

COLLEGE TRB ENGLISH

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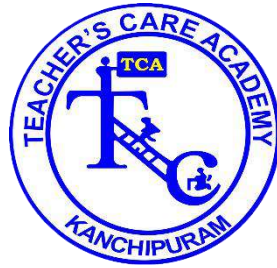
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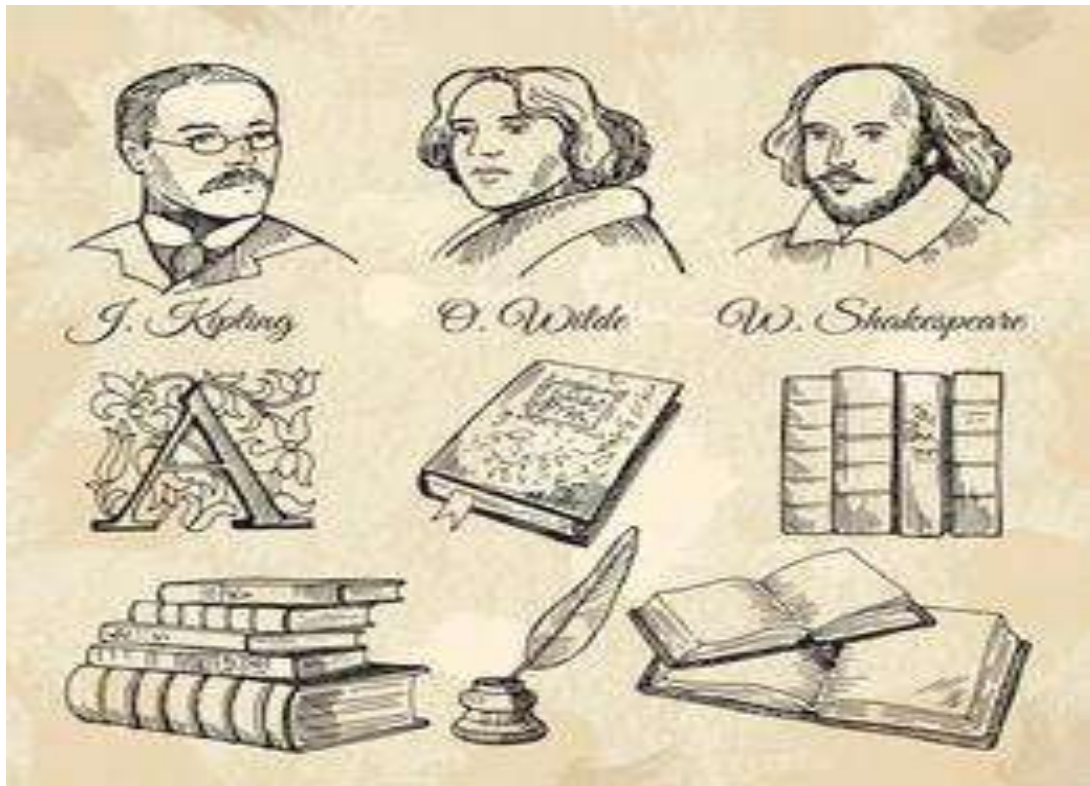
KANCHIPURAM



ENGLISH

UNIT - I

ENGLISH LITERATURE



COMPETITIVE EXAM FOR

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR TRB 2024 - 25

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ENGLISH LITERATURE

S.NO	INDEX	PAGE NO
1.1.1	Introduction	1
1.1.2	The major eight (8) periods in the history of English literature are	2
1.1.3	Timeline of British Literary Periods	2
1.1.4	The Anglo-Saxon or Old English Period (450-1066 AD)	3
1.1.5	The Anglo-Norman or Middle English Period (1066-1500 AD)	6
1.1.6	The Age of Chaucer	9
1.1.7	The Renaissance Period (1500–1660)	10
1.1.8	The Puritan Age (1600-1660)	14
1.1.9	The Neoclassical Period (1660-1798)	14
1.1.10	The Restoration Period (1660-1700)	15
1.1.11	The Classical or Augustan Age (18th Century)	18
1.1.12	The Age of Pope (1700-1744)	18
1.1.13	The Age of Johnson (1744-1784)	19
1.1.14	The Romantic Period (1798-1837)	19
1.1.15	The Victorian Period (1837–1901)	21
1.1.16	The Modern Period (1901-1945)	22
1.1.17	The Contemporary Period (1945–Today)	24
1.1.18	Multiple choice questions:	25
1.2	British Literature Prose	26
1.2.1	Prose	26
1.2.2	Style of Prose	26
1.2.3	Forms of Prose	27
1.2.4	Prose Construction	27
1.2.5	Different Types of Prose	28

1.2.6	Examples of Prose in Literature	28
1.2.7	Fifteenth Century Prose	32
1.2.8	Sixteenth Century/Elizabethan Prose	40
1.2.9	Seventeenth Century Prose	46
1.2.10	Restoration Prose	49
1.2.11	Eighteenth Century Prose	52
1.2.12	Nineteenth Century Prose	64
1.2.13	Victorian Prose	71
1.2.14	Multiple choice questions:	75
1.3	British Literature Poetry	76
1.3.1	Poetry:	76
1.3.2	Kinds of poetry:	76
1.3.3	Development of Poetry	77
1.3.4	OLD ENGLISH POETRY	78
1.3.5	The Anglo-Norman period and the Later Middle Ages	80
1.3.6	THE AGE OF CHAUCER (1350-1400)	83
1.3.7	RENAISSANCE / EARLY MODERN (1500 – 1660)	93
1.3.8	The Elizabethans	97
1.3.9	Courtly poetry	98
1.3.10	Classicism	99
1.3.11	Jacobean and Caroline poetry	99
1.3.12	The Metaphysical poets:	102
1.3.13	The Cavalier poets	108
1.3.14	The school of Spenser	110
1.3.15	Women poets in the 18th century	118
1.3.16	THE ROMANTIC PERIOD	118
1.3.17	THE VICTORIAN PERIOD (1837-1901)	132
1.3.18	Pre-Raphaelites, arts and crafts, Aestheticism, and the "Yellow" 1890s	143
1.3.19	The 20 th century	143
1.3.20	Modernism	147
1.3.21	The Forties	148
1.3.22	Multiple Choice Questions	163
	IMPORTANT MCQS	164

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ENGLISH LITERATURE

1.1.1. Introduction

- Literature is the reflection of life. It mirrors the society in which it is generated.
- The word literature comes from the Latin word 'literature' meaning "writing organized with letters". We classify literature according to language, origin, historical period, genre, and subject matter.
- Initially, literature was a form of entertainment for the people. Over time, it attained the purpose of reform as well.
- Writers started highlighting the social issues in their writing. Thus, it became a medium to draw the audience's attention to certain matters and urge them to think about the reform.
- From ancient civilizations to the modern era, indeed, all the works of literature have given us insight into the issues and trends prevailing at that time.
- Literature also provides escape from the 'grim realities' of life. While many people read to escape the boredom of their life.
- Moreover, the higher type of literature helps the reader to escape from trivial reality into significant reality.
- English literature, however, emerged with the beginning of the history of English people. It refers to all the literary works (novels, short stories, poems, fiction, nonfiction, and plays) composed in English.
- The earliest works of English literature mirror the life lived by the people of that region at that specific period.
- For instance, all the changes undergone by English society from the earliest to the modern time have left their imprints on English literature.

- Being the literature of a nation characterized by the spirit of determination, adventure, and diligence, English literature is rich in vitality, diversity, and essence.

