, watched by the sympathy or the hatred of hundreds, whose affections must now enter into his account. There is no Lethe for this. Ah, that he could pass again into his neutrality! Who can thus avoid all pledges, and having observed, observe again from the same unaffected, unbiased, unbribable, unflinching innocence, must always be formidable? He would utter opinions on all passing affairs, which being seen to be not private, but necessary, would sink like darts into the ear of men, and put them in fear.
- ❖ These are the voices which we hear in solitude, but they grow faint and inaudible as we enter into the world. Society everywhere is in conspiracy against the manhood of every one of its members. Society is a joint-stock company, in which the members agree, for the better securing of his bread to each shareholder, to surrender the liberty and culture of the eater. The virtue in most request is conformity. Self-reliance is its aversion. It loves not realities and creators, but names and customs.
- ❖ Whoso would be a man must be a nonconformist. He who would gather immortal palms must not be hindered by the name of goodness, but must explore if it be goodness. Nothing is at last sacred but the integrity of your own mind. Absolve you to yourself, and you shall have the suffrage of the world. I remember an answer which when quite young I was prompted to make to a valued adviser, who was wont to importune me with the dear old doctrines of the church. On my saying, what have I to do with the sacredness of traditions, if I live wholly from within? my

friend suggested, --"But these impulses may be from below, not from above." I replied, "They do not seem to me to be such; but if I am the Devil's child, I will live then from the Devil." No law can be sacred to me but that of my nature. Good and bad are but names very readily transferable to that or this; the only right is what is after my constitution, the only wrong what is against it. A man is to carry himself in the presence of all opposition, as if everything were titular and ephemeral but he. I am ashamed to think how easily we capitulate to badges and names, to large societies and dead institutions. Every decent and well-spoken individual affect and sways me more than is right. I ought to go upright and vital, and speak the rude truth in all ways. If malice and vanity wear the coat of philanthropy, shall that pass? If an angry bigot assumes this bountiful cause of Abolition, and comes to me with his last news from Barbados, why should I not say to him, 'Go love thy infant; love thy wood-chopper: be good-natured and modest: have that grace; and never varnish your hard, uncharitable ambition with this incredible tenderness for black folk a thousand miles off. Thy love afar is spite at home.' Rough and graceless would be such greeting, but truth is handsomer than the affectation of love. Your goodness must have some edge to it,--else it is none. The doctrine of hatred must be preached as the counteraction of the doctrine of love when that pules and whines. I shun father and mother and wife and brother, when my genius calls me. I would write on the lintels of the door-post, Whim. I hope it is somewhat better than whim at last, but we cannot spend the day in explanation. Expect me not to show cause why I seek or why I exclude company. Then, again, do not tell me, as a good man did to-day, of my obligation to put all poor men in good situations. Are they my poor? I tell thee, thou foolish philanthropist, that I grudge the dollar, the dime, the cent, I give to such men as do not belong to me and to whom I do not belong. There is a class of persons to whom by all spiritual affinity I am bought and sold; for them I will go to prison, if need be; but your miscellaneous popular charities; the education at college of fools; the building of meeting-houses to the vain end to which many now stand; alms to sots; and the thousandfold Relief Societies;--though I confess with shame I sometimes succumb and give the dollar, it is a wicked Dollar which by and by I shall have the manhood to withhold.

UNIT – V

AMERICAN LITERATURE

IMPORTANT QUESTIONS:

1. List – I

List – II

I) “Because I could not stop for death...”

a) Robert Frost

II) “O Captain ! My Captain!”

b) William Carlos Williams

III) “Two roads diverged in a wood....”

c) Emily Dickinson

IV) “So much depends /upon”

d) Walt Whitman

The correctly matched series would be :

(A) I-d; II-c; III-b; IV-a (B) I-a; II-b; III-c; IV-d

(C) I-b; II-a; III-d; IV-c (D) I-c; II-d; III-a; IV-b



2. Which American poet wrote: “I sound my barbaric yawp over the roofs of the world”?

(A) Robert Lowell

(B) Walt Whitman

(C) Wallace Stevens

(D) Langston Hughes

3. Which of the following is NOT TRUE of Ralph Waldo Emerson?

(A) He wrote essays on New England scenery, woodcraft and plantations.

(B) He was an eloquent pulpit orator, a member of the Unitarian Church under William Chawming.

(C) In essays like “Nature”, he elaborates on the importance of seeing familiar things in new ways.

(D) His famous “American Scholar” was delivered as an address before the Phi Beta Kappa Society at Cambridge in 1837.

4. Match List-I with List-II according to the codes given below:

List – I

List – II

I) Tennessee Williams

1) Emperor Jones

II) Eugene O’Neill

2) A Streetcar Named Desire

III) Lorraine Hansberry

3) After the Fall

IV) Arthur Miller

4) A Raisin in the Sun

	I	II	III	IV
(A)	3	1	4	2
(B)	1	3	2	4
(C)	4	2	3	1
(D)	2	1	4	3

5. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other labelled as Reason (R):

Assertion (A): In the 1950s and 60s Baldwin and Ellison returned to universal themes and focused on innovations in literary forms.

Reason (R): In the 1930s and 40s African and American Literature was mostly preoccupied with protest.

In the context of the above statements, which one of the following is correct?

Code:

- (A) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).
- (B) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).
- (C) (A) is true, but (R) is false.
- (D) (A) is false, but (R) is true.

6. Match the following:

- | | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1) The Sage of Concord | a) Emily Dickinson | (A) 1-b; 2-a; 3-d; 4-c |
| 2) The Nun of Amherst | b) R.W. Emerson | (B) 1-a; 2-b; 3-c; 4-d |
| 3) Mark Twain | c) T.S. Eliot | (C) 1-d; 2-c; 3-b; 4-a |
| 4) Old Possum | d) Samuel L. Clemens | (D) 1-c; 2-d; 3-a; 4-b |

7. Arrange the following sentences in the order in which they appear in Emerson's Self-Reliance.

- (a) To be great is to be misunderstood.
- (b) Pythagoras was misunderstood, and Socrates, and Jesus, and Luther, and Copernicus, and Galileo, and Newton, and every pure and wise spirit that ever took flesh.
- (c) If it so bad then to he misunderstood!
- (d) It is a right fool's word.
- (e) Misunderstood!

Code:

- (A) (a), (e), (d), (c), (b)
- (B) (e), (a), (b), (c), (d)
- (C) (c), (d), (a), (b), (e)
- (D) (e), (d), (c), (b), (a)

8. Identify the right chronological sequence:

- (A) The American Pastoral- Sister Carrie - The Great Gatsby-Beloved
- (B) The Great Gatsby - Sister Carrie - Beloved – The American Pastoral
- (C) Sister Carrie - The Great Gatsby - Beloved- The American Pastoral
- (D) Sister Carrie - The Great Gatsby - The American Pastoral – Beloved

9. What common link do you find among "The Disquieting Muses" by Sylvia Plath, "The Starry Night" by Anne Sexton, "Mourning Picture" by Adrienne Rich, and "Musee des Beaux Arts" by W.H. Auden?

- (A) They inspired paintings.
- (B) They are confessional poems.
- (C) They are all inspired by paintings.
- (D) They are all inspired by Van Gogh's paintings.

10. Which of the following options is correct?

- (i) Transcendentalism was a philosophical and literary movement.
- (ii) It flourished in the Southern States of America in the 19th century.
- (iii) It was a reaction against 18th century rationalism and the skeptical philosophy of Locke.
- (iv) Among the major texts of Transcendentalist thought are the essays of Emerson, Thoreau's Walden and the writings of Margaret Fuller.

- (A) (1) and (iv) are correct.
- (B) (i) and (iii) are correct.
- (C) (ii) and (iv) are correct.
- (D) (iv) is correct.

11. The letter 'A' in The Scarlet Letter stands for

- I) Adultery
- II) Able
- III) Angel
- IV) Appetite

The correct combination for the statement, according to the code, is

- (A) I and II are correct.
- (B) II and III are correct.
- (C) I, II and IV are correct.
- (D) I, II and III are correct.

12. Which one of the following groups of novelists has, in the given order, Captain Ahab, Hester Prynne, Roderick Usher and Daisy Miller as characters in their novels?

- (A) Henry James, Edgar A. Poe, Nathaniel Hawthorne, Herman Melville
- (B) Herman Melville, Nathaniel Hawthorne, Edgar A. Poe, Henry James
- (C) Edgar A. Poe, Henry James, Nathaniel Hawthorne, Herman Melville
- (D) Nathaniel Hawthorne, Edgar A. Poe, Henry James, Hermar Melville

13. According to his essay 'Civil Disobedience, what two things did Thoreau learn from the night he spent in jail?

- A) He concluded that the State is ultimately weak.
- B) He realized that captivity inspires courage.
- C) He realized that the neighbors are only friends during good times.
- D) He concluded that captivity brings wisdom about human affairs.

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

- (A) A and B only (B) A and C only (C) A and D only (D) C and D only

14. Robert Frost died in

- (A) 1963 (B) 1899 (C) 1942 (D) 1932

15. Why does the narrator lose his job in the customhouse?

- (A) He is incompetent.
- (B) He spends too much time writing when he should be working.
- (C) The other inspectors dislike him personally.
- (D) A new customhouse president, who is of a different party than the narrator, is elected.



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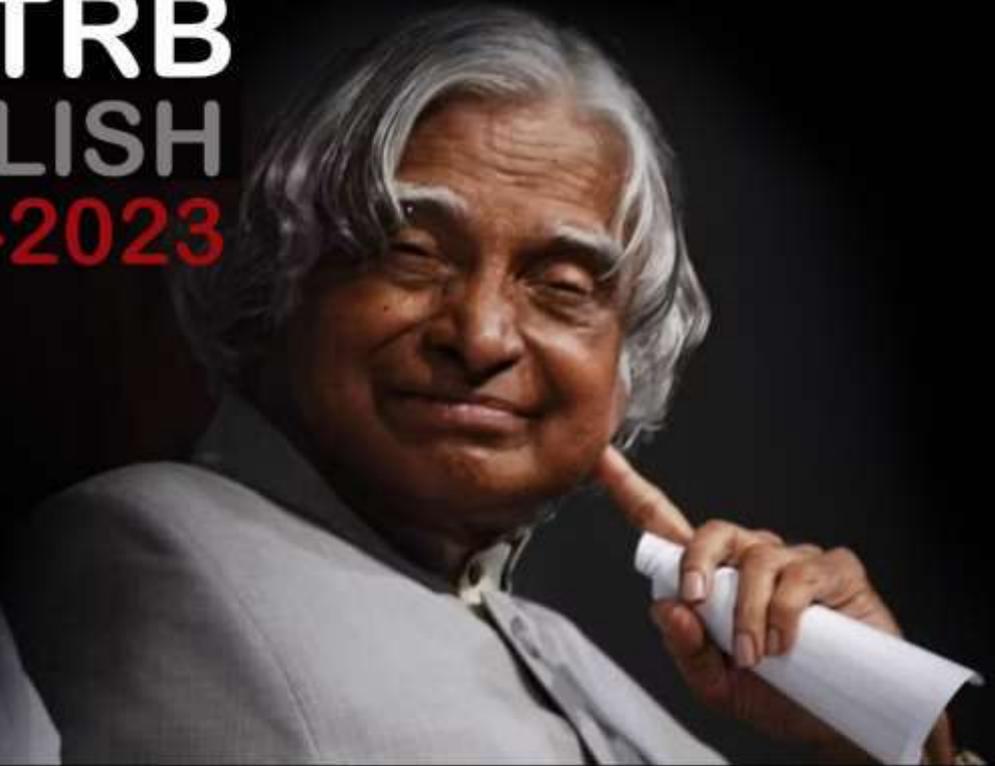
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UG TRB ENGLISH 2022-2023



UNIT - VI

INDIAN WRITING IN ENGLISH

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UG TRB – ENGLISH – 2022-23

UNIT - VI

INDIAN WRITING IN ENGLISH

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UNIT –VI

INDIAN WRITING IN ENGLISH

- Indian writing in English is a collection of work by Indian writers who write in the English language but use one of the Indian languages as a mother tongue.
- It also consists of the work of Indian writers who were born in India but residing in foreign countries.
- **Raja Rao and Salman Rushdi** are examples of such writers.
- Raja Rao was born and brought up in Mysore but settled in France.



History of Indian writing in English literature:

- ❖ History of Indian writing in English is not so old.
- ❖ Indian English literature has a relatively recent history; it is only one and half centuries old. The first book written by an Indian writer was '*The ravel of Dean Mahomet*' by Sake Dean Mahomed.
- ❖ It was published in the year 1793 in England.
- ❖ Early Indian writers used English undiluted by Indian words to convey an expression which was basically Indian.
- ❖ Raja Rao's '*Kanthapura*' is famous Indian writing in terms of storytelling qualities.
- ❖ Dhan Gopal was the first Indian author to win a literary award in the United State.
- ❖ Rabindranath Tagore wrote in Bengali and English and he was responsible for the translation of his own work into English. Nirad C. Chaurdhuri, a non-fiction writer is best known for his *The Autobiography of An Unknown Indian*, where he relates his life experiences and influences.
- ❖ Indian writing in English brings a great impact on various forms of literature like poetry, novel, play, etc. Many Indian writers considered English as a medium of expressing indigenouness in front of the world.

- ❖ In other words, some writers in Indian writing were considered English literature as a tool or method to express Indian tradition, culture, and heritage.
- ❖ Such a reflection can be seen in the works of many writers like RK Narayan, Mulk Raj, Anand Raja Rao, Arundhati Roy, Salman Rushdie, etc.
- ❖ Many Indian writers have received International recognition as well.
- ❖ Rabindranath Tagore received Nobel Prize for Gitanjali in 1936.
- ❖ Salman Rushdie received the Booker Prize for his novel, Midnight Children in 1981. Arundhati Roy received the Booker Prize for her novel, The God of Small Things in 1997.

Some notable novelists in Indian English literature are:

- ❖ RK Narayan
- ❖ Anita Desai
- ❖ Vikram Seth
- ❖ Mulk Raj Anand
- ❖ Amitav Ghosh
- ❖ Khushwant Singh
- ❖ Raja Rao
- ❖ Mahesh Dattani
- ❖ Sarojini Naidu
- ❖ Nissim Ezekiel
- ❖ Kamala surayya
- ❖ Shashi Tharoor etc.

Indian novelists can be categorized into three groups such as;

- ❖ Pre-independence novelists,
- ❖ Post-independence, and
- ❖ Women novelists.



Pre-independence Indian Novelists:

The First Indian English Novel:



- ❖ Indian English novel took birth in pre-independent era.
- ❖ Bankim Chandra Chatto Padhyaya was the first Indian writer who wrote a novel in English language.
- ❖ He was a Bengali writer.
- ❖ *Rajmohan's Wife* was the first novel, which was firstly published in Kolkata weekly, *The Indian Field*.
- ❖ In 1930, It has published in the form of a book later republished in 1990.
- ❖ It is a social novel set in a rural part of Bengal
- ❖ This novel exposes the negative impact of marriage on Indian women.
- ❖ It is a story of a Bengali woman, Matangini, who is oppressed by her husband Rajmohan.

- ❖ If we come across the early Indian novels, we have to emphasize three names, such as Mulk Raj Anand, RK Narayan, and Raja Rao.
- ❖ They were dominated in Indian English Novel before the independent era.
- ❖ Therefore they had a great influence on the development of the Indian English Novel.

Three Significant Novelists:

Mulk Raj Anand (1905-2004)

- ❖ He wrote six novels and 12 collections of short stories.
- ❖ He always expresses social commitment through his Novel.
- ❖ This means he always exposes social injustice like untouchability in front of the readers.
- ❖ The majority of his heroes or protagonists belong to the working class like sweepers, Coolies and plantation workers. For example.
 - Munoo in *Coolie* (1936).
 - Backha in *Untouchable* (1935).

Major Works.

- ❖ Untouchable (1935)
- ❖ Coolie (1936)
- ❖ The Village (1939)
- ❖ Two Leaves and a Bud (1937)
- ❖ The Big Heart (1945)

R.K.Narayan:

- ❖ Born in Madras in 1906
- ❖ He was a full-time writer and writing was considered a profession.
- ❖ He wrote 15 novels, five collections of short stories, two travel books, four collections of essays and a memoir.
- ❖ He presents a wide variety of Indian life through his literary works.

- ❖ The majority of his novels are set in an imaginary, small town, Malgudi which represents villages in South India.
- ❖ Malgudi is a fictional place that reflects Indian society with varieties of cultures, beliefs and superstitions.

R. K. NARAYAN



REMEMBERING

10 OCT 1906 – 13 MAY 2001

Indian writer known for his works set in the fictional South Indian town of Malgudi.

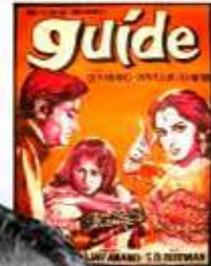
1930 Wrote his first novel - *Swami and Friends*

1958 Won Sahitya Akademi Award - *The Guide*

1964 Awarded Padma Bhushan

2001 Awarded Padma Vibhushan

The Guide (1965) won Filmfare Award for best story.



His brother & acclaimed cartoonist **R. K. Laxman** was the sketch artist for most of his work.

His major novels:

- ❖ *Swami and Friends* (1935)
- ❖ *Vendor of Sweets* (1967)
- ❖ *The English Teacher* (1945)
- ❖ *Waiting for Mahatma* (1955)

Raja Rao (1908- 2006)

- ❖ The majority of his time was spent abroad especially in Europe.
- ❖ He wrote both in English and French.
- ❖ Nationalism is one of the important themes reflected in his novels.

- ❖ **Kanthapura (1938)** his first novel.
 - It reflects on the theme of nationalism.
 - It propagates Gandhian ideology and teaching.
 - It teaches us the Gandhian way of protesting against the British administration.

Post-independence Indian Novelists:

This section talks about the novelists who belong to the post-independent period, especially male novelists. After this section, we will discuss female novelists as well.

Bhabani Bhattacharya (1906- 1988)

- ❖ Earliest novelist of the independence era.
- ❖ Wrote novels for social purposes.
- ❖ His novels are always showcasing the exploitation and cruelties of Britishers on Indians.

Novels:

- ❖ **So Many Hungers (1947)**
 - His first novel.
- ❖ **He Who Rides a Tiger (1952)**

Khushwant Singh (1915- 2014)

- ❖ Born in Hadali, now in Pakistan.
- ❖ He was a lawyer in Lahore
- ❖ He has written a few short stories, a couple of novels, etc.

Novels:

- ❖ **Train to Pakistan (1956)**
 - It brings literary fame for him.
 - It is a famous partition novel in India and Pakistan
 - It highlights the theme of partition between India and Pakistan.
 - Portrays horror and violence related to partition.
 - The novel is set in a place called Mano Majra (border of Pakistan)

- This novel shows how communal harmony is disturbed by the partition of India.

Arun Joshi (1939-1993):

- ❖ He was influenced by French writer Camus and his theory of Existentialism.
- ❖ The majority of his novels deal with existentialism.
- ❖ The majority of his works reflect the theme of conflict and self-identity

Novels:

- ❖ **The Foreigner (1968)**
- ❖ **The Strange Case of Billy Biswas (1971)**

Salman Rushdie (1947):

- ❖ Grew up in Mumbai
- ❖ Started his writing career with a science fiction, *Grimus*.
- ❖ He is a controversial figure because of his treatment of sensitive issues like religion and politics.
- ❖ He won the Booker Prize in 1991 for his Novel *Midnight Children*.
- ❖ He was selected as Bookers' Booker in 1993.

Salman Rushdie:

General Introduction: His life

- 1947 born in **Bombay**, son of a Cambridge-educated merchant of Muslim background;
- 1961 Studied in England
- 1964 moved with his family from Bombay to **Pakistan**



1989, Feb. "fatwa"

Midnight Children (1981)

- ❖ Considered his best novel.
- ❖ Awarded Booker Prize in 1991.
- ❖ In the novel, he describes the history of India from 1910 to 1971.
- ❖ In the novel, he uses the technique of magic realism.
- ❖ The novel blend of comedy and tragedy.
- ❖ There is an innovative use of language by mixing both native languages with English.
- ❖ ***Shame (1983)***

➤ It talks about contemporary Pakistan politics.

❖ ***The Satanic Verses (1988)***

➤ Another controversial novel.

Amitav Ghosh (1956):

❖ Born in Kolkata, Bengal.

❖ **The Shadow Lines (1988)**

➤ It has been written based on his own experience.

➤ This novel portrays the private and public events in three countries- India Pakistan and Bangladesh.

➤ Because he spent his life in these three countries.

➤ In the novel, he unfolded his memories one by one.

❖ **The Circle of Reason (1986)**

❖ **Hungry Tide (2004)**

Upamanyu Chatterjee 1959:

❖ Born in Patna, Bihar.

❖ Retired civil service officer.

❖ His novels are always fun and heart touching alike.

❖ He emphasizes the portrayal of the life of middle-class people.

❖ Sense of humour and amazing language are the features of his Novel.

❖ ***English, August: An Indian Story (1988)***

❖ The best novel of Upamanyu Chatterjee.

❖ He pectoris's the westernized Indians life.

❖ It tells the story of Agastya Sen, an Indian Civil Servant, who's thoughts always dominated by literature women and soft drugs.

➤ **The Last Burden (1993)**

➤ **The Memories of the Welfare State (2000)**

Vikram Seth 1952:

- ❖ Born in Kolkata, Bengal.
- ❖ He has contributed to prose, poetry and travelogues.
- ❖ He wrote some novels as well.

❖ A Suitable Boy (1994)

- This novel brought him public fame.
- Highlights the theme of communal disharmony after the partition of India.
- Apart from that, he discusses corruption and the conflict between modernity and tradition.
- It is a story of a Hindu woman, Lata and Muslim boy Kabir.
- The woman Lata has to suffer a lot between her mother's wishes and her love for a Muslim boy.



VIKRAM SETH

- BORN : 20 JUNE 1952.
- AGE : 62
- OCCUPATION : NOVELIST, POET.
- WORKS : A SUITABLE BOY, THE GOLDEN GATE, AN EQUAL MUSIC.
- AWARDS : 1983-2013 TEN, 2007 PADAM SHRI, 2013 :25 GREATEST GLOBAL LIVING LEGENDS IN INDIA.

Amith Choudhary (1962):

- ❖ Born in Kolkata, Bengal
- ❖ He has contributed to different forms such as poetry, fiction, reviews and novellas.
- ❖ He Drew characters from life in Kolkata.
- ❖ Apart from that as selected characters of his Novels from different age groups.
- ❖ **A Strange Sublime Address (1991)**
 - About life in Kolkata.
 - The 10-year-old boy is the major character in the story.
 - The novel tells the story through the eyes of 10 years old Bombay boy, Sandeep.

Women Novelists:

- ❖ After independence, there is a number of novels by women writers.
- ❖ These female writers highlight women as the central figures in their works.

- ❖ Nayantara Sahgal., Anita Desai, Ruth Praver Jhabvala, Kamala Marrkandaya, and Arundhati Roy are the some writers in the post independent period.

Kamala Markandaya (1924- 2004):

- ❖ Born in Mysore Karnataka.
- ❖ Educated at Madras.
- ❖ She is a novelist and journalist.
- ❖ After the marriage settled in London.

Major novels:

Nectar in a Sieve 1954:

- ❖ Her first novel.
- ❖ It reveals her experiences in Indian.
- ❖ It presents socio-economical changes after the 1947.
- ❖ This novel focuses on the story of a woman living in poverty in rural India.
- ❖ This story of a peasant woman, Rukmani and her love for the husband, Nathan.
- ❖ Rukmani is the protagonist of the novel, she struggles for the survival.
- ❖ It was a big commercial success.

Other Novels:

- ❖ Some Inner Fury(1955)
- ❖ A Silence of Desire (1963).
- ❖ Possession (1963)
- ❖ Nowhere Man (1972)
- ❖ The Pleasure City (1984)

UNIT-VI - INDIAN WRITING IN ENGLISH

IMPORTANT QUESTIONS

1. Which Shakespearean play was Rabindranath Tagore forced to translate at the age of fourteen as a part of his holiday homework?

- A) Antony & Cleopatra
B) Macbeth
C) Hamlet
D) The Merchant of Venice

2. Choose the right pair in given below:

- A) Girish Karnad – Kannada
B) A.K. Ramanujan – Telugu
C) Kamala Das – Tamil
D) R. Parthasarathy – Malayalam

3. In the assertion “Four out of five people suffer from dreaded pyorrhoea”, the writer wants to arouse the feeling of :

- (A) Sympathy (B) Fear (C) Hatred (D) Ill-will

4. Match the following correctly:

1) Premashram	I. Mulk Raj Anand	III	II	I	V
2) The Cat and Shakespeare	II. Raja Rao	(A) 3	2	4	1
3) Coolie	III. Prem Chand	(B) 2	3	1	4
4) Nagamandala	IV. Girish Karnad	(C) 3	2	1	4
		(D) 4	3	2	1

5. Which of the following author – book pair is correctly matched ?

- (A) David Malouf – The City of Djins
(B) C.L.R. James – The English Patient
(C) Shashi Tharoor – Trotter Nama
(D) Arundhati Roy – Algebra of Infinite Justice

6. The narrative of Raja Rao’s Kanthapura is based on :

- (A) Puranas
(B) Shastras
(C) The Ramayana
(D) The Mahabharata

7. “John is six feet tall and 240 lb” is an assertion of :

- (A) a fact (B) a judgement (C) an opinion (D) an inference

8. Silence! The Court is in Session play translated into English.

- (A) Gujarati (B) Bengali (C) Marathi (D) Kannada

9. X : "He's mean and stingy.

Y : "Oh, I wouldn't say that. He is just thrifty". The above dialogue asserts that he :

- (A) is too careful with his money
- (B) never spends money
- (C) is so careful with his money that everyone admires him for good management
- (D) is careful with his money

10. Which of the following is NOT a Partition novel?

- (A) Train to Pakistan
- (B) Sunlight on a Broken Column
- (C) The Shadow Lines
- (D) In Custody

11. "I wandered lonely as a cloud" makes an assertion that :

- (A) The poet travelled with the cloud
- (B) The poet moved aimlessly with the cloud
- (C) Both the poet and the cloud were lonely
- (D) The poet moved as aimlessly as the cloud



12. Which of the following novel- novelist pair is correctly matched ?

- (A) Bhabani Bhattacharya – All About H. Hatter
- (B) Nayantara Sahgal - Cry, the Peacock
- (C) Bhagwandas Gidwani – A Bend in the Ganges
- (D) Arun Joshi - The Apprentice

13. "Death is here, and death is there Death is busy everywhere All around, within, beneath, Above, is death – and we are death" The effect of rhythm, sound, word-order and stress in the above lines

- (A) assist the communication of meaning
- (B) hinder the communication of meaning
- (C) reflect meaning and mood
- (D) reflect a mechanical regularity

14. The Indian English poet who addressed the question 'of time' in his poetry is :

- (A) Nissim Ezeikel
- (B) R. Parthsarathy
- (C) A.K. Ramanujan
- (D) Gieve Patel

15. The Indian English novelist who, for the first time, addressed the question of language and indigenous experience was

- (A) Mulk Raj Anand
- (B) R K Narayan
- (C) Arun Joshi
- (D) Raja Rao



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UNIT-VII

TWENTIETH CENTURY LITERATURE

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UNIT-VII

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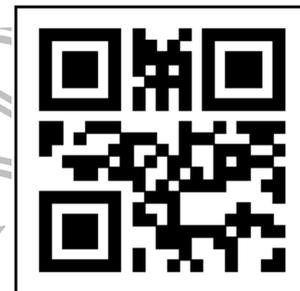
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UNIT-VII

TWENTIETH CENTURY LITERATURE



- ❖ Modernism is a major literary movement of the first part of the twentieth-century.
- ❖ The term postmodern literature is used to describe certain tendencies in post-World War II literature.
- ❖ Irish writers were especially important in the twentieth-century, including James Joyce and later Samuel Beckett, both central figures in the Modernist movement.
- ❖ Americans, like poets T. S. Eliot and Ezra Pound and novelist William Faulkner, were other important modernists.
- ❖ British modernists include Joseph Conrad, E. M. Forster, Dorothy Richardson, Virginia Woolf, and D. H. Lawrence.
- ❖ In the mid-twentieth-century major writers started to appear in the various countries of the British Commonwealth, including several Nobel laureates.

Modernism (1901 - 22)

Joseph Conrad, 1904



- ❖ In the early 20th-century literary modernism developed in the English-speaking world due to a general sense of disillusionment with the Victorian era attitudes of certainty, conservatism, and belief in the idea of objective truth.
- ❖ The movement was influenced by the ideas of Charles Darwin (1809–82) (*On Origin of Species*) (1859), Ernst Mach (1838–1916), Henri Bergson (1859–1941), Friedrich Nietzsche (1844–1900), James G. Frazer (1854–1941), Karl Marx (1818–83) (*Das Kapital*, 1867), and the psychoanalytic theories of Sigmund Freud (1856–1939), among others.
- ❖ The continental art movements of Impressionism, and later Cubism, were also important inspirations for modernist writers.

- ❖ Important literary precursors of modernism, were: **Fyodor Dostoevsky (1821–81)** (**Crime and Punishment (1866)**, **The Brothers Karamazov (1880)**); **Walt Whitman (1819–92)** (**Leaves of Grass (1855–91)**); Charles Baudelaire (1821–67) (*Les Fleurs du mal*), Rimbaud (1854–91) (*Illuminations*, 1874); August Strindberg (1849–1912), especially his later plays.
- ❖ A major British lyric poet of the first decades of the 20th century was Thomas Hardy (1840–1928).
- ❖ Though not a modernist, Hardy was an important transitional figure between the Victorian era and the 20th century.
- ❖ A major novelist of the late 19th century, Hardy, after the adverse criticism of his last novel, *Jude the Obscure*, concentrated on publishing poetry.
- ❖ On the other hand, another significant transitional figure between Victorians and modernists, the late-19th-century novelist, Henry James (1843–1916), continued to publish major works into the 20th century.
- ❖ James, born in the US, lived in Europe from 1875, and became a British citizen in 1915. Another immigrant, Polish-born modernist novelist Joseph Conrad (1857–1924) published his first important work, *Heart of Darkness*, in 1899 and *Lord Jim* in 1900.
- ❖ The American exponent of Naturalism Theodore Dreiser's (1871–1945) *Sister Carrie* was also published in 1900.

Modernist poetry in English

- ❖ However, the Victorian Gerard Manley Hopkins's (1844–89) highly original poetry was not published until 1918, long after his death, while the career of another major modernist poet, Irishman W. B. Yeats (1865–1939), began late in the Victorian era.
- ❖ Yeats was one of the foremost figures of 20th-century literature. A pillar of both the Irish and British literary establishments, in his later years he served as an Irish Senator for two terms.
- ❖ Yeats was a driving force behind the Irish Literary Revival.
- ❖ In 1923 he was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature, the first Irishman so honoured.

- ❖ Yeats is generally considered one of the few writers who completed their greatest works after being awarded the Nobel Prize: these works include *The Tower* (1928) and *The Winding Stair and Other Poems* (1929).
- ❖ In addition to W. B. Yeats other important early modernist poets were the American poets T. S. Eliot (1888–1965) and Ezra Pound (1885–1972).
- ❖ Eliot became a British citizen in 1927 but was born and educated in America.
- ❖ His most famous works are: "**Prufrock**" (1915), **The Waste Land** (1921) and **Four Quartets** (1935–42).
- ❖ Ezra Pound was not only a major poet, first publishing part of *The Cantos* in 1917, but an important mentor for other poets, most significantly in his editorial advice for Eliot's poem *The Waste Land*.
- ❖ Other important American poets writing early in the 20th century were **William Carlos Williams** (1883–1963), **Robert Frost** (1874–1963), who published his first collection in England in 1913, and **H.D.** (1886–1961). **Gertrude Stein** (1874–1946), an American expatriate living in Paris, famous for her line "Rose is a rose is a rose is a rose," was also an important literary force during this time period.
- ❖ American poet Marianne Moore (1887–1972) published from the 1920s to the 1960s.
- ❖ But while modernism was to become an important literary movement in the early decades of the new century, there were also many fine writers who, like Thomas Hardy, were not modernists.
- ❖ During the early decades of the 20th century the Georgian poets like **Rupert Brooke** (1887–1915), **Walter de la Mare** (1873–1956), and **John Masefield** (1878–1967, **Poet Laureate from 1930**) maintained a conservative approach to poetry by combining romanticism, sentimentality and hedonism, sandwiched as they were between the Victorian era, with its strict classicism, and Modernism, with its strident rejection of pure aestheticism.
- ❖ Edward Thomas (1878–1917) is sometimes treated as another Georgian poet.
- ❖ Thomas enlisted in 1915 and is one of the First World War poets along with Wilfred Owen (1893–1918), Rupert Brooke (1887–1915), Isaac Rosenberg (1890–1917), Edmund Blunden (1896–1974) and Siegfried Sassoon (1886–1967).