1.1.2. The major eight (8) periods in the history of English literature are:

1. The Anglo-Saxon or Old English Period (450–1066)
2. The Anglo-Norman or Middle English period (1066–1500)
3. The Renaissance Period (1500–1660)
4. The Neoclassical Period (1660–1798)
5. The Romantic Period (1798–1837)
6. The Victorian Period (1837–1901)
7. The Modern Period (1901-1945)
8. The Contemporary Period (1945–Today)

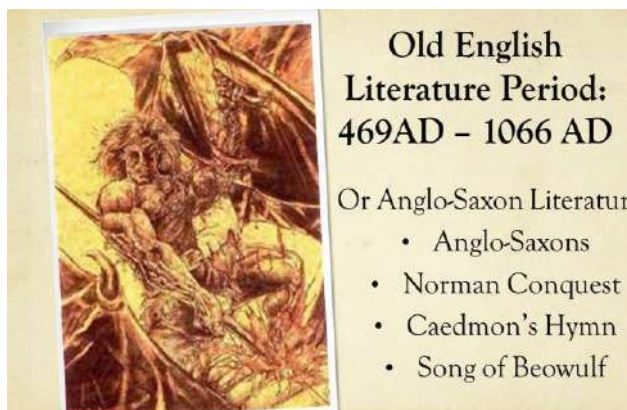
1.1.3. Timeline of British Literary Periods

Literary Periods	Major literary Trends, Movements and Highlights
Anglo-Saxon or Old English Period (450–1066)	<p>Heroic Tradition: poetry focused on hero's bravery</p> <p>Elegiac Tradition: writers mourned the passing of earlier, better times.</p> <p>Highlights:</p> <p>Homeric or Heroic Period (1200-800 BCE)</p> <p>Classical Greek Period (800-200 BCE)</p> <p>Classical Roman Period (200 BCE-455 BCE)</p> <p>Patristic Period (c.70 CE-455 CE)</p>
Anglo-Norman or Middle English Period (1066–1500)	<p>Popular forms of Writing: Chronicles, Poetry, Drama, Religious and Didactic writing.</p>
Renaissance Period or Age of Shakespeare (1500–1660)	<p>Trends: Revival of learning, Rediscovery of classical philosophy, literature and art, focus on 'Humanism' and 'Puritanism'.</p> <p>Major Forms of literature: poetry and drama.</p> <p>Highlights:</p> <p>Early Tudor Period (1485-1558)</p> <p>Elizabethan Period (1558-1603)</p> <p>Jacobean Period (1603-1625)</p> <p>Caroline Age (1625-1649)</p> <p>Commonwealth Period/ Puritan Interregnum (1649-1660)</p>

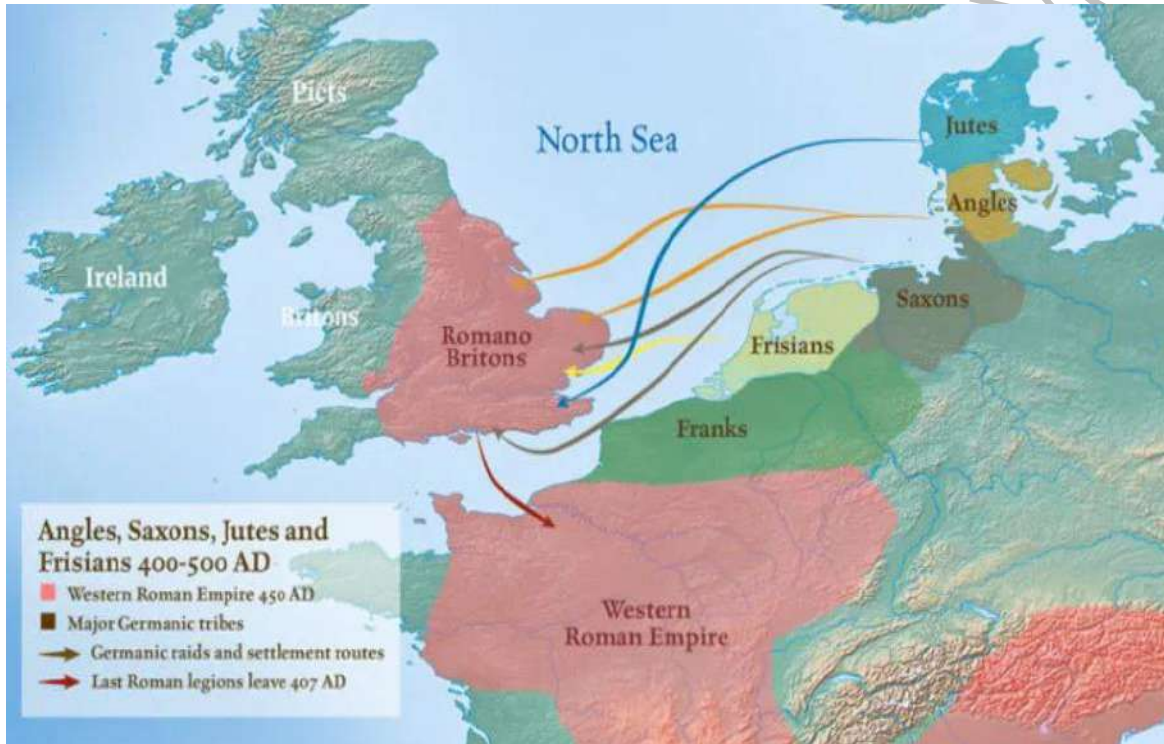
Neoclassical Period or the Enlightenment Age (1660–1798)	<p>Trends: Revival of classical art and culture of ancient Greece and Rome, focus on order, accuracy, and structure.</p> <p>Poetic Trends: Use of allusions, heroic couplet and strict meter and rhyme.</p> <p>Chief Contribution: The Modern Novel.</p> <p>Restoration Period (1660-1700)</p> <p>The Augustan Age (1700-1750)</p> <p>The Age of Johnson (1750-1790)</p>
Romantic Period (1798–1837)	<p>Trends: The Romantic Movement in Poetry, Gothicism in literature.</p> <p>Chief Contribution: Romantic Poetry and The Gothic Novel.</p>
Victorian Period (1837–1901)	<p>Literary Trends & Movements: Sentimental Novels & Intellectual Movements like Aestheticism and the Decadence, Symbolism, Utilitarianism, Oxford Movement, Romantic Protestantism. Age of Prose & Novel.</p> <p>Main Focus: individually, morality note, conflict between religion and science, human beings than nature.</p>
Contemporary Period (1945-Today)	<p>Literary Trends: structuralism, deconstruction, poststructuralism, postmodernism, postcolonialism, and magic realism.</p> <p>Main Focus: horrors of war, genocide, life experiences, real-life themes, alienation, transformation, consumption & relativity of truth.</p>

1.1.4. The Anglo-Saxon or Old English Period (450-1066 AD)

- Angles and Saxons were the ancestors of the English race.
- After the fall of the Western Roman Empire in the early 5th Century, three Germanic tribes—the Angles, Saxons, and Jutes (settled in the place Kent name—saw an opportunity to fill in the power gap and started migrating to Britain.



- The Anglo-Saxons were fearless, adventurous, and brave people.
- By 670 A.D. they had occupied the major part of the country, and the land of Anglos or Angloland—present day England—became their permanent abode.
- The language brought by these Anglo-Saxon settlers together with some Latin and Celtic words became Old English.



- Anglo-Saxon literature was the earliest phase of English literature.
- This period consists of literature written in Old English in Anglo-Saxon England from the 5th Century AD to the Norman Conquest of 1066. (UGC NET 2006)
- The Old English spoken by Anglo-Saxon people looks incomprehensible to today's English-speakers.
- However, there are a good number of words that have survived in modern day English such as "day", "year", "kiss", "love", "arm" etc.

Anglo-Saxon Poetry

- The Anglo-Saxons were fond of singing about battles, gods and their ancestral heroes.
- It is, however, these songs of religion, wars, and agriculture that marked the beginning of English poetry in ancient England.
- The Anglo-Saxon poetry was mostly sung instead of written. That's why there are very few remnants left of it.
- Among them, the most famous one is Beowulf. It is the first English epic poem.

- Beowulf narrates a tale of the adventures of Beowulf, a brave hero. This poem, in fact, abounds in all sorts of references and allusions to great events and the fortunes of kings and nations.

Key Characteristics of Anglo-Saxon Poetry: Heroic poetry elements, Christian ideals, Synecdoche, Metonymy. and Irony.

- After embracing Christianity, the Anglo-Saxon poets began to write religious poetry.
- Therefore, the major portion of Anglo-Saxon poetry encompasses religion.
- The most famous religious poets of the Anglo-Saxon period were Caedmon and Cynewulf.
- Caedmon is famous for his Hymn in which praises in honor of God.
- Cynewulf's famous religious poems were Juliana, The Fates of the Apostles, Crist, and Elene.
- Among them, 'Crist' is the most popular one telling the event that occurred in the life of Jesus Christ.

Who was the first English writer? Caedmon was the first English writer. He wrote his poetry in the Old English language. His only surviving work is 'Caedmon's Hymn.' (UGC NET 2007)

The Anglo-Saxon Prose

- The Anglo-Saxons replaced Latin prose with English which observed all the rules of ordinary speech in its construction.
- The famous Anglo-Saxon king, Alfred the Great, translated most of the famous Latin Chronicles in English.
- However, the second famous prose writer of the Anglo-Saxon period was, no doubt, Aelfric. He was actually a priest.
- Among his famous writings were Lives of the Saints, Homilies, and Grammar.
- Moreover, compared to other contemporary prose writers of the period, Aelfric's prose was easy and alliterative.

What was the first work in English literature? Beowulf was the earliest most popular epic poem of English literature.

The Decline of Anglo-Saxons

- The Anglo-Saxon period flourished until the Norman Conquest of 1066.

- After the defeat of Harold, the last of Saxon kings, by William who was the Conqueror of Normandy, France, the Anglo-Saxon period finally came to an end. In history, their ruling period extends roughly from 450 A.D. to 1066 A.D. (UGC NET 2005)
- There is no doubt that the Anglo-Saxons lived a life rich in courage, splendor, savagery, and sentiment.
- Their literature, thus, remarkably contains all these traits.
- It reflects all the main principles of their life, for instance, the love of personal freedom, religion, appreciation for womanhood, responsiveness to nature, and the struggle for glory.

1.1.5. The Anglo-Norman or Middle English Period (1066-1500 AD)

- With the Norman conquest began a new era in the history of England literature. The Normans brought with them their rich French culture and language.
- The literature of this period comes under the category of Norman-French Literature or Anglo-French Literature.
- Since the Anglo-Norman period belonged to the Middle Ages or Medieval times in Britain History, we also call it the Middle English period in the history of English literature.
- The Norman Conquest brought a radical change in English culture, law, language, and character. English became the language spoken only by the poor and powerless.
- While Norman-French became the language of the rich. It also became the symbol of social status and prestige.
- The Anglo-Normans wrote mainly to cater to the taste of Norman rulers. Moreover, only the monarchs and courtiers of that time had a right to encourage the literary writings.
- We can't deny the fact that the Norman Contest stimulated the awakening of the people, who extremely needed an outside stimulus at that time. Soon the people got influenced by a new vision and ultimately united in a common hope.
- As a result, the Anglo-Saxons' hostility towards the Normans also turned into national unity.

Middle English (1066-1500)

- Many more texts than OE period
- No standard variety of English
- Dates:

1066	Norman Conquest
1100	Round number!
1476	First printing in England (Caxton)
1485	Accession of Henry VII (Tudor)
- Germanic, highly inflected → hybrid (many loans), lightly inflected

- The Normans brought with them their soldiers, artisans, traders, chroniclers, minstrels, and scholars. With their help, they wanted to revive knowledge, record memorable events, celebrate victories, and sing of love and adventure.
- In addition, the most popular forms of writing for the Anglo-Normans were chronicles, religious and didactic writing, poetry, romances and drama.

The Romances of Anglo-Norman Period

- In contrast to the courage, seriousness, and savagery of the Anglo-Saxon literature, the Normans introduced romantic tales of love and adventure in literature.
- This made the Anglo-Norman period to be chivalric rather than a heroic one.
- Romance became the most popular form of literature during the Anglo-Norman or Middle English period.
- These romances were famous for their stories rather than poetry. Most of them, in fact, had their origin in Latin and French sources.
- They told the stories of King Arthur, The War of Troy, the mythical doings of Charlemagne, and Alexander the Great.

Chronicles in the Anglo-Norman Period

- In the Anglo-Norman period of English literature, chronicles became a well-established form of writing.
- These chronicles basically recorded the history of kings.
- Though written in the Anglo-Norman language, these chronicles, however, became the major source of historical knowledge for medieval people.
- Additionally, they contained historical events, and legendary material without any interpretation or comment by the author.

The Mystery and Miracle Plays

- Another remarkable achievement of the Middle English Period, however, was religious or didactic writings. Under this category came the Mystery and Miracle plays.
- The Mystery plays were based on subjects taken from the Bible while the Miracle plays depicted the lives of saints.
- Since only the clergymen of the church had the authority to write and perform these plays, they chose Latin as the medium of writing and performing these plays.

The Morality Plays

- In the Middle English period, Morality plays also became very popular. Allegory was, in fact, the main streak of these plays.

- In the Morality plays characters were personified abstractions presenting the conflict in the human soul.
- The sole purpose of these plays was to instruct the people through the Bible, lives of saints, and the conflict between good and evil.
- Hence, these plays also came under the category of religious and didactic writing of that period.

The Anglo-Norman Poets

- Some of the famous poets of the Middle English period and their notable works are briefly discussed below:

Philippe de Thaun

- Philippe de Thaun was one of the earliest Anglo-Norman poets of the period. He was mainly famous for his two significant poems.
- The first one was 'Livre des Creatures'. It was a treatise on astronomy written around 1119. His second famous work was the allegorical poem 'Bestiaire' written around 1121 in the Anglo-Norman dialect.

Reginald of Canterbury

- Another famous Anglo-Norman poet is Reginald of Canterbury. He was a monk as well. His most famous poem is 'The Legend of St Malchus' which was written around 1112. (UGC NET 2006)

Hilarius

- Hilarius was another Anglo-Norman poet of the 12th century. He was an Englishman but wrote his poems in Latin. In his poems, he has mainly addressed to English persons.

Benoit de Saint Maur

- Benoit de Sainte-Maure was a famous French poet in the 12th century. His most famous work was 'Roman de Troie' (The Romance of Troy).

William Langland

- One of the notable poets of the Middle Ages, William Langland emerged in the 14th century.
- He held a significant place in the history of English literature and wrote many important poems.
- His most famous poem is 'A Vision of Piers the Plowman'. (UGC NET 2009)

- As a satire on the corrupt religious practices, Langland's poem clearly discusses the ethical problems of that time.
- Most of his poems are satirical in nature and bring about moral, political and social questions.