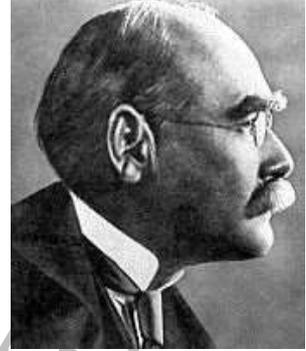
Drama:

- ❖ Irish playwrights George Bernard Shaw (1856–1950) and J.M. Synge (1871–1909) were influential in British drama.
- ❖ Shaw's career began in the last decade of the 19th century, while Synge's plays belong to the first decade of the 20th century.
- ❖ Synge's most famous play, *The Playboy of the Western World*, "caused outrage and riots when it was first performed" in Dublin in 1907.
- ❖ George Bernard Shaw turned the Edwardian theatre into an arena for debate about important political and social issues, like marriage, class, "the morality of armaments and war" and the rights of women.
- ❖ An important dramatist in the 1920s, and later, was Irishman Seán O'Casey (1880–1964).
- ❖ Also in the 1920s and later Noël Coward (1899–1973) achieved enduring success as a playwright, publishing more than 50 plays from his teens onwards.
- ❖ Many of his works, such as *Hay Fever* (1925), *Private Lives* (1930), *Design for Living* (1932), *Present Laughter* (1942) and *Blithe Spirit* (1941), have remained in the regular theatre repertoire.

Novelists:

- ❖ Amongst the novelists, after Joseph Conrad, other important early modernists include Dorothy Richardson (1873–1957), whose novel *Pointed Roof* (1915), is one of the earliest example of the stream of consciousness technique, and D. H. Lawrence (1885–1930), who published *The Rainbow* in 1915, though it was immediately seized by the police.
- ❖ Then in 1922 Irishman James Joyce's important modernist novel *Ulysses* appeared. *Ulysses* has been called "a demonstration and summation of the entire movement".
- ❖ Set during one day in Dublin, in it Joyce creates parallels with Homer's epic poem the *Odyssey*.
- ❖ William Faulkner's *The Sound and the Fury* (1929) is another significant modernist novel, that uses the stream of consciousness technique.

Rudyard Kipling:



- ❖ Novelists who are not considered modernists include: Rudyard Kipling (1865–1936) who was also a successful poet; H. G. Wells (1866–1946); John Galsworthy (1867–1933), (Nobel Prize in Literature, 1932)
- ❖ whose works include a sequence of novels, collectively called The Forsyte Saga (1906–21); Arnold Bennett (1867–1931) author of The Old Wives' Tale (1908); G. K. Chesterton (1874–1936); and E.M. Forster's (1879–1970), though Forster's work is "frequently regarded as containing both modernist and Victorian elements".
- ❖ H. G. Wells was a prolific author who is now best known for his science fiction novels, most notably The War of the Worlds, The Time Machine, The Invisible Man and The Island of Doctor Moreau all written in the 1890s. Other novels include Kipps (1905) and Mr Polly (1910).
- ❖ Forster's most famous work, A Passage to India 1924, reflected challenges to imperialism, while his earlier novels, such as A Room with a View (1908) and Howards End (1910), examined the restrictions and hypocrisy of Edwardian society in England.
- ❖ Another major work of science fiction, from the early 20th century, is A Voyage to Arcturus by Scottish writer David Lindsay, first published in 1920.
- ❖ It combines fantasy, philosophy, and science fiction in an exploration of the nature of good and evil and their relationship with existence.
- ❖ It has been described by writer Colin Wilson as the "greatest novel of the twentieth century", and was a central influence on C. S. Lewis's Space Trilogy.
- ❖ The most popular British writer of the early years of the 20th century was arguably Rudyard Kipling, a highly versatile writer of novels, short stories and poems, and to date the youngest ever recipient of the Nobel Prize for Literature (1907).
- ❖ Kipling's works include The Jungle Books (1894–95), The Man Who Would Be King and Kim (1901), while his inspirational poem "if" (1895) is a national favourite and a memorable evocation of Victorian stoicism. Kipling's reputation declined during his lifetime, but more recently postcolonial studies has "rekindled an intense interest in his work, viewing it as both symptomatic and critical of imperialist attitudes".

- ❖ Strongly influenced by his Christian faith, G. K. Chesterton was a prolific and hugely influential writer with a diverse output. His best-known character is the priest-detective Father Brown, who appeared only in short stories, while *The Man Who Was Thursday* published in 1908 is arguably his best-known novel.
- ❖ Of his nonfiction, *Charles Dickens: A Critical Study* (1906) was largely responsible for creating a popular revival for Dickens's work as well as a serious reconsideration of Dickens by scholars.

James Joyce, 1918

Modernism in the 1920s and 1930s:

- ❖ The modernist movement continued through the 1920s and 1930s and beyond. During the period between the World Wars, American drama came to maturity, thanks in large part to the works of Eugene O'Neill (1888–1953).
- ❖ O'Neill's experiments with theatrical form and his use of both Naturalist and Expressionist techniques had a major influence on American dramatists.
- ❖ His best-known plays include *Anna Christie* (Pulitzer Prize 1922), *Desire Under the Elms* (1924), *Strange Interlude* (Pulitzer Prize 1928), *Mourning Becomes Electra* (1931).
- ❖ In poetry Hart Crane published *The Bridge* in 1930 and E. E. Cummings and Wallace Stevens were publishing from the 1920s until the 1950s.
- ❖ Similarly William Faulkner continued to publish until the 1950s and was awarded a Nobel Prize in 1949.
- ❖ However, not all those writing in these years were modernists; among the writers outside the movement were American novelists Theodore Dreiser, Dos Passos, Ernest Hemingway, Scott Fitzgerald (*The Great Gatsby* 1925), and John Steinbeck.



Virginia Woolf, 1927:

Important British writers between the World Wars, include the Scottish poet Hugh MacDiarmid (1892–1978), who began publishing in the 1920s, and novelists Virginia Woolf (1882–1941), E. M. Forster (1879–1970) (*A Passage to India*, 1924), Evelyn Waugh (1903–66), Graham



Greene (1904-1991), Anthony Powell (1905-2000), P. G. Wodehouse (1881–1975) (who was not a modernist) and D. H. Lawrence.

- ❖ Lawrence's *Lady Chatterley's Lover* was published privately in Florence in 1928, though the unexpurgated version was not published in Britain until 1959.
- ❖ Woolf was an influential feminist, and a major stylistic innovator associated with the stream-of-consciousness technique in novels like *Mrs Dalloway* (1925) and *To the Lighthouse* (1927).
- ❖ Her 1929 essay *A Room of One's Own* contains her famous dictum "A woman must have money and a room of her own if she is to write fiction".
- ❖ In the 1930s W. H. Auden and Christopher Isherwood co-authored verse dramas, of which *The Ascent of F6* (1936) is the most notable, that owed much to Bertolt Brecht. T. S. Eliot had begun this attempt to revive poetic drama with *Sweeney Agonistes* in 1932, and this was followed by *The Rock* (1934), *Murder in the Cathedral* (1935) and *Family Reunion* (1939). There were three further plays after the war.
- ❖ In *Parenthesis*, a modernist epic poem by David Jones (1895–1974) first published in 1937, is probably the best known contribution from Wales to the literature of the First World War.
- ❖ An important development, beginning in the 1930s and 1940s was a tradition of working class novels actually written by working-class background writers.
- ❖ Among these were coal miner Jack Jones, James Hanley, whose father was a stoker and who also went to sea as a young man, and coal miners Lewis Jones from South Wales and Harold Heslop from County Durham.
- ❖ Aldous Huxley (1894–1963) published his famous dystopia *Brave New World* in 1932, the same year as John Cowper Powys's *A Glastonbury Romance*.
- ❖ Henry Miller's *Tropic of Cancer* then appeared in 1934, though it was banned for many years in both Britain and America.
- ❖ Samuel Beckett (1906–89) published his first major work, the novel *Murphy* in 1938.

- ❖ This same year Graham Greene's (1904–91) first major novel Brighton Rock was published. Then in 1939 James Joyce's published Finnegans Wake, in which he creates a special language to express the consciousness of a dreaming character.
- ❖ It was also in 1939 that another Irish modernist poet, W. B. Yeats, died. British poet W. H. Auden was another significant modernist in the 1930s.

1940 to 2000:

- ❖ Though some have seen modernism ending by around 1939, with regard to English literature, "When (if) modernism petered out and postmodernism began has been contested almost as hotly as when the transition from Victorianism to modernism occurred".
- ❖ In fact a number of modernists were still living and publishing in the 1950s and 1960, including T. S. Eliot, William Faulkner, Dorothy Richardson, and Ezra Pound.
- ❖ Furthermore, Basil Bunting, born in 1901, published little until Briggflatts in 1965 and Samuel Beckett, born in Ireland in 1906, continued to produce significant works until the 1980s, including Waiting for Godot (1953), Happy Days (1961), Rockaby (1981), though some view him as a post-modernist.

George Orwell, 1933:

- ❖ Among British writers in the 1940s and 1950s were novelists Graham Greene and Anthony Powell, whose works span the 1930s to the 1980s and poet Dylan Thomas, while Evelyn Waugh, and W. H. Auden continued publishing significant work.



The novel:

- ❖ In 1947 Malcolm Lowry published Under the Volcano, while George Orwell's dystopia of totalitarianism, 1984, was published in 1949.
- ❖ One of the most influential novels of the immediate post-war period was William Cooper's naturalistic Scenes from Provincial Life, a conscious rejection of the modernist tradition.
- ❖ Graham Greene was a convert to Catholicism and his novels explore the ambivalent moral and political issues of the modern world.

- ❖ Notable for an ability to combine serious literary acclaim with broad popularity, his novels include *Brighton Rock* (1938), *The Power and the Glory* (1940), *The Heart of the Matter* (1948), *A Burnt-Out Case* (1961), and *The Human Factor* (1978).
- ❖ Other novelists writing in the 1950s and later were: Anthony Powell whose twelve-volume cycle of novels *A Dance to the Music of Time*, is a comic examination of movements and manners, power and passivity in English political, cultural and military life in the mid-20th century; comic novelist Kingsley Amis is best known for his academic satire *Lucky Jim* (1954); Nobel Prize laureate William Golding's allegorical novel *Lord of the Flies* 1954, explores how culture created by man fails, using as an example a group of British schoolboys marooned on a deserted island who try to govern themselves, but with disastrous results.
- ❖ Philosopher Iris Murdoch was a prolific writer of novels throughout the second half of the 20th century, that deal especially with sexual relationships, morality, and the power of the unconscious, including *Under the Net* (1954), *The Black Prince* (1973) and *The Green Knight* (1993).
- ❖ Scottish writer Muriel Spark pushed the boundaries of realism in her novels.
- ❖ Her first, *The Comforters* (1957) concerns a woman who becomes aware that she is a character in a novel; *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie* (1961), at times takes the reader briefly into the distant future, to see the various fates that befall its characters.
- ❖ Anthony Burgess is especially remembered for his dystopian novel *A Clockwork Orange* (1962), set in the not-too-distant future, which was made into a film by Stanley Kubrick in 1971.
- ❖ In the entirely different genre of Gothic fantasy Mervyn Peake (1911–68) published his highly successful *Gormenghast* trilogy between 1946 and 1959.
- ❖ One of Penguin Books' most successful publications in the 1970s was Richard Adams's heroic fantasy *Watership Down* (1972).
- ❖ Evoking epic themes, it recounts the odyssey of a group of rabbits seeking to establish a new home. Another successful novel of the same era was John Fowles' *The French Lieutenant's Woman* (1969), with a narrator who freely admits the fictive nature of his story, and its famous alternative endings.
- ❖ This was made into a film in 1981 with a screenplay by Harold Pinter. Angela Carter (1940–92) was a novelist and journalist, known for her feminist, magical realism, and picaresque works.

- ❖ Her novels include, *The Infernal Desire Machines of Doctor Hoffman* 1972 and *Nights at the Circus* 1984. Margaret Drabble (born 1939) is a novelist, biographer and critic, who published from the 1960s into the 21st century.
- ❖ Her older sister, A. S. Byatt (born 1936) is best known for *Possession* published in 1990.
- ❖ Martin Amis (born 1949) is one of the most prominent of contemporary British novelists.
- ❖ His best-known novels are *Money* (1984) and *London Fields* (1989).
- ❖ Pat Barker (born 1943) has won many awards for her fiction.
- ❖ English novelist and screenwriter Ian McEwan (born 1948) is another of contemporary Britain's most highly regarded writers.
- ❖ His works include *The Cement Garden* (1978) and *Enduring Love* (1997), which was made into a film. In 1998 McEwan won the Man Booker Prize with *Amsterdam*.
- ❖ *Atonement* (2001) was made into an Oscar-winning film. McEwan was awarded the Jerusalem Prize in 2011.
- ❖ Zadie Smith's Whitbread Book Award winning novel *White Teeth* (2000), mixes pathos and humour, focusing on the later lives of two war time friends in London.
- ❖ Julian Barnes (born 1946) is another successful living novelist, who won the 2011 Man Booker Prize for his book *The Sense of an Ending*, while three of his earlier books were shortlisted for the Booker Prize: *Flaubert's Parrot* (1984), *England, England* (1998), and *Arthur & George* (2005).
- ❖ He has also written crime fiction under the pseudonym Dan Kavanagh.
- ❖ Two significant contemporary Irish novelists are John Banville (born 1945) and Colm Tóibín (born 1955).
- ❖ Banville is also an adapter of dramas, a screenwriter, and a writer of detective novels under the pseudonym Benjamin Black. Banville has won numerous awards: *The Book of Evidence* was shortlisted for the Booker Prize and won the Guinness Peat Aviation award in 1989; his eighteenth novel, *The Sea*, won the Booker Prize in 2005; he was awarded the Franz Kafka Prize in 2011.
- ❖ Colm Tóibín (Irish, 1955) is a novelist, short story writer, essayist, playwright, journalist, critic, and, most recently, poet.

- ❖ Scotland has in the late 20th century produced several important novelists, including James Kelman, who like Samuel Beckett can create humour out of the most grim situations.
- ❖ *How Late it Was, How Late*, 1994, won the Booker Prize that year; A. L. Kennedy's 2007 novel *Day* was named Book of the Year in the Costa Book Awards.
- ❖ In 2007 she won the Austrian State Prize for European Literature; Alasdair Gray's *Lanark: A Life in Four Books* (1981) is a dystopian fantasy set in a surreal version of Glasgow called Unthank.

Drama:

- ❖ An important cultural movement in the British theatre which developed in the late 1950s and early 1960s was Kitchen sink realism (or "kitchen sink drama"), a term coined to describe art (the term itself derives from an expressionist painting by John Bratby), novels, film and television plays.
- ❖ The term angry young men was often applied to members of this artistic movement.
- ❖ It used a style of social realism which depicts the domestic lives of the working class, to explore social issues and political issues.
- ❖ The drawing room plays of the post war period, typical of dramatists like Terence Rattigan and Noël Coward were challenged in the 1950s by these Angry Young Men, in plays like John Osborne's *Look Back in Anger* (1956). Arnold Wesker and Nell Dunn also brought social concerns to the stage.
- ❖ Again in the 1950s, the absurdist play *Waiting for Godot* (1955) (originally *En attendant Godot*, 1952), by Irish writer Samuel Beckett profoundly affected British drama.
- ❖ The Theatre of the Absurd influenced Harold Pinter (born 1930), author of *The Birthday Party*, 1958), whose works are often characterised by menace or claustrophobia.
- ❖ Beckett also influenced Tom Stoppard (born 1937) (*Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead*, 1966). Stoppard's works are however also notable for their high-spirited wit and the great range of intellectual issues which he tackles in different plays. Both Pinter and Stoppard continued to have new plays produced into the 1990s.

UNIT-VII

TWENTIETH CENTURY LITERATURE

Important multiple choice questions:

1. Which of the following lines by Shakespeare is repeated several times in Virginia Woolf's novel Mrs. Dalloway ?

- (A) "If music be the food of love, play on".
- (B) "Fear no more the heat of the sun, Nor the furious winter's rages".
- (C) "Those are pearls that were his eyes".
- (D) "There is a tide in the affairs of man"

2. "On or about December 1910 human character changed," Virginia Woolf wrote. A more assertive declaration, "It was in 1915 the old world ended", was made by a novelist in one of his/her novels, picking a date of far more historical moment, the point when an entire cultural tradition seemed to end in war. Name the novelist and the novel.

- (A) D)H. Lawrence - Kangaroo
- (B) Aldous Huxley - Brave New World
- (C) Virginia Woolf - Mrs.Dalloway
- (D) James Joyce - Ulysses



3. Which character is spoken in the past tense in Treasure Island?

- A) Ben Gunn
- B) Captain Flint
- C) Long John Silver
- D) Jim Hawkins

4. Match List - I with List -II according to the code given below:

List -I (Novels)

- i. Lord Jim
- ii. To the Lighthouse
- iii. A Passage to India

List - II (Last lines)

- 1. It was done; it was finished) Yes, she thought laying down her brush in extreme fatigue, I have had my vision.
- 2.'April 27. Old father, old artificer, stand me now and ever in good stead)..
- 3. He feels it himself and says often that he

is "preparing to leave all this; preparing to leave,," while he waves his hands sadly at his butterflies.'

iv. A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man - 4. "No not yet" and the sky said, "No, not there"!

Codes:

	i	ii	iii	iv
(A)	2	4	3	1
(B)	3	2	4	1
(C)	3	1	4	2
(D)	2	3	1	4

5. What was the marital status of Fanny Osbourne when Robert Louis Stevenson met her in France?

- A) Spinster
 B) Divorcee with two children
 C) Widow
 D) Married with two children

6. Match the following plays with their authors according to the code given below :

(Plays)	(Authors)	Codes:	I	ii	iii	iv
i. Heartbreak House	- 1. John Galsworthy	(A)	3	4	2	1
ii. Loyalties	- 2. Bertolt Brecht	(B)	1	2	3	4
iii. In the Jungle of Cities	- 3. T.S. Eliot	(C)	2	1	4	3
iv. The Family Reunion	- 4. George Bernard Shaw	(D)	4	1	2	3

7. Robert Louis Stevenson joined Edinburgh University to become an Engineer. What did he become?

- A) Doctor
 B) Lawyer
 C) Architect
 D) Dentist

8. Match the play with the subject matter of the play

- (a) The Doctor's Dilemma (i) Flouting of stage conventions
 (b) You Never Can Tell (ii) Satire on military heroes
 (c) Candida (iii) Devaluation of social traditions
 (d) Arms and the Man (iv) Mockery of physicians' ignorance

Choose the correct option from those given below:

- (A) (a)-(ii); (b)-(iv); (c)-(iv); (d)-(i) (B) (a)-(ii); (b)-(i); (c)-(iv); (d)-(ii)
(C) (a)-(i); (b)-(ii); (c)-(iii); (d)-(iv) (D) (a)-(iv); (b)-(iii); (c)-(i); (d)-(ii)

9. Where was Robert Louis Stevenson born?

- A) Edinburgh B) Halifax C) London D) Bristol

10. The opening lines of Journey of the Magi are a quotation from—

- A) Lancelot Andrewes's 1622 nativity sermon
B) the fly
C) Cannonization
D) Mathews

11. Listed below are some English plays across several centuries: Twelfth Night, She Stoops to Conquer, The Importance of Being Earnest, Pygmalion and Blithe Spirit. What is common to them?

- (A) All problem plays; scheming and intrigue
(B) All tragedies; sin and redemption
(C) All ideologically framed; class and gender
(D) All romantic comedies; love and laughter

12. The black sailed ship' metaphorically alludes to.....

- A) birth B) death C) resurrection D) fall

13. The Magi are the three wise men from the east who travelled to—

- A) Bethlehem B) Israel C) Jerusalem D) Rome

14. Which of the following plays by T.S. Eliot is in the correct chronological order of publication?

- (A) Murder in the Cathedral- The Family Reunion- The Cocktail Party- The Confidential Clerk
(B) The Cocktail Party- The Confidential Clerk- The Family Reunion - Murder in the Cathedral
(C) The Family Reunion- The Cocktail Party- Murder in the Cathedral- The Confidential Clerk
(D) The Confidential Clerk- Murder in the Cathedral- The Cocktail Party- The Family Reunion



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UNIT-VIII

INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDY OF LANGUAGE AND LINGUISTICS

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UNIT-VIII

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UNIT-VIII

8.1. INTRODUCTION OF LANGUAGE AND LINGUISTICS

- ❖ Language has a very important social purpose. It is used for linguistic communication.
- ❖ A language can be used in two ways for the purposes of communication: Spoken and written.
- ❖ The medium of speech is more important than the medium of writing.
- ❖ Language is different from speech.
- ❖ Language is made up of socially shared rules that include the following:
- ❖ What words mean (e.g. 'star' can refer to a bright object in the night sky or a celebrity).
- ❖ How to make new words (e.g friend, friendly unfriendly)
- ❖ How to put words together (e.g "peg walked to the new store" rather than "peg walk store new").
- ❖ What word combinations are best in what situations ("would you mind moving your foot?", could quickly change to "Get off my foot, please!" if the first request did not produce results).
- ❖ Speech is the verbal means of communication. It is because,

1. In the history of any language community, speech came before writing.
2. Speech comes first in the history of any individual.
3. As a medium of communication, speech is used much more than the medium of writing.
4. Written language is only an attempt to represent the sounds used in spoken language.
5. Modern technology and inventions like the telephone, the radio, the tape recorder and several such devices have raised problems of communication primarily concerned with speech.

8.1.1. What is language?

- ❖ It is very difficult to define 'Language'. Language is many things to many people.
- ❖ Some say that language is a tool of communication and this could only be a partial answer.
- ❖ Since the term 'communication' is too vague.
- ❖ All animals and birds communicate through their sounds and gestures. Even the dark clouds are said to communicate the imminence of rain.
- ❖ So the term 'communication' more narrowly defined if it is applied to human language.
- ❖ Anthropologists regard language as a form of cultural behaviour, sociologists as an interaction between members of a social group, students of literature as an artistic medium, philosophers as a means of interpreting human experiences and language teachers as a set of skills.
- ❖ Similarly, the term 'language' can be understood better in terms of its properties or characteristics. 'What is language?' is similar to the question 'what is water?' water can be defined by its uses or properties or characteristics.
- ❖ In the same way 'language' can be understood better in terms of its properties or characteristics.
- ❖ Some linguists, however, have been trying to define language in their own ways even though all these definitions are far from satisfactory.

8.1.2. Definitions of Language:

- ❖ “Language is a symbol system based on pure or arbitrary conventions... infinitely extendable and modifiable according to the changing needs and conditions of the speakers.” - **Robins (1985)**
- ❖ “Language is purely human and non-instinctive method of communicating ideas, emotions and desires by means of a system of voluntarily produced symbols”. - **Sapir (1921)**
- ❖ “language is the institution whereby humans communicate and interact with each other by means of habitually used oral-auditory arbitrary symbols” – **Hall (1969)**
- ❖ “A language is a system of arbitrary vocal symbols used for human communication”. –**Wardhaugh (1972)**
- ❖ “A language is a set (finite/infinite) of sentences, each finite in length and constructed out of a finite set of elements” - **Noam Chomsky (1957)**.
- ❖ “A language is a system of arbitrary vocal symbols by means of which a social group cooperates” - **Bloch and Trager (1942)**
- ❖ “Language is undoubtedly a kind of means of communication among human beings. It consists primarily of vocal sounds. It is articulatory, systematic, symbolic and arbitrary” - **Derbyshire (1967)**
- ❖ “Languages are the principal systems of communication used by particular groups of human beings within the particular society (linguistic community) of which they are members” - **Lyons (1970)**.
- ❖ “Language is a system of conventional spoken or written symbols by means of which human beings, as members of a social group and participants in its culture, communicate”. - **Encyclopedia Britannica**

8.1.3. Types of Language:

There are three types of language. They are:

- ❖ (1) monosyllabic or isolating,
- ❖ (2) agglutinative, and
- ❖ (3) inflectional or polysyllabic



The first kind of language has no prefixes or suffixes and no formally distinguished parts of speech. Chinese is its glaring example.

- ❖ In this language the same word may, without change, be used as a noun, as a verb, as an adjective, or as an adverb.

In the second kind of language, ideas are expressed by glueing words into compounds which are often cumbersome and lengthy.

- ❖ Each such compounded word has the force of a sentence, e.g. 'Achichillacachocam', which means the place where people weep because the water is red.
- ❖ Finish, Turkish and Hungarian and some most savage tongues usually contain such words.

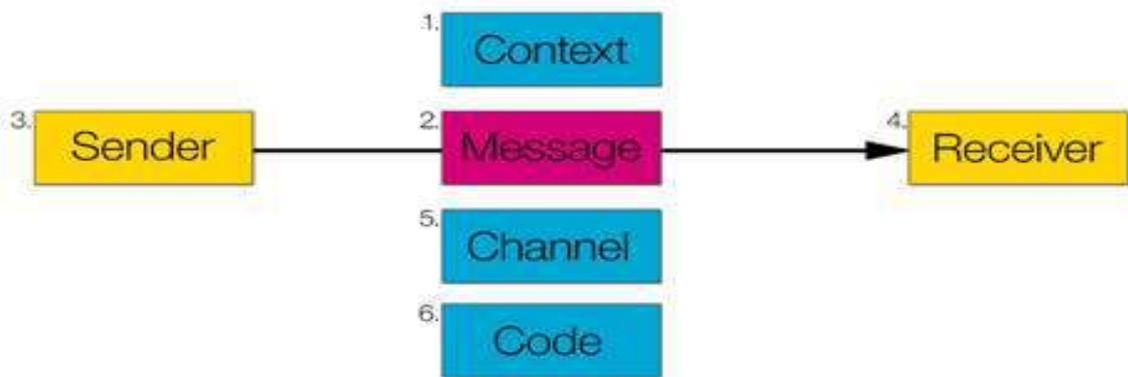
The third kind of language has such roots as are generally modified by prefixes and suffixes.

- ❖ The variation of form which words undergo in order to adapt themselves to different relations is known as 'inflection'.
- ❖ To this class belong Greek, Latin, German and English.

8.1.4. Functions of Language:

- ❖ "It is difficult to see adequately", says E. Sapir, "the functions of language, because it is so deeply rooted in the whole of human behaviour that it may be suspected that there is little in the functional side of our conscious behaviour in which language does not play its part."
- ❖ The primary function of language is, as we have seen before, communication.
- ❖ Language is also a great force of socialization.
- ❖ A group of people is held together by the ties of common language.
- ❖ The next function is the imparting of information of one or the other kind.
- ❖ Information includes propaganda of all kinds and even deliberate misinformation. It is said that language is mostly informative in character.
- ❖ All sciences are so because they unfold the truths to us.
- ❖ Language has the function of cultural accumulation and historical transmission.
- ❖ Proverbs, medicine formulae, standardized prayers, folk tales, standardized speeches, song texts, genealogies are some of the more overt forms which language takes as a culture preserving instrument.

- ❖ Language is also the most potent indicator of personality.



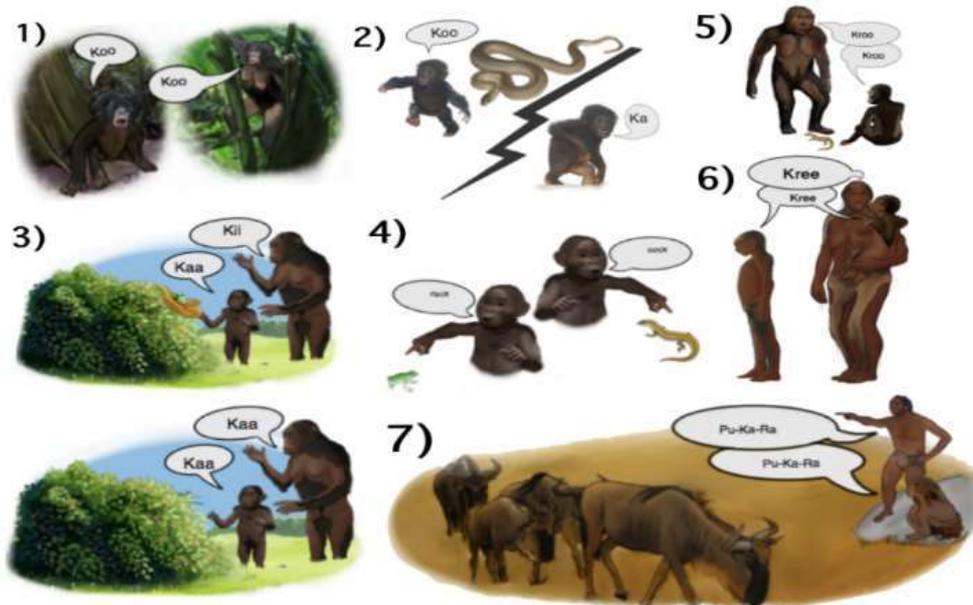
- ❖ The personality of a man is revealed in the character and range of the vocabulary, the length and build of the sentences, the fundamental quality of his voice, the phonetic patterns of his speech and the speed and slowness of articulation.

8.1.5. Origin of language and its theories:

- ❖ There have been many attempts to unearth the origin of language, but “most of these are”, says E. Sapir, “hardly more than exercises of the speculative imagination.” Of the various theories advanced to explain the origin of language, four are well-known.

1. The Bow-wow Theory

- ❖ **This theory by Max Muller** supposes that human speech originated in man’s attempt to imitate the sounds of nature. Thus a dog might be called “bow-wow”, or a cow “moo”.
- ❖ There is no denying the fact that such imitation accounts for a certain number of words in the English vocabulary e.g. cuckoo, hiss, gurgle, whistle, whine, babbie, prattle, hoopoe, peewit etc.
- ❖ Words that have this origin are sometimes said to be onomatopoeic. This theory forms a part of the larger subject of ‘sound symbolism’.



2. The Ding-dong Theory

- ❖ Another familiar theory of the origin of language is the 'dingdong theory'.
- ❖ At one stage it was upheld by Max Muller but later it was abandoned.
- ❖ It sought to explain the correspondence between sound and sense, by a law of nature, a mysterious law of harmony, that everything that is struck rings and rings in a peculiar way.
- ❖ The words 'zigzag' and 'dazzle' may be cited as examples.
- ❖ In the opinion of Prof. Taraporewala, the Hindi word "Jana Gana" "Jog Mog" and a larger number of the Bengali words (Dhonatyak Shobdo) may come under this head.
- ❖ Reduplications for the sake of emphasis, as in "a big big man", may come under this head.



3. The Pooh pooh Theory

- ❖ This theory seeks the origin of language in such involuntary exclamations or interjections of pain, surprise, wonder, disapproval, pleasure as oh! bah! pshaw! fie, and the like.
- ❖ As a theory of the origin of language it stands upon a very slippery ground.

4. The Gesture Theory

- ❖ This holds that language originates in gesture.

- ❖ This theory was formulated and advanced by **Wilhelm Wundt and Sir Richard Paget**.
- ❖ The gesture-theorists opine that the primitive people communicated with one another by means of gestures made by hand, and ultimately the language-equivalents were substituted for these gestures.
- ❖ Sir Percy Nunn in his book Education, its Data and first Principles develops his theory in full, and Macdonald Critchley deals with it elaborately in his work, The Language of Gesture.
- ❖ They seem to point out that in saying 'I' and 'me' the lips are drawn inwards as if hinting at the speaker, and in saying 'you' and 'thou' the lips are moved outwards as if hinting at the person addressed.
- ❖ Similarly, in saying 'here' and 'there' the lips are drawn inwards and thrown outwards respectively.

5. The yo-he-ho Theory

- ❖ Noire enunciated the 'yo-he-ho theory'.
- ❖ He saw the source of speech in acts of joint or common work, in which, during intense physical effort, cries or sounds partly consonantal might be emitted.
- ❖ Such sounds might come to be associated with the work performed and so become a symbol for it; the first words would accordingly mean something like 'heave' or 'haul'.

6. The ta-ta Theory

- ❖ The idea of the origin of language is the use of tongue and mouth gestures to mimic manual gestures.
- ❖ For example, saying ta-ta is like waving goodbye with your tongue.
- ❖ But most of the things we talk about do not have characteristic gestures associated with them, much less gestures you can imitate with the tongue and mouth.

7. The la-la Theory

- ❖ The idea that speech emerged from the sounds of inspired playfulness, love, poetic sensibility, and song.
- ❖ This one is lovely, and no more or less likely than any of the others.

8. Biblical Theory

- ❖ Let us peep into the Biblical account of the origin of language which is contained in the second chapter in the book of Genesis.
- ❖ According to this account, “the Lord God formed man of dust from the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living being.”
- ❖ Afterwards he created trees and rivers. And then “out of the ground the Lord God formed every beast of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every beast of the field....”
- ❖ It is an account of the birth of language in man, who is placed at the centre of the world.

9. Another theory to be mentioned was adduced over a century ago in the early days of modern linguistics.

- ❖ In 1823 was published in Edinburgh **The History of the European Languages** by **Alexander Murray, D.D.**
- ❖ In this work he states 9 words which he calls “the foundations of language.”
- ❖ They were uttered at first, and probably for several generations, in an insulated manner.
- ❖ The circumstances of the actions were communicated by gestures and variable tunes of the voice, but actions themselves were expressed through suitable monosyllables.