John Gower

- John Gower also occupied a significant place in the development of English poetry of the Medieval period.
- He wrote around the 14th or 15th century bringing about the poems that represented the English culmination of courtly medieval poetry.
- His poems, indeed, proved that English can compete with the other languages that had distinguished themselves in poetry.
- Gower was mainly a narrative poet and a moralist. His most famous poem is Confession Amantis, written in the form of conversation between the divine interpreter and the poet.
- Like Chaucer, John Gower also played a significant role in developing English language as a thoroughly equipped medium of literature. (UGC NET-2010)

Who is the father of English literature? Geoffrey Chaucer is known as the 'Father of English literature'.

1.1.6. The Age of Chaucer

- Towards the end of the Middle English period came 'The Age of Chaucer', covering the period from 1343 to 1450.
- It is the most significant time period in the literary history of English literature.
- Chaucer made a fresh and distinct beginning in English literature and became the 'Father of English literature' as well as the 'Father of English poetry'.
- Chaucer's poetry has been widely read from his own day to the present time. He was not merely a bookman or the visionary, rather, he was a man of the world and its affairs.
- Chaucer's most significant work is Canterbury Tales. It is a collection of stories related by the pilgrims of different sections of society who are on their way to Thomas Becket's shrine at Canterbury.
- A landmark in the history of English poetry, Chaucer's Canterbury Tales enriched the English language and meter to an extent that could be conveniently used for any purpose.

- Furthermore, his introduction of a variety of characters into a single action and their engagement in animated dialogues fulfilled every requirement of the dramatists who were short of bringing their plays on the stage.
- Chaucer's works also showed to the novelists the way to portray their characters.

Decline in English Poetry

- Chaucer's significance in the development of English literature is remarkable as he shifted poetry from the region of Theology and Metaphysics to the old classical principle of the direct imitation of nature.
- After Chaucer there came a decline in English poetry for about 100 years.
- The period from 1400 to the Renaissance was bereft of quality literature.
- The poets of that time period produced little work and merely imitated Chaucer and his contemporaries.
- Although the beginning of the Anglo-Norman Period is obvious, historians differ on when this period ended.
- Some historians say that it ended in 1144 or 1066, while for others it lasted up to 1450 or 1500.
- The Norman Conquest of England had, in fact, a profound effect in introducing various changes in the history of English literature.
- 'The Age of Chaucer was followed by The Renaissance Period also known as the Elizabethan Period or the Age of Shakespeare in the history of English literature.

1.1.7. The Renaissance Period (1500–1660)

THE RENAISSANCE (1500- 1660)

- "Renaissance" means "Rebirth"-- Rebirth of interest in the Greek and Latin classics
- This is one of the greatest times of expansion for Britain.
- Focus on the individual
- Cultivation of human potential through proper education; focus on individual consciousness and the Interior mind
- Concern with the refinement of the language and the development of a national, vernacular literature



- The Renaissance Period in the history of English literature is also known as the Elizabethan Period or the Age of Shakespeare.

- It is, in fact, the 'golden age' in the history of English literature.
- After the Middle Ages in Europe came the Renaissance, meaning revival or rebirth.
- As a result, the darkness of the middle ages was replaced by the enlightenment of the human mind with the 'Revival of Learning', which the Renaissance prompted.
- The major characteristic of the Renaissance was its focus on Humanism i.e. man's concern with himself as an object of observation.
- The Renaissance actually started Italy by Dante, Boccaccio, and Petrarch. However, it became popular in Europe during the Elizabethan Period.
- Beside focusing on the 'study of mankind', Renaissance had numerous subordinate trends which were actually the significant aspects of Humanism.

These include:

- The rediscovery of classical antiquity, particularly of ancient Greece.
- The rediscovery of the external universe, and its importance for man.
- The problems of human personality.
- The enhanced sensitivity to formal beauty, and the cultivation of the aesthetic sense.
- The belief that men are responsible for their own actions.
- Instead of looking up to some higher authority for guidance, as was done in The Middle Ages, the writers of the Renaissance Period found guidance from within.

Elizabethan Drama

- During the Renaissance Period the most important achievement in English literature was in the field of drama.
- The dramatists of this golden period include William Shakespeare, Christopher Marlowe, Ben Jonson, Lyly, George Peele, Thomas Kyd, Robert Greene and others.
- All these writers produced prolific works.
- However, the greatest among all Elizabethan dramatists was Shakespeare in whose hands the Elizabethan drama reached its climax. He took English drama to the level which could not be surpassed till today.

Who is the Father of English Drama? William Shakespeare is called the 'Father of English Drama.'

- The main characteristics of the Elizabethan drama include—revenge themes, internal conflicts, good versus evil, melodramatic scenes, hero-villain protagonists, tragic-comedy, presence of supernatural beings such as ghosts and witches and the use of blank verse.

Here are some famous dramatists of the Elizabethan Period:

Christopher Marlowe (1564-1593)

- There was a famous group of dramatists in the Elizabethan Period known as 'University Wits'. It was actually a professional set of literary men.
- Of all the members of this group Marlowe was the greatest, while other dramatists such as Lyly, Peele, Greene, Lodge, and Nash were minor artists.
- Nevertheless, Marlowe's contributions to the Elizabethan drama were remarkable.
- Although his plays were different from Shakespeare's in content and style, yet he raised the subject-matter of drama to a higher level.
- It was Marlowe who gave beauty, dignity, and poetic glow to the drama. There is no doubt that he did the groundwork on which Shakespeare built the grand edifice.
- Therefore, Marlowe has been rightly called "the Father of English Dramatic Poetry."

Christopher Marlowe is also known as the 'Child of Renaissance'

- Marlowe's first play Tamburlaine appeared in 1587 and took the public on a storm due to its impetuous force, sensitivity to beauty, and splendid command of blank verse.
- His other famous work, however, include The Tragical History of Doctor Faustus which tells the story of a scholar who sells his soul to the devil for unlimited power and worldly enjoyment.
- The third famous tragic play of Marlowe is The Jew of Malta. Though it has a glorious opening, it is not as fine as Doctor Faustus.
- Marlowe's last play is Edward II which is best from technical point of view but lacks the rhythmic beauty as well as grandeur of his earlier plays.

William Shakespeare (1564-1616)

- It was Shakespeare, the greatest of all Elizabethan dramatists, who took English drama to the highest peak of fame. He was, indeed, a gifted man.
- His brilliant imagination, keen insight, and a creative mind gave new life to the old familiar stories and made them glow with tenderest feelings and deepest thoughts.
- His style and versification were extremely remarkable. He was not only the greatest dramatist of his time, but also a famous poet as well.
- His sonnets, replete with passion and aesthetic sense, also possess a significant place in the history of English literature.
- Although Shakespeare belonged to the Elizabethan Age, due to his universality he belongs to all times.

- Shakespeare's works include non-dramatic poetry consisting of two narrative poems, *Venice and Adonis* and *The Rape of Lucrece*, 154 sonnets, and 37 plays.
- His work as a dramatist extends over some 24 years (1588-1612), and is divided into four periods.

1577-1593: First Period

- This period includes Shakespeare's early experimental work.
- **The famous works of this period are: the revision of old plays as the three parts of Henry VI and Titus Andronicus; his first comedies—The Two Gentlemen of Verona, Love's Labor's Lost, A Midsummer Night's Dream, and The Comedy of Errors; his first chronicle play—Richard III; and his most famous youthful tragedy—Romeo and Juliet.**

1594-1600: Second Period

- This period reveals Shakespeare's development as a great thinker and artist.
- **The works of this period includes Shakespeare's great comedies and chronicle plays such as: The Merchant of Venice, Richard II, Henry IV, King John, Henry V, Part I and II, Much Ado About Nothing, The Training of the Shrew, As You Like It, The Merry Wives of Windsor, and Twelfth Night.**

1601-1608: Third Period

- This period includes Shakespeare's greatest tragedies and somber comedies.
- His main concern there is to reveal the darker side of human personality and its destructive passions.
- **The major works of this period are: Macbeth, Hamlet, Othello, Julius Caesar, King Lear, All's Well that Ends Well, Measure for Measure, Coriolanus, Anthony and Cleopatra, Troilus and Cressida, and Timon of Athens.**



WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

PLAYWRIGHT | C. 1564–1616

William Shakespeare was an English playwright and poet who is widely considered to be the greatest dramatist of all time. His most notable works include *Romeo and Juliet* and *Hamlet*.

QUICK FACTS



"To be, or not to be, that is the question."

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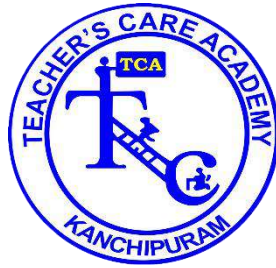
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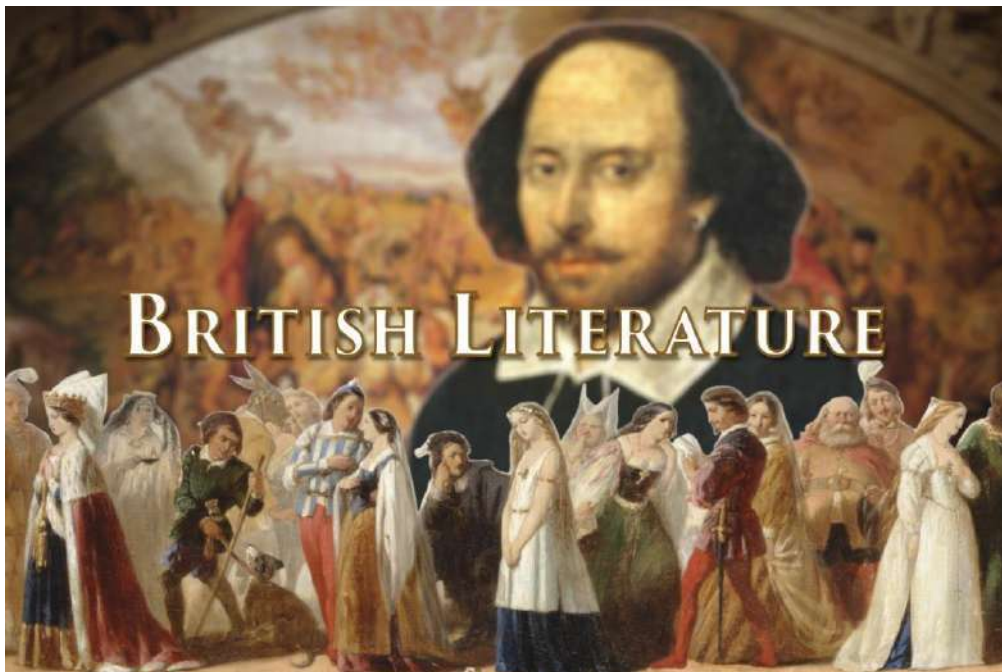
KANCHIPURAM



ENGLISH

UNIT – II

BRITISH LITERATURE DRAMA, FICTION AND
SHORT STORY



COMPETITIVE EXAM
FOR
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR TRB 2024 - 25

INDEX

S.N.	CHAPTER	P.N.
1.	2.1. BRITISH LITERATURE DRAMA, FICTION AND SHORT STORY	1
	2.1.1. Origin of Drama	1
	2.1.2. Types of Tragedy	5
	2.1.3. Types of Comedy	6
	2.1.4. Dramatic Devices	11
	2.1.5. Beginning of the British Drama/Earlier Renaissance:	14
	2.1.6. Renaissance / Early Modern (1500 – 1660)	18
	2.1.7. SHAKESPEARE (23 rd of April 1564- 23 April 1616.)	25
	2.1.8. Other Elizabethan Dramatists	47
	2.1.9. The Restoration Age (1660-1700)- Age Of Dryden	51
	2.1.10. MODERN PERIOD (1901-1938)	59
	2.1.11. Problem plays (Drama)	82
	2.1.12. Memory Plays	89
	2.1.13. Multiple choice questions	94
	2.2. BRITISH LITERATURE FICTION AND SHORT STORY:	95
	2.2.1. Novel	96
	2.2.2. History of Novel	96
	2.2.3. The antecedents of the novel	106
	2.2.4. History of the English novel	109
	2.2.5. The Rise of the Middle Class	110
	2.2.6. Characteristic of the English Novel	117
	2.2.7. Pioneers Of The Novel	118
	2.2.8. The Four Pillars Of The English Novel	119
	2.2.9. Post 18th Century Novels	121
	2.2.10. The Victorian Period (1837-1901)	123
	2.2.11. G. K. (Gilbert Keith) Chesterton: (1874-1936)	159
	2.2.12. The Development of the British Short Story	169
	2.2.13. Introduction to the history of short stories	171
	2.2.14. Some important and early writers of short stories	176
	2.2.15. Multiple choice questions:	181
	2.2.16. Important mcqs	182

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COLLEGE TRB – ENGLISH – 2023-24

UNIT – II

2.1. BRITISH LITERATURE DRAMA, FICTION AND SHORT STORY

British literature drama:

- **Drama or Play** set forth a problem or a conflict.
- It has plot, dialogue, characters and delivers its whole message within few hours.
- “When a novel is written, it is finished, but when a play has been written the worst difficulties still lie ahead.”
- (Drama is intended for performance in public, novel is for reading in private)
- Dramatist has to work with a number of collaborations: the audience, the actors, the producer, the scene painter, the dress maker, the musician and many others.
- The novelist can address the readers directly, but the dramatist doesn't speak through his characters.

2.1.1 Origin of Drama:

- Developed by Greeks in 5th century B.C, during festivals, to honor Dionysus, the god of wine and fertility.
- Greek verb “Dran” which means ‘to act’ or ‘to perform’.
- Famous Greek dramatists: Sophocles and Euripides. Chorus was common in Greek drama.

Elements of drama

1. **Literary elements:** Plot, theme, dialogue etc.,
2. **Technical elements:** Scenery (set), Props (object that appears on stage), Lights, Sound(music), Makeup (costumes, wigs, and body paint)
3. **Performance elements:** Facial expressions, Gestures (body language), Vocal expression

Aristotle's Six Elements of Drama

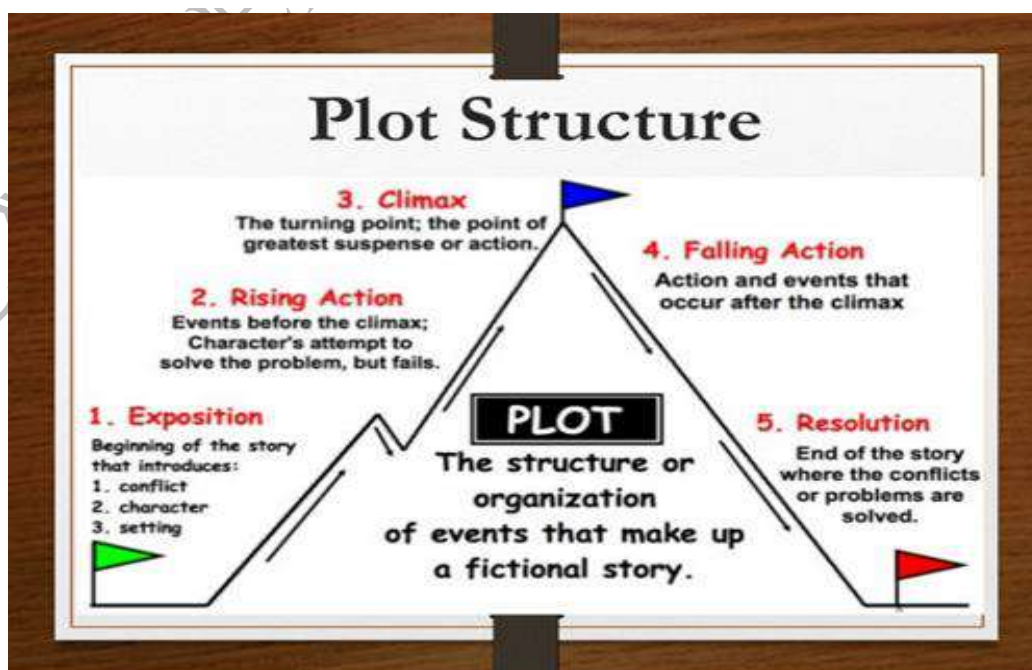
Aristotle (384-322 BC) was the first to write about the essential elements of drama more than 2,000 years ago, which are still influence us today. (UGC NET 2004) Aristotle says, "Plot is the most important element."