10. The last theory of the origin of language was proposed some years ago by the Danish linguist, Otto Jespersen.

- ❖ This language expert says, ‘we must imagine primitive language as consisting (chiefly, at least) of very long words, full of difficult sounds, and sung rather than spoken’.
- ❖ It is the strangest of all theories, but deserves serious thought because of the learning of the author.

The Danish linguist Otto Jespersen (1860-1943) classified theories language origin into five groups:

1. "Bow-Wow"

People imitate sounds from their environment



2. "Pooh-Pooh"

People make instinctive sounds related to emotions, body functions, pain



3. "Ding-Dong"

People make "oral gestures"



4. "La-La"

People work together and produce rhythmic sounds

5. People make sounds associated with love, play and singing

8.1.6. Characteristics of Language:

- ❖ There are certain characteristics which belong exclusively to language and these distinguish language from other means of communication. They are,
- ❖ Language is a means of communication
- ❖ Language is arbitrary
- ❖ Language is a system of systems or Language is systematic
- ❖ Language is vocal / primarily vocal
- ❖ Language is a form of Social behaviour
- ❖ Language is a Symbol System
- ❖ Productivity or creativity
- ❖ Interchangeability

Language is a means of communication/ Language is human:

Language

- ❖ The main purpose of language is to communicate.
- ❖ Animals do communicate but their communication is limited.
- ❖ Though there are many other means of human communication.
- ❖ Language is an important tool of communication.
- ❖ It is a carrier of civilization and culture from one generation to the other through the medium of language. Language differs from other means of communication in creativity or open-endedness.
- ❖ A person can understand and produce infinite number of sentences.
- ❖ Language is even capable of discussing the pastness and futurity of actions.
- ❖ Language is species-specific and species-uniform.



A means of communication.

Language is arbitrary:

- ❖ Language is arbitrary because, there is no hard and fast rule to name an object or human.
- ❖ If we ask, why all men are called as men then there would be no precise answer.
- ❖ Similarly, why we call the 📖 as book? There would be no answer.
- ❖ Therefore language is arbitrary or illogical. It depends on the users of a particular language.
- ❖ It is like naming a new born baby.
- ❖ When one baby is born, we give a name like John, James, etc., but what is the logical sense to give the name like that. Why we can't give a name to the baby like stone, or soil.
- ❖ So, we cannot definitely say the reasons for giving names or framing structures in a particular language. However, the name given to a person, stands forever to refer to the person, thus it becomes convention or practice.

- ❖ It is similar to language also. When one name or word is given to a thing or person, it refers to the thing or person and stands to refer to him or it forever.
- ❖ To our surprise, if there is no such illogical or arbitrary feature in language then in this world we would have got only one language in this world.
- ❖ Language is modifiable and extendable. But it is very difficult to change the language already selected. However, we can change the language if we wish.
- ❖ For example, if the government orders to call the computer, hereafter as surf, then the people will obey the order and gradually they will call computer as surf in course of time but such a change is very difficult, though language is changeable.
- ❖ There are some exceptions too. Some words have logical reasons for making language.
- ❖ For example, we call the person who teaches us as teacher. Here the word formation is logical. Thus, some languages may have logical reasoning.
- ❖ In English, onomatopoeia creates word based on the sound of the animals, things or objects. For example, bang hiss, buzz, thud, etc.

Arbitrariness

- ☞ This feature was first proposed by Saussure.
- ☞ **The forms of linguistic signs bear no natural (logical, intrinsic) relationship to their meaning.**
- ☞ “Different sounds are used to refer to the same object in different languages.”



MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS:

1. How many classes of morphemes can be identified in a language
A) only one B) two C) three D) four
2. A minimal meaningful unit in the grammatical system of a language is called—
A) syllable B) phoneme C) morpheme D) allomorph
3. The 'ing' in sleeping is an example of —
A) a free morpheme B) free variation C) bound morpheme D) none of these
4. The form 'dog' is a —morpheme.
A) a free morpheme B) free variation C) bound morpheme D) none of these
5. Morpheme alternants are called—
A) allophones B) allomorphs C) minimal pairs D) none of the above
6. The final consonants /s/, /z/ and /iz/ in the words 'cats', 'dogs' and 'boxes' are instances of —
A) allophones B) allomorphs C) minimal pairs D) none of the above
7. The final sounds /t/, /d/, and /id/ in the words packed, bagged and patted are instances of—
A) allophones B) allomorphs C) minimal pairs D) none of the above
8. The -ish in the word 'childish' is —
A) an adjective forming morpheme B) plural morpheme
C) possessive morpheme D) past morpheme
9. The -s in 'boys' is —
A) an adjective forming morpheme B) plural morpheme
C) possessive morpheme D) past morpheme
10. The -s in 'john's' is —
A) an adjective forming morpheme B) plural morpheme
C) possessive morpheme D) past morpheme



11. The final /t/ in walked is ——
- A) an adjective forming morpheme B) plural morpheme
C) possessive morpheme D) past morpheme
12. The –or in actor is
- A) an adjective forming morpheme B) plural morpheme
C) possessive morpheme D) noun forming morpheme
13. The –en in strengthen is a——
- A) an adjective forming morpheme B) plural morpheme
C) possessive morpheme D) verb forming morpheme.
14. The – s in ‘she sings well’ is ——
- A) an adjective forming morpheme
B) plural morpheme
C) possessive morpheme
D) morpheme signaling third person singular.
15. The shortened forms like ‘photo’ for photograph is an instance of——
- A) portmanteau B) onomatopoeia C) clipping D) metanalysis
16. ——is a method of word formation whereby one or more syllables are removed from longer words.
- A) portmanteau B) onomatopoeia C) clipping D) metanalysis
17. ——is the process by which new words are coined by combining the segments of two different words.
- A) portmanteau B) onomatopoeia C) clipping D) metanalysis
18. Words which represent the sounds of their referents are called——
- A) portmanteau B) onomatopoeia C) clipping D) metanalysis
19. When one form (written or spoken) has two or more unrelated meanings, they are called _____. [bank (of a river) / bank (financial institution)]
- A) hyponym B) homonyms C) metonymy D) antonyms



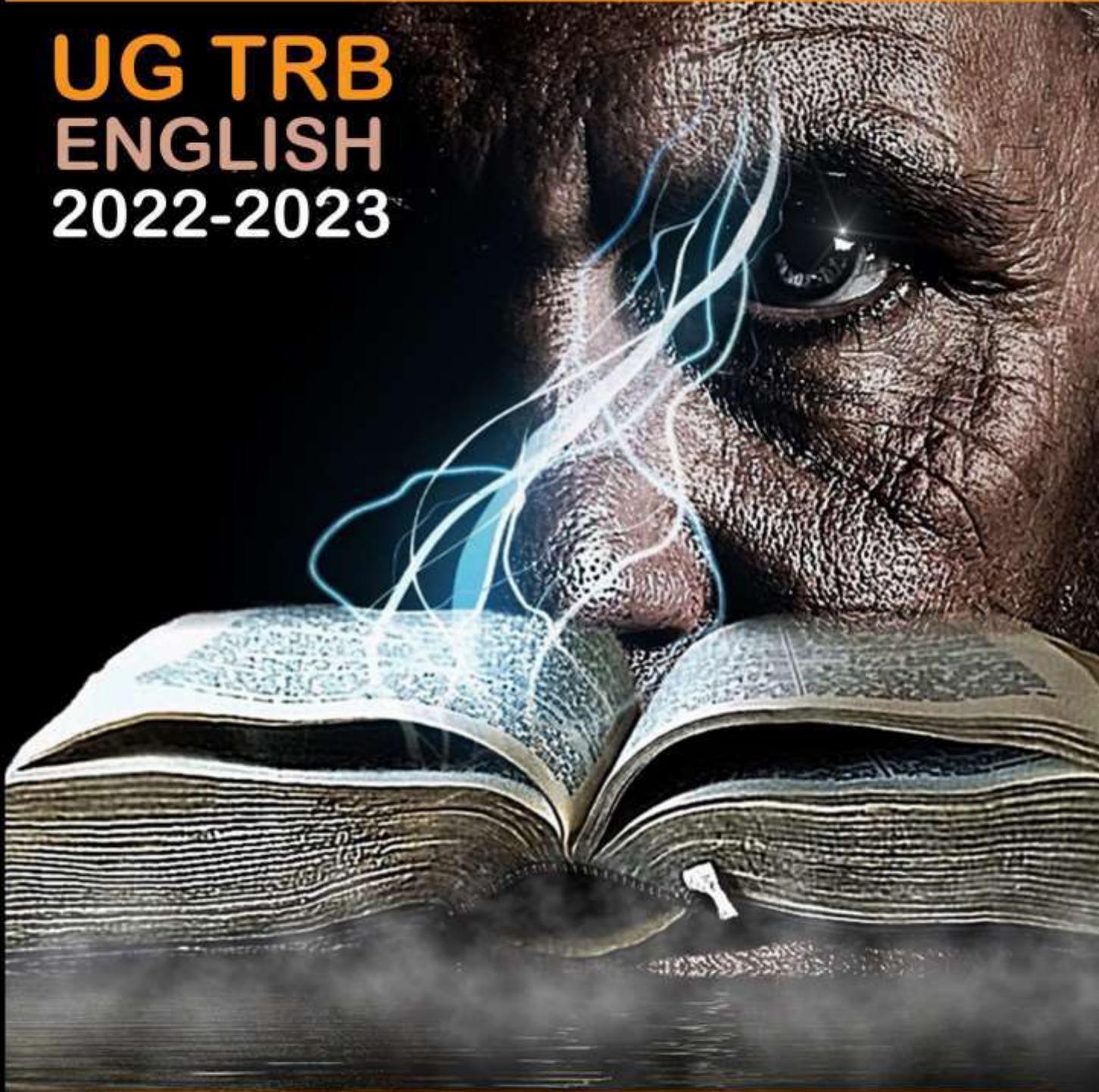
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UNIT IX

LITERARY CRITICISM AND THEORIES

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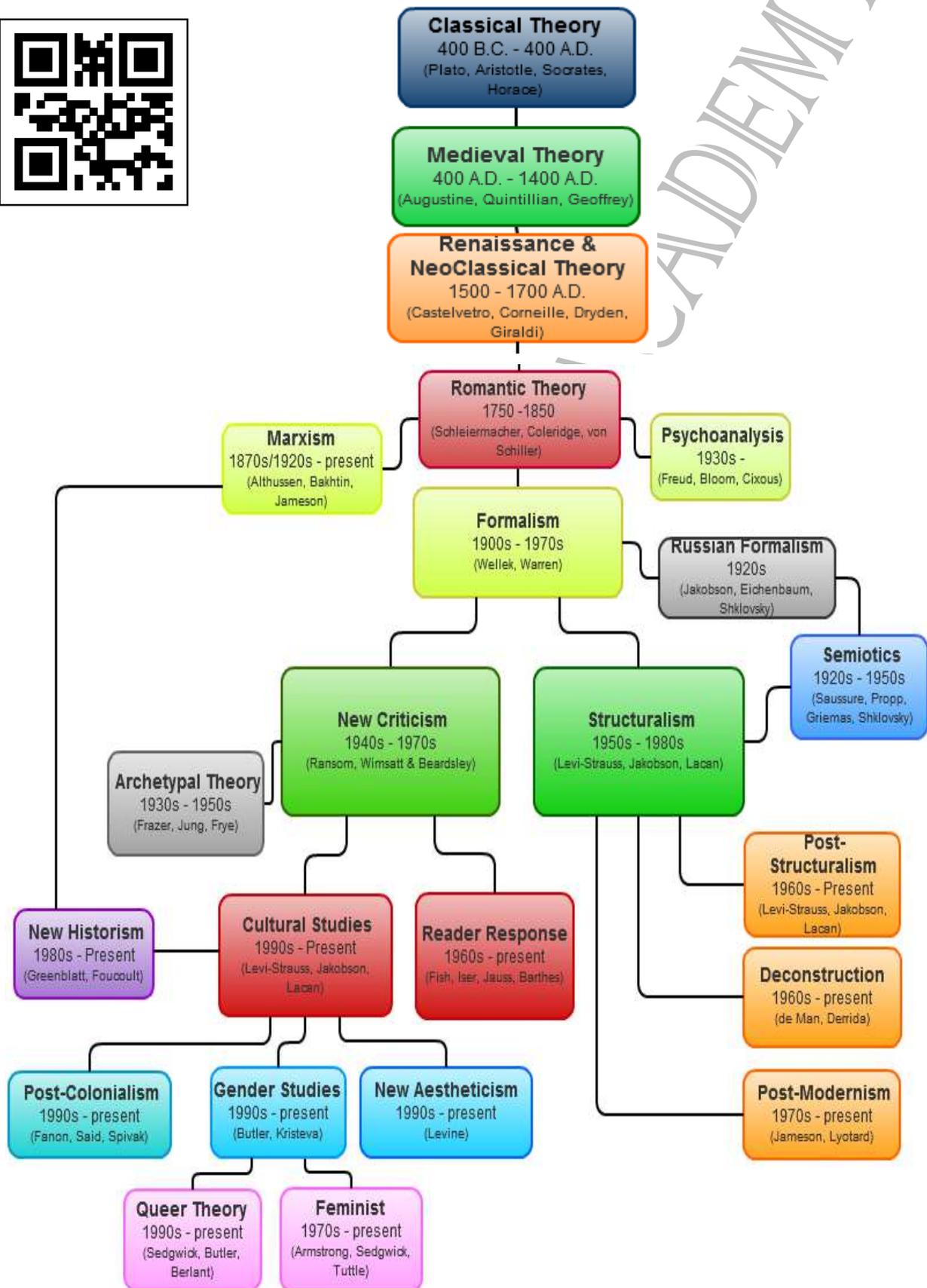
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UNIT IX

LITERARY CRITICISM AND THEORIES



Literary criticism:

- ❖ Literary criticism has the reasoned consideration of literary works and issues.
- ❖ It applies, as a term, to any argumentation about literature, whether or not specific works are analyzed.
- ❖ Plato's cautions against the risky consequences of poetic inspiration in general in his Republic are thus often taken as the earliest important example of literary criticism.
- ❖ More strictly construed, the term covers only what has been called "practical criticism," the interpretation of meaning and the judgment of quality.
- ❖ Criticism in this narrow sense can be distinguished not only from aesthetics (the philosophy of artistic value) but also from other matters that may concern the student of literature: biographical questions, bibliography, historical knowledge, sources and influences, and problems of method.
- ❖ Thus, especially in academic studies, "criticism" is often considered to be separate from "scholarship."
- ❖ In practice, however, this distinction often proves artificial, and even the most single-minded concentration on a text may be informed by outside knowledge, while many notable works of criticism combine discussion of texts with broad arguments about the nature of literature and the principles of assessing it.

Literary Theory:

- ❖ "Literary theory" is the body of ideas and methods we use in the practical reading of literature.
- ❖ Literary theory is a description of the underlying principles, one might say the tools, by which we attempt to understand literature.
- ❖ All literary interpretation draws on a basis in theory but can serve as a justification for very different kinds of critical activity.
- ❖ It is literary theory that formulates the relationship between author and work; literary theory develops the significance of race, class, and gender for literary study, both from the standpoint of the biography of the author and an analysis of their thematic presence within texts.

- ❖ Literary theory offers varying approaches for understanding the role of historical context in interpretation as well as the relevance of linguistic and unconscious elements of the text.
- ❖ Literary theorists trace the history and evolution of the different genres narrative, dramatic, lyric in addition to the more recent emergence of the novel and the short story, while also investigating the importance of formal elements of literary structure.
- ❖ Lastly, literary theory in recent years has sought to explain the degree to which the text is more the product of a culture than an individual author and in turn how those texts help to create the culture.

Types of Literary Criticism

- ❖ There are many different schools of theory that give readers a special vocabulary to dissect any given literary text.

Here are some of the most significant theories:

Practical criticism:

- ❖ This study of literature encourages readers to examine the text without regarding any of the outside context—like the author, the date and place of writing, or any other contextual information that may enlighten the reader.

Cultural studies:

- ❖ In direct opposition to practical criticism, cultural theory examines a text within the context of its socio-cultural environment.
- ❖ Cultural critics believe a text should be read entirely through the lens of the text's cultural context.

Formalism:

- ❖ Formalism compels readers to judge the artistic merit of literature by examining its formal elements, like language and technical skill.
- ❖ Formalism favors a literary canon of works that exemplify the highest standards of literature, as determined by formalist critics.

Reader-response:

- ❖ Reader-response criticism is rooted in the belief that a reader's reaction to or interpretation of a text is as valuable a source of critical study as the text itself.

The new criticism:

- ❖ New critics focused on examining the formal and structural elements of literature, as opposed to the emotional or moral elements.
- ❖ Poet T.S. Eliot and critics Cleanth Brooks and John Crowe Ransom pioneered the school of the new criticism.