1. **Plot:** Plot refers to basic storyline of the play.
2. **Theme:** Theme is the main idea or lesson of the play.
3. **Characters:** Characters are the people in the play.
4. **Dialogue:** the words spoken by the characters
5. **Music/Rhythm:** rhythm of the actors' voices.
6. **Spectacle:** everything that the audience sees the play: sets, costumes, special effects, etc.

Structure of the play: **generally, a play has 5 acts.**

- 1) **Exposition (=To explain something):** In first act. It introduces a situation.
- 2) **Complication (Rising Action):** in 2nd and 3rd acts, the problem grows and continues.
- 3) **Climax (=crisis):** in first part of 3rd act, it takes a turn: good in comedy or worse in tragedy.
- 4) **Denouement (=falling Action):** in last part of 3rd act or 4th act, Unravels the complication. (UGC NET 2008)
- 5) **Solution (in Comedy) or Catastrophe (in Tragedy):** In 5th act, decides the fate of the characters.

1)Tragedy:



- **Taken from the Greek word “tragus”, which means ‘goat song’.**
- A serious play with unhappy ending and emotional appeal.
- Tragedy in its literary sense shows the downfall including death of a great man through some fault in his character.

Ex. **Hamlet’s** indecision and **Othello’s** jealousy.

- In Greek Drama, it deals with fate of characters of high birth.
- In ancient Greek drama, the tragic actor put on a thick soled and high heeled boot called as **Buskin or Cothurnus** to make him appear tall and majestic.
- Verse is used to be the medium for both Tragedy and Comedy.
- There are prose passages when a clown, a rustic or a madman is speaking. Ex: In ‘As you Like it’, main characters have long conversations in prose.

Three Unities: (classical or Aristotelian unities):

- Any piece of work must have to follow three unities of time, place and action.
- **Aristotle** mentioned only two, as the unity of Place is being implied in the first

i) Unity of Time:

- The time taken to the event and its representation should be same.
- The action in a tragedy should occur over a period of no more than 24 hours.
- If events extending over years were shown in a few hours on the stage, they would have no semblance of reality for the logical Greek mind.

ii) Unity of Action:

- The action must be confined to one single plot and must be logically connected.
- There is no subplot or episodes unconnected with the main theme.

iii) Unity of Place:

- The play must be confined to one place (a single physical location).
- The scene couldn’t have been Athens in the first act, and Alexandria in the next.

The role of Chorus in Greek Tragedy:

- Chorus is constituted by a body of actors, whose business was to report what happened off the stage and to make such moral comments from time to time.
- Chorus in Greek theatre was pivotal in bridging the gap between the audience and the characters on stage, ensuring that the audience could follow and comprehend the unfolding events and themes of the play

The following terms of Greek Tragedy, are defined by Aristotle.

1) Antagonist- Protagonist:

- The antagonist was the character against whom the protagonist struggled.
- Today the antagonist is usually the villain and the protagonist, the hero.

2) Hamartia (To err):

- It is an error of judgement leading to the downfall of a tragic hero or heroine.
(UGC NET 2011)

3) Peripeteia:

- Peripeteia is a sudden reversal, often in fortune of the protagonist.
- Peripeteia is, therefore, the turning point in Greek tragedy.

4) Anagnorisis:

- Anagnorisis is the moment of recognition.
- The protagonist (see below, but, basically, main character) of a tragedy recognizes that his trouble is his own fault.
- In drama, the discovery or recognition that leads to the Peripetia or Reversal.

5) Catharsis:

- the purification or **purgation** of the emotions (especially pity and fear) primarily through art.

6) Catastrophe:

- Catastrophe is a final action that completes the unraveling of the plot in a play, (usually in a tragedy). (UGC NET 2017)
- It is a turning point in a story in which something terrible happens to the main character/s.
- Catastrophe is a synonym of denouement. In a tragedy, it could be the death of a protagonist or other characters.

Note: **Comic relief** is a Humorous speech or scene in a serious tragedy for alleviating tension. Ex: drunken Porter scene in Macbeth, Grave diggers scene in Hamlet, Fool in King Lear.

Tragedy: Aristotle's Definition

"Tragedy, then, is an imitation of an action that is serious, complete, and of a certain magnitude; in language embellished with each kind of artistic ornament, the several kinds being found in separate parts of the play; in the form of action not of narrative; with incidents arousing pity and fear, wherewith to accomplish its katharsis of such emotions...Every Tragedy, therefore, must have six parts, which parts determine its quality-namely, Plot, Characters, Diction, Thought, Song/Melody, Spectacle."

2.1.2. Types of Tragedy:

Classical Tragedy:

- Based on Greek conventions such as 3 unities and Chorus.
- Chorus report to the audience about the happenings of the stage and makes moral statements. Ex: Ben Jonson and Restoration playwrights.

Romantic Tragedy:

- It is not circumscribed (=to restrict) by the 3 unities and it doesn't employ chorus.
- There may be a plot ranging over long stretches of time, a mixture of tragic and comic or a subplot. Ex: Shakespeare and University wits.

Horror Tragedy: by Webster and Ford: with scenes of cruelty and violence.

Heroic Drama (Tragedy):

- 17th century- developed during restoration age, term coined by Dryden in **The Conquest of Granada (1660)**.
- The subject matter of these tragedies is mainly chivalrous - honour, love and war.
- The conflict between love and honour/duty is tried to be depicted in a romantic setting presenting grand heroic personalities with a superhuman ability.
- George Villiers, 2nd duke of Buckingham, satirized the heroic play in **The Rehearsal (1671)**, its particular target being Dryden.
- Ex: Dryden's **The Indian Emperor, The Conquest of Granada by the Spaniards, Aurangzeb and All for Love**; Thomas Otway's **Venice Preserved**; Roger Boyle's **Black Prince** etc.

She- Tragedy: by Rowe: Women as central character.

Domestic Tragedy: 18th century- Portrayal of middle-class life, uses prose, not poetry.

Revenge Tragedy:

- Based on revenge, blood shed modelled on Seneca, Popular in 16th and 17th centuries during late Romantic and Jacobean periods Ex: Thomas Kyd's Spanish Tragedy, Webster's Dukes of Malfi, Shakespeare's Hamlet etc.,

2) Comedy:

- Taken from the Greek word "**Komedia (Komedia=Revel song in Greek)**", which means "**laughter-provoking**".
- A play designed to cause laughter, representing characters and incidents of everyday life.

2.1.3. Types of Comedy:

Comedy of humors: Ben Johnson made it popular.