Psychoanalytic criticism:

- ❖ Using Sigmund Freud's principles of psychoanalysis like dream interpretation psychoanalytic criticism looks to the neuroses and psychological states of characters in literature to interpret a text's meaning.
- ❖ Other notable psychoanalytic critics include Jacques Lacan and Julia Kristeva.

Marxist theory:

- ❖ Socialist thinker Karl Marx established this branch of literary theory alongside Marxism, his political and sociological ideology.
- ❖ Marxist theory examines literature along the lines of class relations and socialist ideals.

Post-modernism:

- ❖ Post-modernist literary criticism emerged in the middle of the twentieth century to reflect the fractured and dissonant experience of twentieth-century life.
- ❖ While there are many competing definitions of postmodernism, it is most commonly understood as rejecting modernist ideas of unified narrative.

Post-structuralism:

- ❖ Post-structuralist literary theory abandoned ideas of formal and structural cohesion, questioning any assumed "universal truths" as reliant on the social structure that influenced them.

- ❖ One of the writers who shaped post-structuralist theory is, Roland Barthes—the father of semiotics, or the study of signs and symbols in art.

Deconstruction:

- ❖ Proposed by Jacques Derrida, deconstructionists pick apart a text's ideas or arguments, looking for contradictions that render any singular reading of a text impossible.

Postcolonial theory:

- ❖ Postcolonial theory challenges the dominance of Western thought in literature, examining the impacts of colonialism in critical theory.
- ❖ Edward Said's book *Orientalism* is a foundational text of postcolonial theory.

Feminist criticism:

- ❖ As the feminist movement gained steam in the mid-twentieth century, literary critics began looking to gender studies for new modes of literary criticism.
- ❖ One of the earliest proponents of feminist criticism was Virginia Woolf in her seminal essay "A Room of One's Own."
- ❖ Other notable feminist critics include Elaine Showalter and Hélène Cixous.

Queer theory:

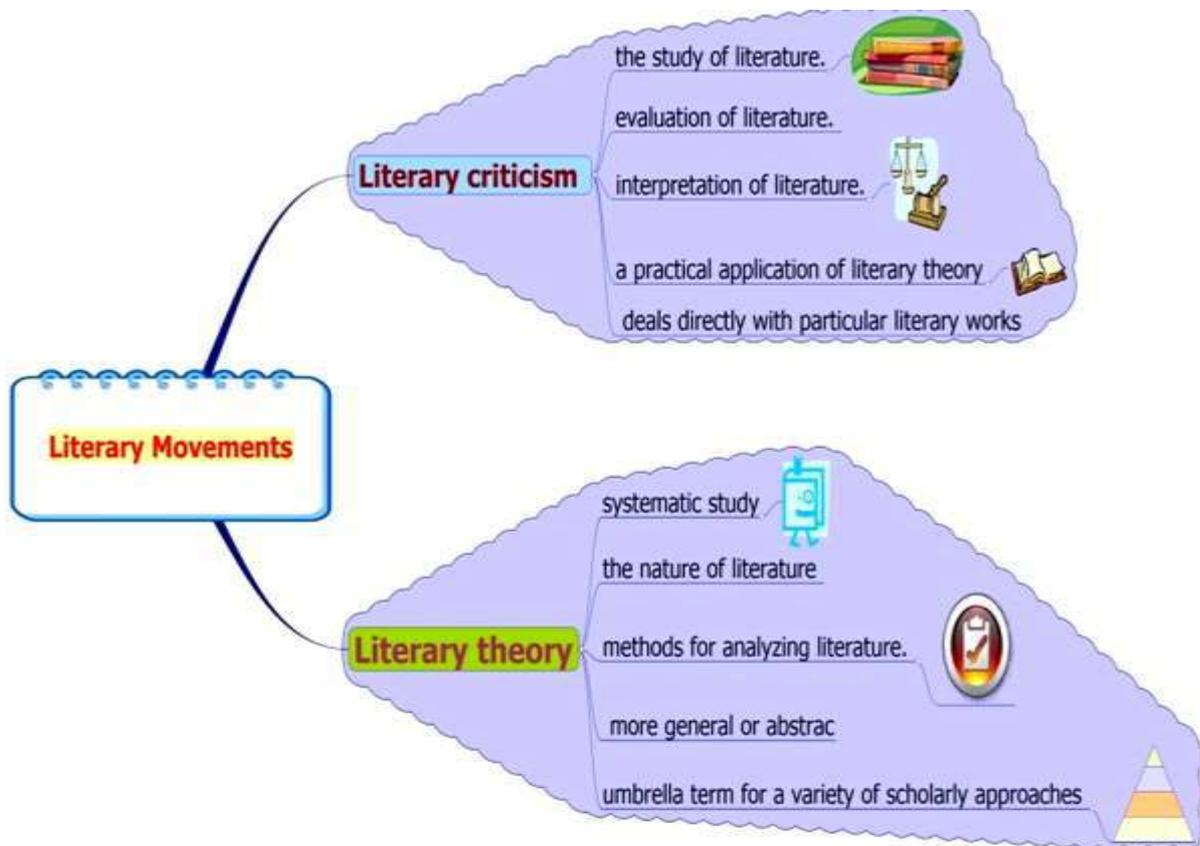
- ❖ Queer theory followed feminist theory by further interrogating gender roles in literary studies, particularly through the lens of sexual orientation and gender identity.

Critical race theory:

- ❖ Critical race theory emerged during the civil rights movement in the United States.
- ❖ It is primarily concerned with examining the law, criminal justice, and cultural texts through the lens of race.
- ❖ Some leading critics of CRT include Kimberlé Crenshaw and Derrick Bell.

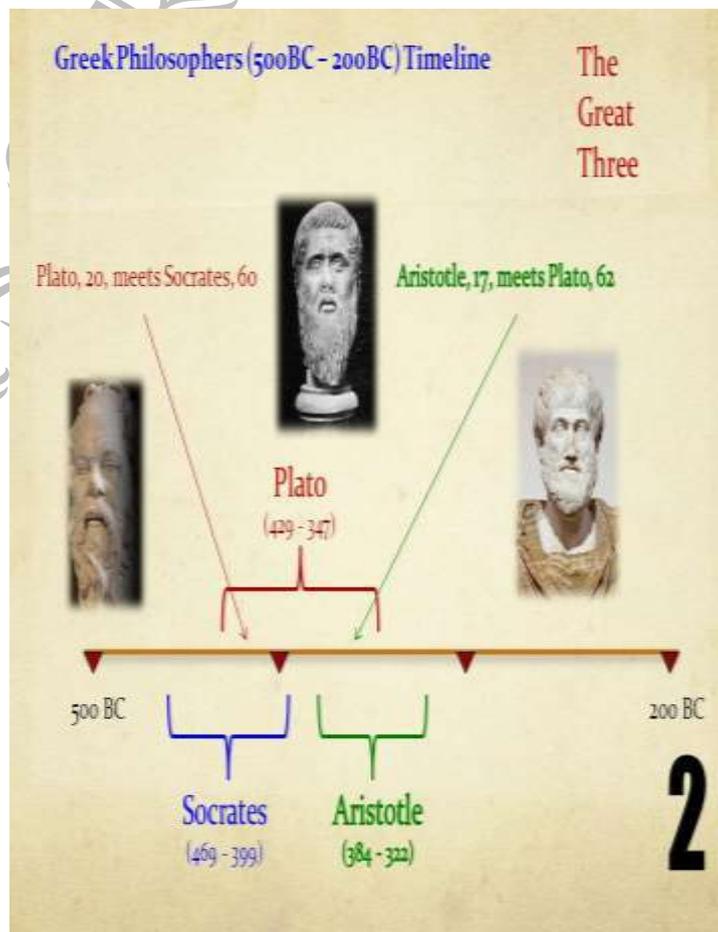
Critical disability theory:

- ❖ Critical disability theory is one of a growing number of intersectional fields of critical study.
- ❖ Critical disability theorists believe racist and ableist views go hand-in-hand and seek to examine ablest societal structures.



The Classical Age:

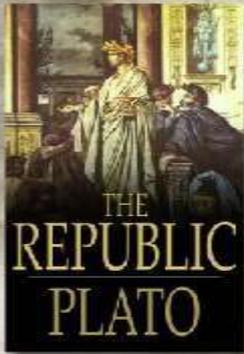
- ❖ A period of just over a hundred years covered the lives of both Plato (c. 427-348) and Aristotle (c.384-322).
- ❖ They could look back on the golden age of Pericles. They inherited Homer & Hesiod. Xenophanes and Herodotus lived not many years before them.
- ❖ Greek drama was flourishing during their Age. Aeschylus, Sophocles and Euripides together had made the fifth century the richest age for tragic masterpieces.



9.1. THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF PLATO AND ARISTOTLE TO LITERARY CRITICISM

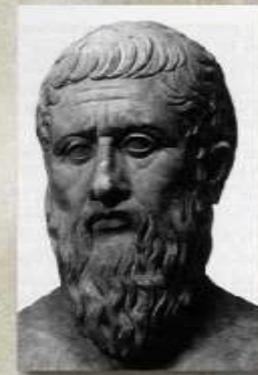
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9.1.1. PLATO (C. 427-347)



Plato

Timeline



Accomplishments

Considered the founder of philosophy, Plato changed the way people thought in his lifetime. Many Greek philosophers before his time contemplated philosophical, including epistemological, questions separately, ; Plato's ideas revolved around these ideas being interrelated, and therefore his philosophies were all connected to one another (The Top 100 Heroes of Western Culture). Through various texts, Plato incorporated his mentor and teacher Socrates' philosophies and teachings and ultimately changed the way people thought of the world. One of the most important books that Plato published was *The Republic*. In this text, most of his own personal philosophies were written. Later on in his life, Plato started to explore the ideas of metaphysics and morality. He concluded that "the world of ideas is the only constant and that the perceived world through our senses is deceptive and changeable". Around 385 BC, Plato founded one of the first high-end institutions called the Academy. This school offered subjects such as astronomy, biology, mathematics, political theory and philosophy. This academy's goal was for future leaders to discover how to build a better government in the Greek city-states (Plato Biography). One of many reasons why the Academy was a very important was because famous ancient Greek philosopher Aristotle was a student there. With the teachings of Plato, Aristotle became a famous philosopher

- 427 BC: Plato is born in Athens, Greece.
407 BC: Plato meets Socrates, abandons aspiration to be playwright. Starts developing a strong bond with Socrates.
403 BC: Plato turns away from politics toward philosophy.
399 BC: Socrates is sentenced to death. Plato becomes distressed and soon withdraws from social life.
380 BC: Plato decides its time to carry on many of Socrates' teachings and founds The Academy outside of Athens.
367 BC: Aristotle begins his studies in Plato's Academy.
347 BC: Plato dies of old age at his Academy.
346 BC: Much like Plato did after Socrates' death, Aristotle leaves Athens after Plato's death to pursue his own line of inquiry.



Biography

Ancient Greek writer and philosopher Plato was born in Athens around 428 BC. His birth name was Aristocles, named after his grandfather, but people called him Plato due to his broad build. He was a student of Socrates; many of his Plato's philosophies stem from Socrates' ideas. Plato was also a teacher of Aristotle. His writings focused on beauty, justice, equality, aesthetics, politics, and many more. Plato founded the Academy - one of the first institutions of higher learning in Athens. The Academy was also one of the first academic institutions in the Western world. He influenced the society around him during his life time in many ways. Plato died in Athens around 348 BC but his philosophies continue to live on. (Plato Biography)

Lasting Impact

Plato impacted the world in many ways. His philosophical ideas concerning morality, the nature of human beings, and political theory traveled way beyond his homeland in Greece. His belief in the importance of mathematics in education have proven to be vital for understanding how the entire universe functions at a physical basis. Society today has been forever changed due to Plato's idea concerning the use of reason in order to develop a more just and fair society. Plato's philosophy on the importance of equality amongst individuals, distinctly found in his book *The Republic*, established the foundation for modern democracy. (Plato Biography)

All men are by nature equal,
made all of the same earth by one Workman;
and however we deceive ourselves,
as dear unto God is the poor peasant
as the mighty prince.



Plato

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❖ Plato was twenty years younger than Aristophanes.

❖ He was twenty one when Sophocles and Euripides died.

❖ Plato was a disciple of Socrates.



❖ Plato presented his teaching in dialogues, using Socrates as the central spokesman.

❖ “Socrates lures his listeners into expressions of opinion, then dissects them, and brings to light contradiction, absurdity, or shallowness inherent in what they have said”.

The use of this method makes for entertaining reading, but it can mislead the inexperienced reader:

1. There is heavy irony in what Socrates says. [Inexpert readers may not see through the irony]

2. We cannot assume that the conclusion of Socrates is the conclusion of Plato also.

3. The main aim of this dialectical method is to stimulate lively thinking than indoctrination.

❖ Plato never assumed the role of a literary critic. In fact, he never considered imaginative literature as something important.

❖ Because of his low estimate of the role of imaginative literature in a healthy society, Plato ventured into literary criticism.

❖ In his early dialogue Ion, Plato introduces Ion who is a rhapsodist (one who lives by recitation of poetry). Ion recites Homer’s poetry.

❖ He is brought into the company of Socrates who “plays with him verbally like a cat with a mouse”.

Ion claims to have special knowledge of Homer which Socrates questions.

❖ If Homer dilates on chariot driving, will not the charioteer be the best judge of his work?

❖ If Homer dilates on medical matters, on architecture, or on fishing, will not the physician, the architect, or the fisherman be the best judge of his work?

- ❖ And is not Homer's concern with battle something a general would best understand?
- ❖ By such questions Socrates leads Ion to the logical conclusion that neither he nor Homer has mastery over medicine, architecture, fishing, and the like. Poetry is not the vehicle of learning but of inspiration.
- ❖ Plato considers inspiration as inferior to learning. Learning is an intellectual activity.
- ❖ Inspiration has only an aesthetic interest. That is why Plato dismisses literature, which is based on inspiration, in his Republic.
- ❖ The way in which Plato compares the charioteers' first hand information about chariot-driving and the poet's second hand information about the same define his attitude to literature.
- ❖ Plato considered literature as a representation or imitation of the real thing.
- ❖ However, chariot or medicine or fishing is not the real thing for Plato. He formulated a doctrine of Ideas, or Forms.
- ❖ For example: - 'We draw a circle. The circle may be perfect or imperfect. But the idea of circularity which is there in our mind before we draw the 'circle' is perfect. The idea is perfect. The representation may be perfect or imperfect]

9.1.2. Realism and Nominalism:

- ❖ The perfect form has priority over the imperfect appearance of it.
- ❖ The imperfect form will pass away with time.
- ❖ For the 'realist' the perfect form is more important any concept of 'beauty' is more important than any example of the beautiful a beautiful flower/child etc.
- ❖ For the 'nominalist', the concept of beauty is abstract.
- ❖ It is a mere name which is given to all examples of the beautiful. The examples are real, the concept is abstract.
- ❖ "Plato's doctrine of forms reduces the status of what is around us". What is around us is an inadequate representation of what is perfect/eternal.

- ❖ The poet imitates what he sees around him (which is already imperfect)
- 1. Idea is the perfect thing—circularity, beauty etc.
- 2. What we see around us—a circle, a beautiful flower etc. is imperfect once removed from reality.
- 3. The poet imitates the thing he sees—circle/ beautiful flower etc. Therefore poetry is twice removed from reality.

Plato and Literature:

- ❖ Plato is not totally insensitive to literature. He knew about the powerful appeal of Homer. He knew about the ability of literature to move and charm.
- ❖ Therefore he was suspicious about literature. Plato believed that writers present models which will damage rather than discipline the young.
- ❖ They must have courageous and noble models presented to them in literature.

9.1.3. Plato and Imitation:

The concept of imitation is very important. Through it Plato gives a questionable status to literature

1. Literature is a second-hand version of life
2. Writers are impersonators.
3. The writer's presentation of life is unreliable.

Thus, Plato 'sheds around the world of literature an aura of falsity'.

NOTE:

Plato was the most celebrated disciple of Socrates. He lived during the twilight period of Athenian Art and Literature.

The golden Age which saw the creative outpourings of Phidias, Polygnotus, Aeschylus, Sophocles, Euripides, and Aristophanes was on the decline.

Drama and Poetry were replaced by philosophy and oratory. Parmenides, Empedocles and Socrates were the chief philosophers and Gorgias, Antiphon, and Lysias were the great orators.

The fifth century was the glorious age for creative activity. The fourth was famous for critical inquiry and analysis.

- ❖ Plato could not be called a 'critic' of literature in any sense of the term. Rather, he had a very low opinion about all creations of imagination.
- ❖ His area was philosophy and it is the subject of his great work, the Dialogues.

Dialogues:

- ❖ This work is in question and answer format.
- ❖ There are a number of interlocutors in the work.
- ❖ The chief among them is Socrates.
- ❖ We can safely assume that the opinions expressed by Socrates are the opinions of Plato also.
- ❖ In the work, there are scattered references to literature.
- ❖ Plato's views of Art are connected to his theory of Ideas

9.1.4. Theory of Ideas & Views of Art:

1. **Ideas are the ultimate reality. Ideas exist in our mind.** [Before we build a house, the Idea of a house is there in our mind.

This Idea is perfect. The house we build may be perfect or imperfect.]

2. Thus the idea is original. The things we see/experience are copies of the Idea. [The house we live in is a copy of the Idea that was there in our mind.

Hence all the things we see around us are copies of the Idea. Thus all these things are once removed from Idea which is the reality.

3. **Art—literature, painting, sculpture etc. are copies of the things we see around us.**

Art, Literature, Painting and Sculpture copy the things in the outside world which are themselves copies of the original Idea.

- ❖ Thus they copy a copy. Thus Art, Literature, Painting and Sculpture are twice removed from reality.
- ❖ All the things around us are imperfect as they are nothing but copies of the Perfect Idea which is there in our mind.
- ❖ Art copies the things around us which are already imperfect.

UNIT- IX - LITERARY CRITICISM AND THEORIES

IMPORTANT MCQS

1. Assertion (A): According to Freud, super-ego observes and criticises us like our parents whose influence reigns over our personalities throughout our lives.

Reason (R): Because super ego forces us to obey the moral codes expected by the group.

Codes:

(A) (A) is false and (R) is correct explanation.

(B) Both (A) and (R) is false and (R) is not the correct explanation.

(C) (A) is true and (R) is false.

(D) (A) is false and (R) is true.

2. The characteristics of Myth is

(i) Charismatic Narrative

(ii) Spreading Gossip

(iii) Tracing the origins

(iv) Sacred Narrative

(A) (i) and (ii) are correct

(B) (ii) and (iii) are correct

(C) (i) and (iv) are correct

(D) (iii) and (iv) are correct

3. Assertion (A): Myths are regarded not merely as true but also as venerable and sacred

Reason (R): Myths are explanations for ritual practices.

Codes:

(A) Both (A) and (R) is false.

(B) Both (A) and (R) is true.

(C) (A) is false and (R) is true.

(D) (A) is true and (R) is false.

4. Correct sequence of the theories in Folkloristic is

(A) Myth ritual, Functionalism, Evolution, Performance

(B) Evolution, Myth ritual, Functionalism, Performance

(C) Performance, Myth ritual, Functionalism, Evolution



(D) Functionalism, Myth ritual, Evolution, Performance

5. Which of the following arrangements is in the correct chronological sequence?

(A) Mary Wellstone Craft's A Vindication of the Rights of Woman – Lyrical Ballads by Wordsworth and Coleridge – Lyrical Ballads with 'Preface', second edition by Wordsworth and Coleridge – Edmund Burke's Reflections on the Revolution in France.

(B) Edmund Burke's Reflections on the Revolution in France – Mary Wollstone Craft's A Vindication of the Rights of Woman – Lyrical Ballads by Wordsworth and Coleridge – Lyrical Ballads with 'Preface', second edition by Wordsworth and Coleridge.

(C) Lyrical Ballads with 'Preface', second edition by Wordsworth and Coleridge – Lyrical Ballads by Wordsworth and Coleridge – Edmund Burke's Reflections on, the Revolution in France – Mary Wollstone Craft's A Vindication of the Rights of Woman.

(D) Lyrical Ballads by Wordsworth and Coleridge – Lyrical Ballads with 'Preface', second edition by Wordsworth and Coleridge – Edmund Burke's Reflections on the Revolution in France – Mary Wollstone Craft's A Vindication of the Rights of Woman.

6. For which of the following reasons early feminist approaches to development have been criticised ?

(A) Only looking at women

(B) Not engaging with development agencies

(C) Having unrealistic aims

(D) Ignoring women's roles in production

Code :

(A) (A), (B), (C), (D)

(B) (A), (B) and (C) only

(C) (A), (B) and (D) only

(D) (C) and (D) only

7. Which of the following are correct about third wave feminism ?

(A) Emphasis on Women's Rights Movements

(B) Emergence of Intersectionality

(C) Focus on a more post-structuralist interpretation of Gender

(D) Change in Gender Stereotypes

Code :

- (A) (A), (B), (C) and (D) (B) (A), (B) and (C) only
(C) (B), (C) and (D) only (D) (B) and (C) only

8. Which of the following thinkers viewed that Gender inequality comes from early childhood experiences which lead men to behave themselves to be masculine and women to behave themselves feminine ?

- (A) Nancy Chodorow (B) Dorothy Dinnerstein
(C) Kate Millett (D) Sigmund Freud

9. Among the following feminists who present a vision of 'a women strong in mind and body who is not a slave to her passion, her husband or her children' ?

- (A) Mary Wollstone Craft (B) Mary Dally
(C) Harriet Taylor (D) Margaret Fuller

10. Who said ?

"The overthrow of mother right was the world historical defeat of the female sex. The man took command in the house also, the woman was degraded and reduced to servitude, she became the slave of his lust and a mere instrument for the production of his children."

- (A) Simone de Beauvoir (B) Alison Jaggar
(C) Friederich Engels (D) Clara Zetkin

11. Among the following who is not a woman environmentalist ?

- (A) Wangari Muta Maathai (B) Maria Cherkasova
(C) Rachel Carsen (D) Mary Anderson

12. Among the following liberal feminist who had the view that "so long as a woman is permitted to enter and leave the labour market at will, she is fully liberated" ?

- (A) J.S. Mill (B) Harriet Taylor
(C) Betty Friedan (D) Elizabeth Holtzman

13. Who started the Ladies Theosophical Society in India ?

- (A) Rassundri Devi (B) Swarnakumari Devi
(C) Pandita Ramabai (D) Annie Besant

14. According to the Italian Marxist theorist Antonio Gramsci:

- (A) Hegemony is synonymous with domination
(B) Hegemony involves a degree of consent on the part of subject people.
(C) Hegemony involves a degree of coercion on the part of a dominant political entity.
(D) Hegemony is synonymous with subjugation

15. Combine the statements correctly: According to Homi Bhabha _____

1. Mimicry is not mere copying or emulating the colonizer's culture, behaviour and manners.

2. But it is further aimed at perfection and excess.

3. Mimicry is mere copying the colonizer's culture, behaviour and manners...

4. But is informed by both mockery and a certain menace.

- (A) 1 and 4 (B) 1 and 2
(C) 3 and 4 (D) 3 and 2

16. All forms of feminism posit that:

Code:

I. The relationship between the sexes is one of inequality and oppression.

II. There should be an end to all wars.

III. Women need financial independence.

IV. All men are prone to violence.

The correct combination according to the code is:

- (A) I and II are correct. (B) III and IV are correct.
(C) I and III are correct. (D) II and IV are correct.



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**UG TRB
ENGLISH
2022-2023**



UNIT X

WOMEN'S WRITING IN ENGLISH

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UG TRB – ENGLISH – 2022-23

UNIT - X

WOMEN'S WRITING IN ENGLISH

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UNIT – X - WOMEN’S WRITING IN ENGLISH



PROSE: DETAILED STUDY

10.1. AIN’T I A WOMAN?

- Sojourner Truth

10.1.1. About sojourner Truth:

- Born into slavery in 1797, Isabella Baumfree, who later changed her name to Sojourner Truth, would become one of the most powerful advocates for human rights in the nineteenth century.
- Her early childhood was spent on a New York estate owned by a Dutch American named Colonel Johannes Hardenbergh.
- Like other slaves, she experienced the miseries of being sold and was cruelly beaten and mistreated.
- Around 1815 she fell in love with a fellow slave named Robert, but they were forced apart by Robert’s master.
- Isabella was instead forced to marry a slave named Thomas, with whom she had five children.

“I sell the shadow to support the substance.” -- Sojourner Truth. Carte de Visite, circa 1864, in the collections of the Library of Congress

- In 1827, after her master failed to honor his promise to free her or to uphold the New York Anti-Slavery Law of 1827, Isabella ran away, or, as she later informed her master, “I did not run away, I walked away by daylight....”

- After experiencing a religious conversion, Isabella became an itinerant preacher and in 1843 changed her name to Sojourner Truth.
- During this period, she became involved in the growing antislavery movement, and by the 1850s she was involved in the woman's rights movement as well.
- At the 1851 Women's Rights Convention held in Akron, Ohio, Sojourner Truth delivered what is now recognized as one of the most famous abolitionist and women's rights speeches in American history, "Ain't I a Woman?"
- She continued to speak out for the rights of African Americans and women during and after the Civil War. Sojourner Truth died in Battle Creek, Michigan, in 1883.

Sojourner Truth

Born into slavery in Hurley, New York in 1797.

Born "Isabella Baumfree"

She was tall - 5 feet 11 inches.

She had 12 siblings, but only knew her younger brother.

After her master died, she was sold along with a flock of sheep.



10.1.2. About Title:

Full Title : "Ain't I a Woman?"

When Written : Early 1850s

When Published : First delivered at the Ohio Women's Rights Convention in May of 1851

Literary Period : First-Wave Feminism

Genre : Persuasive Speech, Abolitionist Address

Setting : Akron, Ohio

Climax : Sojourner Truth repeats the refrain “and ain’t I a woman?” as she relays horrific tales of enslavement, brutality, and loss.

Antagonist : Racism, slavery, sexism, religious hypocrisy, selfish men

Point of View : First Person

10.1.3. Historical Context of Ain’t I a Woman?

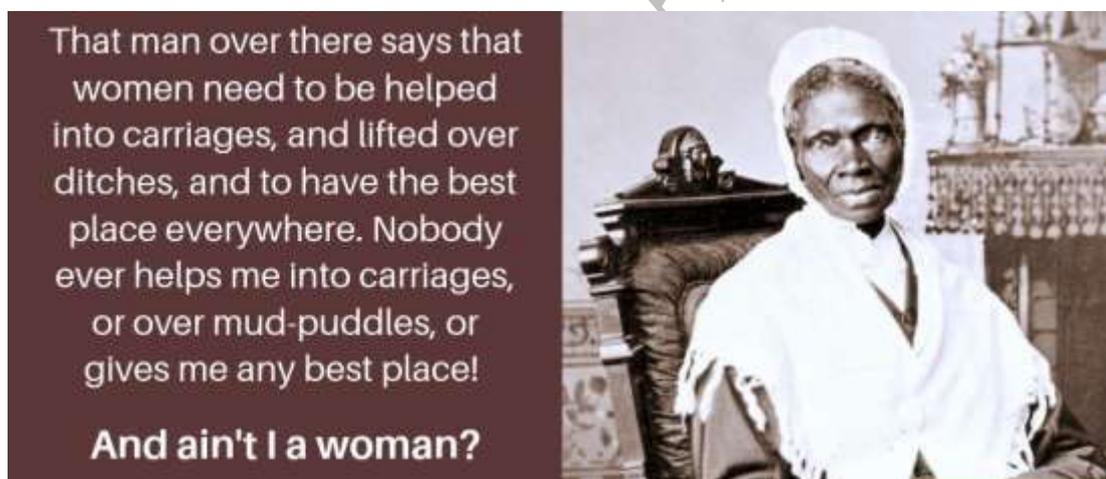
- Throughout the 1840s and 1850s in the United States, a women’s rights movements took hold of the nation. Now referred to as the first wave of feminism, this movement was largely led by white women.
- Some of these women were abolitionists, but many of them had no interest in fighting to secure equal rights for non-white women they feared that the women’s rights movement would attract greater scorn and opposition if it became an interracial one.
- Sojourner Truth’s speech at the 1851 Women’s Rights Convention in Akron, Ohio, was a landmark one while many such conventions were being held all over the country, not all of them allowed Black women to speak and make their voices heard.

10.1.4. Text:

- Sojourner Truth delivered her Aint I a Woman? speech in 1851 at the Women's Rights Convention in Akron, Ohio. Her short, simple speech was a powerful rebuke to many antifeminist arguments of the day. It became, and continues to serve, as a classic expression of womens rights. Truth became, and still is today, a symbol of strong women.
- Named Isabella Van Wagenen, Truth was born into slavery in New York in 1797. She was freed in 1827 under the New York Antislavery Law (although slavery was not abolished nationwide until much later). She had five children, some of whom were taken away from her and sold. After becoming free, she lived for some time with a Quaker family who provided her with an education.
- Isabella became a Pentecostal preacher and an outspoken abolitionist and supporter of womens rights. She traveled throughout the northeast and midwest, speaking publicly and (famously) singing her message as well. In 1843, Isabella changed her name to Sojourner Truth.
- In 1851, Truth attended the Womens Rights Convention in Ohio. According to Frances Gage, the president of the Convention, on the second day several male ministers showed up and argued that women should not have the same rights as men. The ministers

reasoning: women were weak, men were intellectually superior to women, Jesus was a man, and our first mother sinned.

- Sojourner Truth rose and (amidst protests from some of the women who feared she'd talk about abolition) delivered her short, masterful speech -- invoking tenets of Christianity and using her strong, imposing presence to debunk the ministers arguments. Pointing to her well-muscled arms and referring to the hard work she performed as a slave, she allegedly declared, and ain't I a woman? As to the argument that Jesus was a man, she responded: Where did your Christ come from? Where did your Christ come from? From God and a woman! Man had nothing to do with Him. And turning the sin of Eve argument on its head, she lectured, If the first woman God ever made was strong enough to turn the world upside down all alone, these women together ought to be able to turn it back, and get it right side up again! By all accounts, as Truth spoke, the crowd in the church rose and wildly applauded.



- Several versions of Truth's famous speech exist today. The most famous is an 1863 account of the speech as remembered by Frances Gage. However, newspaper reports of the speech at the time of the Convention relay a different version. Some believe that Gage changed the speech so that Truth would sound more like a Southern slave. In fact, Truth did not speak in a Southern style, having been born in New York and speaking Dutch until age 9. Both versions of the speech are included below.

Ain't I a Woman?

- As recounted by Frances Gage, in 1863
- Well, children, where there is so much racket there must be something out of kilter. I think that 'twixt the negroes of the South and the women at the North, all talking about rights, the white men will be in a fix pretty soon. But what's all this here talking about?



- That man over there says that women need to be helped into carriages, and lifted over ditches, and to have the best place everywhere. Nobody ever helps me into carriages, or over mud-puddles, or gives me any best place! And ain't I a woman? Look at me! Look at my arm! I have ploughed and planted, and gathered into barns, and no man could head me! And ain't I a woman? I could work as much and eat as much as a man - when I could get it - and bear the lash as well! And ain't I a woman? I have borne thirteen children, and seen most all sold off to slavery, and when I cried out with my mother's grief, none but Jesus heard me! And ain't I a woman?
- Then they talk about this thing in the head; what's this they call it? [member of audience whispers, "intellect"] That's it, honey. What's that got to do with women's rights or negroes' rights? If my cup won't hold but a pint, and yours holds a quart, wouldn't you be mean not to let me have my little half measure full?
- Then that little man in black there, he says women can't have as much rights as men, 'cause Christ wasn't a woman! Where did your Christ come from? Where did your Christ come from? From God and a woman! Man had nothing to do with Him.
- If the first woman God ever made was strong enough to turn the world upside down all alone, these women together ought to be able to turn it back, and get it right side up again! And now they is asking to do it, the men better let them.
- Obligated to you for hearing me, and now old Sojourner ain't got nothing more to say.
- As reported in the Anti-Slavery Bugle, Salem, Ohio, June 21, 1851
- May I say a few words? Receiving an affirmative answer, she proceeded; I want to say a few words about this matter. I am for woman's rights. I have as much muscle as any man, and can do as much work as any man. I have plowed and reaped and husked and chopped and mowed, and can any man do more than that? I have heard much about the sexes being equal; I can carry as much as any man, and can eat as much too, if I can get it. I am as strong as any man that is now.
- As for intellect, all I can say is, if woman have a pint and a man a quart -- why can't she have her little pint full? You need not be afraid to give us our rights for fear we will take too much -- for we won't take more than our pint will hold.
- The poor men seem to be all in confusion and don't know what to do. Why children, if you have woman's rights give it to her and you will feel better. You will have your own rights, and there won't be so much trouble.

10.1.5. Summary:

Introduction

- Sojourner Truth addresses the subject of all the "racket" that the call for women's rights has created.
- She deduces that where there is so much conflict, there must be underlying causes.
- White men find themselves caught between the demands of black people in the South and women in the North, and she wants to address some of their points at the conference.
- Truth points out the disparity between patriarchal notions of womanhood (that women need to be helped into carriages or lifted over ditches) with the treatment of enslaved women, who do not benefit from such cultural ideology.