- The four fluids of human body: Blood, Phlegm, Choler (Yellow Bile); and Melancholy (Black Bile) are to be in a balanced proportion.
- But this excess of any one of these fluids makes him abnormal. Ex: **Every man in his humor**,

Comedy of Manners (Restoration Comedy): 17th century- Dryden:

- situations of infidelity in love and marriage, satirical portrayal of behavior in a particular social group.
- Restoration comedy known for the relations of ladies and gentlemen in high society (**known as High comedy**).
- During closure of theatres people starved for enjoyment, demanded more in restoration, hence restoration comedy has sexual openness.
- **Introduced the first professional actress on stage.**
- Much Ado about Nothing by William Shakespeare can be considered the first comedy of manners in England.
- The masterpieces of the genre were the plays of William Wycherley (The Country Wife, 1675) and William Congreve (The Way of the World, 1700).

Note: Jeremy Collier, in his anti-theatre pamphlet '**A Short View of the Immorality and Profaneness of the English Stage (1698)**', attacks a number of playwrights: William Wycherley, John Dryden, William Congreve, John Vanbrugh, and Thomas D'Urfey of profanity, blasphemy, indecency, and undermining public morality through the sympathetic depiction of vice.

Comedy of Menace: (Menace=danger/fear).

- Coined by David Compton. Fear of the characters become the source of the comedy. (**UGC NET 2008**)

Genteel Comedy: Colly Cibber:

- ridiculing the affectations (wigs, shoes, ribbons, toilets) of 18th century

Sentimental Comedy:

- late 18th century. presenting tears in place of laughter.
- Unlike Restoration comedy, it has middle class protagonists.
- Presenting tears in place of laughter.
- Melodramatic and distressing situations in place of intrigue.
- Pathetic heroines, serious lovers, honest servants in place of rogues and gallants. Ex: Steele's Conscious lovers

Comedy of Dialogue vs Comedy of Incident:

Comedy of Dialogue	Comedy of Incident:
Plot unfolds itself mainly through dialogue or narration. Action plays a secondary part.	Plot unfolds itself mainly thorough action. Dialogue plays a secondary part
Ex: T W Robertson's Caste (1860) - first play to use more natural speech and subjects.	

3)Tragic Comedy or Dramatic Romance:

- It is half tragedy and half comedy, unknown to Greeks; we find it in English.
- **It is a tale of Weal and Woe (happy and Sad).**
- It is complete tragedy upto a certain part and a complete comedy there after.
- **The Complication** set fourth the tragedy (or Rising Action is tragedy), **The Denouement** turns into comedy (or Falling Action is comedy), and **The Climax** seperates these two. (UGC NET 2009)
- It is a play which has tragic elements but ends happily.
- Its general atmosphere is fantasy or supernatural, so it is also called Dramatic Romamce.
- Ex: Winter's Tale, Cymbeline, The Tempest, Much Ado About Nothing.
 - ✓ Platus, the Latin comic dramatist attempted it in his 'Amphituo' which he called a 'tragico-comedia'.
 - ✓ It aroused in the reign of James-I in England under Italin and Spanish influences.
 - ✓ Beamount and Flecher's 'A king and No Ling' finally established it on the English stage. Shakespeare handled it so magnificently.
 - ✓ It losted its with closing of theatres in 1642.
 - ✓ **In the late 17th century, Shakespeare was severely criticized for his careless attitude towards the mixing of genres.**
 - ✓ **It was Dryden who elevated Shakespeare to height for his natural genius.**

- ✓ Dryden defended tragicomedy of Shakespeare as: The English have perfected a new way of writing (tragi-comedy) not known to Ancients! **"What pleases the Greek, would not satisfy an English audience".**

Sydney said," Neither right tragedies, nor right comedies".

Tragedy vs Comedy

Tragedy	Comedy
For Greeks tragedy is for "Catharsis";	Comedy is for "Correcting manners".
Deals with the dark side of life	Deals with the light side of life
Aims at purgation (invoke pity and awe)	Aims at evoking laughter.
Begins happily and ends unhappily.	Begins unhappily, ends happily.
Atmosphere is sombre and serious	Atmosphere is mirthful and light.
Bad happens to good people.	Good happens to bad people.
Contains comic relief scenes	Contains tragic background

Farce vs Melodrama:

Farce:

- exaggerated form of comedy, employs absurd characters and situations to provides hearty laughter. It employs absurd characters, situations and dialogues.
- It has strong farcial elements in it.
- Ex: Shakespeare's Midsummer Night's Dream, Merry wives of Windsor.
- It came into existence as a separate form of entertainment by the end of 17th century with 'The Rehearsal' by Duke of Buckingham.
- It declined due to the rise of sentimental comedy in 18th century, but recovered with the antisentimental movement of Goldsmith and Sheridan.
- Ex: The Private Secretary- By Cheles Hawtrey, Charley's Aunt-by Brandom Thomas – **In Victorian Age**
- Arms and Man, you can never tell, Androcles and the Lion- by G B Shae- **In Modern Age**

Melodrama:

- Based on Tragedy (but Farce is based on Comedy).
- Originally a play with music and song interspersed.

- It's a sentimental play, relying on physical action, theatrical language and behavior and naïve sentiment.
- Its characters are mere puppets in an extravagant story of crime, revenge or retribution, the evils of drink or gambling, lost wills, missing heirs and in which **villainy is foiled and virtue triumphant**.
- Came into prominence in 18th century, and popular in 19th.
- Chiefly notable for their wonderful scenic devices in representation of shipwrecks, fires, floods, earthquakes and other calamities.
- Ex: Kyd's Spanish Tragedy, Webster's Duchess of Malfi.

Masque:

- It was **Italian** origin, introduced in early 16th century.
- Poetic-drama comprising songs, music, dance, elaborate costumes and scenic splendor.
- The number of characters is restricted to six.
- The best-known masque is **Milton's Comus**.

Antimasque (also spelled antemasque) is a comic or grotesque dance presented before or between the acts of a masque, a type of dramatic composition. This is the concept of Ben Jonson.

Closet Drama:

- Closet dramas are plays that have been written to be read, but not performed.
- Ex: John Milton's Samson Agonistes (1671), A.C. Swine Burn's Atlanta in Calydon and Thomas Hardy's The Dynasts (three parts, 1903–08). (**UGC NET 2015**)

One act play:

- History of one act play dates back to the early Mystery and Miracle plays, which were brief.
- It is a full-length play in miniature, just as short story is not an abbreviated novel.
- Brevity is the soul of one act play, as artistic difficulties are greater in developing character, situations in a short time.
- Follows three unities.

Miracle Play:

- Based on the lives of the saints. Example: St. Nicholas

Mystery Play:

- based on the biblical characters. Example: Second Shepherds play, Noah

Morality Play:

- personified characters to teach morals. Best Example: Everyman

Theatre of Absurd:

- A term invented by **Martin Essilin**, who wrote **The Theatre of the Absurd (1961)**.
- It portrays not a series of connected incidents telling a story but a pattern of images presenting people as bewildered creatures.
- It gives ample expressions often leading the observer (audience) baffled with meaningless and repetitious dialogues and incomprehensible behavior.
- The first true example of the theatre of the absurd was **Eugene Ionesco's The Bald Soprano (1950)**, but the most acclaimed play is **Samuel Beckett's Waiting for Godot (1953)**.
- Another name of 'Waiting for Godot' is A Tragic Comedy in Two Acts.
- **Albert Camus' "The Myth of Sisyphus"** is one central expression of this philosophy.
- Ex: Arthur Adamov's Ping-Pong (1955), Edward Albee's The Zoo story (1959), Samuel Beckett's Waiting for Godot (1954), End Game (1958), Camus, Jean Genet's The Maid (1954), Ionesco's The Bald Soprano (1950), Harold Pinter's The Birthday Party (1957), The Care Taker (1959), Alfred Jarry's, and Boris Vain's....