Strength:

- Although a man at the conference has claimed that women are weaker than men, Truth claims no one has ever treated her as if she were in need of assistance.
- She is just as strong as a man with the same appetite and ability to work.
- She shows the audience the muscles in her arm and lists the agricultural work she has done as evidence of her equal strength, demanding the audience consider the question, "A'n't I a woman?"
- Furthermore, she harbors emotional strength because she has given birth to multiple children, only to suffer through the pain of losing them as they were sold away from her.

Intelligence:

- Some people contend that women are not as intelligent as men.
- Truth argues that if women's intelligence is like a cup that holds a pint and men's hold a quart, men would be quite selfish to withhold any of a woman's smaller measure.
- Intellectual capacity should have no bearing on the rights of women or blacks.

Christianity:

- Truth rejects the notion that women are not equal to men because Christ was a man.
- She asks the audience where Christ came from, after all.
- He was born of God and a woman. No man was involved.

Conclusion:

- If women were responsible for original sin, as some claim, they have been deemed capable of turning the world upside down and therefore also have the ability to right it.
- Men need to get out of their way, Truth says, and let them get to work on setting the world right side up again.

10.1.6. Analysis:

Willingness to Speak:

- Frances Dana Gage, the chair of the convention at which the speech was delivered, transcribed the speech along with her own observations of the event.
- She portrays Truth as a savior figure.
- Although members of the audience wanted Gage to prevent Truth from speaking and making the meeting into "an abolition affair," Truth won over the crowd, coming to the rescue of a white female audience that had been intimidated into silence by the objections of the male ministers present.
- Gage emphasizes the ways in which Truth was different from the other women, from her manner of speaking and tall stature, to the place she chose to sit at the front of the room on the stairs to the pulpit.
- Gage's description of Truth was influenced by the article American writer and educator Harriet Beecher Stowe (1811–96) wrote about meeting Truth, in which she described her as "Libyan Sibyl," a reference to a sculpture of a strong African woman at a well.
- Gage calls Truth "Libyan Statue" in her account of the day.
- The primary difference between Truth and the other women in the audience, according to Gage's reflection, is in Truth's willingness to speak.
- As minister after minister rose to argue that the Bible taught against women's equality, Gage says that "there were very few women ... who dared" to offer rebuttal, calling them "tender skinned ... on the point of losing their dignity," with little boys sneering at them.
- Truth, on the other hand, rises like an "almost Amazon form" to answer their claims with her own experience and logic, to be greeted with "deafening applause."
- Gage claims she had "taken us up in her strong arms ... and carried us safely ... turning the whole tide in our favor."

Techniques of Persuasive Speech

- To ensure the impact of her message on her audience, Sojourner Truth presented herself as a former slave and mother who had been wronged.

- Nonetheless, she employed techniques of persuasive speech to good effect.

Public Persona and Dialect:

- Truth cultivated her public persona for maximum persuasiveness.
- Although it was not illegal for black people to learn to read in New York state in her youth, Truth never received a formal education or sought to become literate.
- Even after she was free, Truth never learned to read or write.
- Unlike other black abolitionists, including Frederick Douglass and American abolitionist Harriet Tubman (c. 1820–1913) who used their writing to further the cause, Truth chose to dictate her story.
- Rather than creating a polished, educated manner of speaking to address mainly white audiences and convince them of the speaker's intelligence, as Frederick Douglass did, Truth stuck to her folksy sayings and black dialect. Douglass called her "a genuine specimen of the uncultured Negro" without refinement or "elegance of speech."
- Because Truth did not write her speeches, it is important to note, however, that the dialect is transcribed by white listeners, who were often guilty of using phonetics (speech sounds) to record black language.
- This system of transcription does not reflect what modern linguists know today about black dialect, which is that, like any dialect, it operates according to systematic grammatical rules that can be replicated without the misspellings of standard English words evident in phonetic transcription.
- One major fault of phonetic transcription is that the misspellings of Standard English words frequently lead readers to conclude that the speaker is not intelligent, which is often far from the case.
- One good example of this misconception comes from American author Mark Twain's (1835–1910) characterization of Jim in *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* (1885).
- Jim speaks in phonetically recorded black dialect and is often perceived by other characters and readers as dumb, but, in fact, he functions as the moral center of the text.

Appeal to Logic:

- However, with her repeated refrain of "And a'n't I a woman?" Truth carefully appealed to the logic of the audience. She punctuates each of the following points with the refrain:
- She doesn't require the help of men.
- She is strong enough to plow and plant.

- She can work, eat, and bear up as well as a man.
- She has suffered unbearable grief.

Rhetorical Questions:

- Then, in the latter part of the speech, she asks the audience rhetorical questions—ones that do not require answers and are, instead, designed to make the listeners squirm and examine their own prejudices. Her questions include the following:
- What does intelligence have to do with human rights?
- Even if women were less intelligent than men, couldn't they have rights?
- Where did Christ come from? (She asks this to make the point that although Jesus Christ was a man, that should not be an argument against women's rights, because Jesus was born of God and a woman, not a man.)

Biblical Imagery:

- Truth evokes several images from the Bible to support her statements.
- Although she was illiterate, she was a staunch Christian and had heard the Bible read aloud.
- In both Gage and Robinson's accounts of the speech, Truth makes the point that Jesus's masculinity is not an argument against women's rights.
- Both also refer to Eve from the biblical book of Genesis, the first woman whose sin brought suffering and death into the world.
- Eve ate the fruit of the tree of knowledge and shared it with her husband, Adam, causing their expulsion from the Garden of Eden and bringing about mortality.
- If a woman upset the world, Truth says, she should be able to "git it right side up again."
- Robinson's account further mentions the New Testament figure of Lazarus, brother of Mary and Martha, all friends of Jesus.
- In the Gospel of John, Chapter 11, Jesus learns that Lazarus has died and asks for the stone of his grave to be removed.
- Then, after praying, Jesus calls for Lazarus to come forth, and the dead man rises. In Robinson's account, Truth uses this story to show how much Jesus loved women—enough to restore the sisters' dead brother.

10.1.7. Important quotes:

- 1) Wall, chilern, whar dar is so much racket dar must be somethin' out o' kilter. -Sojourner Truth

- 2) 'Twixt de niggers of de Souf and de womin at de Norf, all talkin' 'bout rights, de white men will be in a fix. -Sojourner Truth
- 3) Dat man ... say dat womin needs to be helped into carriages, and lifted ober ditches, and to hab de best place everywhere. -Sojourner Truth
- 4) Nobody eber helps me into carriage, or ober mud-puddles, or gibs me any best place! And a'n't I a woman? Sojourner Truth
- 5) Look at my arm! I have ploughed, and planted, and gathered into barns, and no man could head me! And a'n't I a woman? -Sojourner Truth
- 6) I have borne thirteen chilern, and seen 'em mos' all sold off to slavery, and ... none but Jesus heard me!
- 7) Sojourner Truth
- 8) What's [intellect] got to do wid womin's rights or nigger's rights? -Sojourner Truth
- 9) If my cup won't hold but a pint, and yourn holds a quart, wouldn't ye be mean not to let me have my little half-measure full? -Sojourner Truth
- 10) He say women can't have as much rights as men, 'cause Christ wan't a woman! Whar did your Christ come from? ... God and a woman! -Sojourner Truth
- 11) If de fust woman ... turn de world upside down ... dese women togedder ought to be able to turn it back, and ... de men better let 'em. -Sojourner Truth

MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS:

1. What does "twixt" mean in the following sentence:

"I think that 'twixt the negroes of the South and the women at the North, all talking about rights, the white men will be in a fix pretty soon"

- A) between B) fix C) inside D) about

2. Which is NOT an argument Truth makes as to why women and men should have equal rights?

- A) Women can do anything men can do. B) Christ was born from God and a woman
C) Women are smarter than men D) none

3. Complete this cause-and-effect.

Cause: I have borne thirteen children, and seen them most all sold off to slavery

- A) Nobody ever helps me.
B) I cried out with my mother's grief.
C) And ain't I a woman?
D) I could work as much and eat as much as a man.

4. What does the bolded term mean in the following sentence:

"Well, children, where there is so much racket there must be something out of kilter."

- A) out of harmony or balance
- B) to have turned up the earth with a plow
- C) noise; liveliness; a loud unpleasant noise
- D) none of these

5. According to Truth, what is the "fix" that white men are in? What details does Truth use to support that idea?

- A) The "fix" is that both African Americans and women are starting to fight for their rights, which will change the role that white men have had.
- B) Only African Americans are fighting for rights which changes the role for women.
- C) Only White people are fighting for the rights of African American
- D) Only Sojourner is attempting to fight for equal rights for women.



6. What does the bolded term mean in the following sentence:

"Well, children, where there is so much racket there must be something out of kilter."

- A) noise; liveliness; a loud unpleasant noise
- B) out of harmony or balance
- C) to have turned up the earth with a plow
- D) none of these

7. What type of figurative language is used in the following sentence?

"If my cup won't hold but a pint, and yours holds a quart, wouldn't you be mean not to let me have my little half measure full?"

- A) Simile
- B) Metaphor
- C) Allusion
- D) Parallelism

8. The phrase "ain't I a woman" is repeated several times in paragraph two of her speech. Why does she repeat this phrase? What effect does it have on the reader?

- A) The phrase is repeated because people do not believe she is a woman due to the fact that she acts like a man. People believe her because she is so insistent.
- B) She was clearly upset that women did not have the same rights as men. It shows that she was unstable and could not speak well.
- C) She repeats the phrase to make a point; she does not get the same treatment as white women, yet she can do as much (if not more) as a man. It shows she does not need any special treatment because she is a woman.

D) none

9. What is the name of the text we read by Sojourner Truth?

A) Ain't I A Woman? B) I am a woman C) Woman I am D) Ain't I a Girl?

10. Who wrote the text that we read entitled "Ain't I A Woman?"

A) Michelle Obama B) Beyonce
C) Martha Washington D) Sojourner Truth

NON – DETAILED STUDY

10.2. A VINDICATION OF THE RIGHTS OF WOMAN: WITH STRICTURES ON POLITICAL AND MORAL SUBJECTS

- Mary Wollstonecraft



Mary
Wollstonecraft
1759-1797

For many, Wollstonecraft is seen as a key figure at the beginning of modern feminism.

She is often not recognised for her early feminism but instead remembered for her penetrating assessment of the conditions of women.

Feminism

A Vindication of the Rights of Women has been described as a cornerstone of modern feminism.

Wollstonecraft explained that her difficulty in the field of philosophy was because it was believed that women were "created rather to feel than reason", meaning the idea of a female philosopher just seemed wholly out of place.



Women's
Education

Wollstonecraft believed women should have equal education rights to men, without this women were prevented from exercising genuine judgement or attaining genuine virtue.



Her book *Thoughts on the Education of Daughters* was aimed at middle classes and encouraged the rejection of 'lower class superstitions'.

Marriage



Wollstonecraft believed in companionate patriarchal, marriage

Wollstonecraft advocated that the domestic role in bringing up children should be valued as a civic virtue equal to patriotic duty in the public sphere.

Despite them both having theoretical objections to the institution of matrimony, Wollstonecraft married William Godwin in 1797, about six months before she died following complications during the birth of their daughter.

During their short time together, Wollstonecraft and Godwin continued to live very independent lives.



Wollstonecraft affirmed the original ideals of the French Revolution but also acknowledged the degeneration into excessive violence which she attributed to French culture which had been tainted by its legacy of feudal aristocracy and superstition.

Mary Wollstonecraft sought a world where every individual was free from the shackles of superstition and false authority.

A Vindication of the Rights of Women was a direct challenge to Jean-Jacques Rousseau's assumption of female inferiority. She defied this and championed equal education rights.

Response to others' work

Political Philosophy

She criticised the limited views of politicians who tried to claim that the abolition of the slave trade would infringe the laws of property while ignoring the claims of justice, universal dignity, and human fellowship.

UNIT X - WOMEN'S WRITING IN ENGLISH

IMPORTANT MCQS

1. Arrange the following initiatives with regard to women's Studies in chronological order:

- (1) Establishment of Indian Association of Women's studies.
- (2) First National Conference on Women's Studies.
- (3) Publication of 'Towards Equality Report'
- (4) Second National Education Policy

Code:

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| (A) (1), (2), (3), (4) | (B) (3), (2), (1), (4) |
| (C) (2), (1), (3), (4) | (D) (4), (2), (3), (1) |



2. Consider the following statements about Sahitya Akademi Awards

- 1) Tamil writer C S Lakshmi has won this year award
- 2) She has won for short story collection

Which of the above is/are correct?

- | | |
|-------------|-----------------------|
| (A) Only 1 | (B) Only 2 |
| (C) 1 and 2 | (D) None of the above |

3. Conservatives say that 'Biology is destiny'. What did they mean and which one of the following is correct?

- (A) People are born with the hormones, anatomy and chromosomes of either male or female.
- (B) Females are destined to have a much more burdensome reproductive role than are males.
- (C) Males will, other things being equal, exhibit 'masculine' psychological traits whereas females will, other things being equal, exhibit 'feminine' psychological traits.
- (D) Society should preserve this 'natural order' making sure that its men remain 'manly' and its women 'womanly'.

Code:

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| (A) (1), (2), (3), (4) | (B) (1) AND (D4) ONLY |
| (C) (3) AND (4) ONLY | (D) (2) AND (3) ONLY |

4. Which of these authors is not a writer of African American slave narratives?

- (A) Solomon Northrop (B) Frederick Douglass
(C) Phillis Wheatley (D) Sojourner Truth

5. Identify the two books by C.S.Lakshmi (Ambai) published in English translation :

- I. Astride the Wheel II. Going Home III. A Purple Sea IV. In a Forest, A Deer

The right combination according to the code is

Choose Your Answer:

- (A) III and II (B) I and II (C) I and IV (D) III and IV

6. 'Bourgeois morality was based on hypocrisy, inequality and possession.' Who among the following did not believe in this?

- (A) Karl Marx (B) Alexandra Kollontai
(C) Engels (D) Mary Wollstonecraft

7. Which of the following are the aims of feminist research?

- (1) To expose the patriarchal tools of socio-cultural and economic practices of family and society that lead to women's suppression.
(2) To enquire into the origin and basis of the discriminatory practices against both men and women.
(3) To bring women to the central position from invisibility.
(4) To provide data on most of the sensitive problems of women's issue.

Code:

- (A) (1) AND (2) ONLY CORRECT (B) (1) (3) AND (4)
(C) (1) (2) (3) AND (4) (D) (2) (3) AND (4)

8. Match women leaders with the movement they are associated with:

(Name of woman leader)	(Movement)	Codes:
(1) Annie Besant	(a) Green Belt Movement	(a) (b) (c) (d)
(2) Kasturba Gandhi	(b) Swadeshi Movement	(A) (3) (2) (1) (4)
(3) Wangari Maathai	(c) Home Rule Movement	(B) (2) (1) (3) (4)
(4) Vandana Shiva	(d) Eco- Feminism Movement	(C) (1) (3) (4) (2)
		(D) (4) (1) (2) (3)

9. **Assertion (A):** In patriarchal society, all economic development causes the marginalization and devaluation of women's labour.

Reasoning (R): In patriarchal society, the nature of house work and women's responsibility for carrying it out are unchangeable i. e constant.

Code:

- (A) Both (A) and (R) are wrong
- (B) Both (A) and (R) are correct and (R) is the correct explanation for (A)
- (C) (A) is correct but (R) is wrong
- (D) Both (A) and (R) are correct but (R) is not the correct explanation for (A)

10. Which of the following statements are wrong with regard to women's liberation movements?

- (a) They focus on the goals of equal rights under the laws.
- (b) They focus on equal access to education, careers and political power.
- (c) They challenge the cultural patterns of male dominance in the family and personal life.
- (d) They challenge against livelihoods and poverty of women.

Code:

- (A) (a), (b), (c) and (d) (b) (a), (b), (c) only
- (C) (a), (b) and (d) only (D) (b) And (c) only

11. "The Personal is political"! Which of the following feminist theories has given this slogan?

- (A) Liberal Feminism (B) Radical Feminism
- (C) Marxist Feminism (D) Socialist Feminism

12. Which of the following is correct with regard to 'identity politics' in the feminist context in India?

- (A) Minority, caste and Dalit issues
- (B) Race and ethnicity
- (C) Gender, race, caste, class and minorities
- (D) Gender, race, caste, minorities

13. What was the percentage of women's representation in 15th Lok Sabha?

- (A) 9.5 (B) 10.8 (C) 7.5 (D) 9.2

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