Problem Play, Thesis Play, and Propaganda Play:

- Terms applied to the plays of Ibsen, Shaw, and Galsworthy.

Memory play:

- A memory play is a play in which a lead character narrates the events of the play, which are drawn from the character's memory.
- The term was coined by playwright **Tennessee Williams**, describing his work The Glass Menagerie. Ex: Harold Pinter's plays Old Times, No Man's Land and Betrayal are memory plays, where "**memory becomes a weapon**"


Epic Theatre:

- originated from German dramatist Bertolt Brecht.
- Alienation effect is achieved by separating the audience emotionally from the play (anti aristotlean concept).
- It is based on Defamiliarization of Russian Formalism. Ex: Mother Courage play by Brecht. (**see criticism notes**)

2.1.4. Dramatic Devices:

Soliloquy:

- Literally soliloquy means talking to himself aloud when a person is alone or is supposed to be alone. **speech of a character who is alone on stage** (not supposed to be heard to the other characters).
- Playwright uses this technique to convey the inner feelings, motives and intentions of the character.
- Nobody in actual life puts his private thoughts in speech when he is alone.
- Though it is unreal, audience accepts it as a convention (willing suspension of disbelief). Ex: Shakespeare's Hamlet delivers his famous soliloquy: '**To be, or not to be--that is the question**'; Marlowe's Dr. Faustus delivers long soliloquy at eleventh hour.; Othello's – Put out the light speech.

Dramatic Devices	
<p>A soliloquy is a device often used in drama whereby a character relates his or her thoughts and feelings to him/herself and to the audience without addressing any of the other characters.</p> <p>Romeo's Soliloquy-Act 2 Scene 2 He jests at scars that never felt a wound. But, soft! what light through yonder window breaks? It is the east, and Juliet is the sun. Arise, fair sun, and kill the envious moon, who is already sick and pale with grief, that thou her maid art far fairer than she: Be not her maid, since she is envious; Her vestal livery is but sick and green and none but fools do wear it; cast it off. It is my lady, O, it is my love!</p>	

Aside:

- Character talks to the audience usually revealing something about what's going on.
- It is usually a brief comment rather than a speech. **It is as speech in front of other characters, who were not supposed to hear it. (UGC NET 2004)**
- It is most common technique used in Telugu Serials. Ex: Shall I hear more, or shall I speak at this?" -Romeo and Juliet

Dramatic Monologue:

- It is a part drama, part poetry.
- It is a speech in Poetic form uttered to silent listener.

- Usually the psychology, temperament and character of the speaker revealed.
- Its main aim is Psycho-analysis or character study.
- It is drama, poetry and philosophy all rolled into one. **Robert Browning** is the chief exponent. Ex: **Browning's 'My Last Duchess' and 'Andrea Del Sarto'.**

Note:

Soliloquy: not supposed to be heard to the other characters. It is addressed to audience.

Dramatic Monologue can be heard. It is addressed to a passive listener.

Irony: It is form of contrast. Irony is a literary device where the chosen words are intentionally used to indicate a meaning other than the literal one.

1. Verbal Irony:

- speaker says something that's the opposite to what they mean. Ex: If it is a very cold day, a person using verbal irony may say: "Isn't it warm today!"
- **"It is a truth universally acknowledged, that a single man in possession of a good fortune must be in want of a wife."**- opening line of **'Pride and Prejudice' by Jane Austen**
- The sentence is ironic because its speaker claims to believe that all wealthy single men must be looking for wives, but the book then goes on to describe just the opposite: it's about eligible young women looking to marry wealthy single men.
- **Understatement, Hyperbole are forms of Verbal Irony. (Ex: I have million doubts!)**

2. Dramatic irony:

- audience has more information than character(s) in a story. what is being said or done on the stage has one meaning to characters and other or spectators.
- (Old people at TV, shouts to warn characters about the disguise/something bad going to happen).
- Ex: Othello's trust of the treacherous Iago in the play Othello)
- Ex: If a person were to say "I am glad that I wasn't in that car accident" only to be involved in a car accident moments later is a dramatic irony.
- "A Little water clears us of this deed. How easy is it then." "Here's the smell of the blood still. All the perfumes of Arabia will not sweeten this little hand." - (Lady Macbeth in Macbeth)

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ENGLISH

UNIT – III

AMERICAN LITERATURE



COMPETITIVE EXAM

FOR

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR TRB

2024 - 25

INDEX

S.N.	CHAPTER	P.N.
1.	AMERICAN LITERATURE	1
	1.1. Background History	1
	1.2. Periods of American Literature	2
	1.2.1. The Colonial Period	2
	1.2.2. Revolutionary Period	6
	1.2.3. The Period of Romanticism and Transcendentalism	8
	1.2.4. American Realism and Naturalism	12
	1.2.5. American Modernism and First half of the 20 th century.	15
	1.2.6. American Modernism and Second half of the 20 th century.	19
	1.3. Poetry	23
	1.3.1. Features of Poetry	33
	1.3.2. History of African American Poetry	38
	1.3.3. Themes of American poetry.	41
	1.3.3.1. American Identity	
	1.3.3.2. The Inner Self	
	1.3.3.3. The Natural World	
	1.3.3.4. Time	
	1.3.4. American Poetry Books.	43
	1.4. Prose	46
	1.4.1. 19 th century Prose	47
	1.4.2. Development of prose	49

	1.5. Fiction	51
	1.5.1. What is fiction?	62
	1.5.2. 20 th Century Fiction	62
	1.5.3. Detective and Crime Fiction	63
	1.5.4. Contemporary Short Fiction	64
	1.6. Drama	65
	1.6.1. Drama in later years.	66
	1.6.2. Salient Features of Drama	68
	1.6.3. Importance of Drama	72
	1.7. American Literary Movements	74
	1.8. Literary Criticism and Theory	81
	1.9. Commonwealth Literature	88
2.	CANADIAN LITERATURE	89
	2.1. Introduction	89
	2.2. Poetry	101
	2.3. Novel	104
	2.4. Drama	108
	2.5. Prose	110
	2.6. History of Canada: Country	111
	2.7. Canadian Literary Identity	112
	2.8. Aspects of Canadian Literature	114
	2.9. Vibrant Themes in Canadian Literature	119

3.	AUSTRALIAN LITERATURE	122
	3.1. Poetry	126
	3.2. Novel	131
	3.3. Drama	143
	3.4. Aboriginal Narrative: The Oral Tradition	148
	3.5. The Australian Century after Settlement	148
	3.6. Nationalism and Expansion	150
	3.7. Literature from 1940-1970	153
	3.8. Literature from 1970-2000	155
	3.9. Literature in the 21 st Century	159
	Model Objective Questions	161
	COLLECTIVE OBJECTIVE MODEL PAPER – UNIT 3	162
	Model Descriptive Questions	173

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Trichy: 76399 67359

Salem: 93602 68118

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR TRB ENGLISH – 2024-25

UNIT - III – AMERICAN LITERATURE

AMERICAN LITERATURE

- American literature generally refers to literature from the United States that is written in English. The topics here are given to clear definition of American literature and briefly outline the history and trajectory of literature in the United States. However, it is important to note that some object to the term “American literature” to refer to English-language literature in the United States because the term erases literature from elsewhere in the Americas that is written in Spanish, Portuguese, French, or other languages.



1.1. BACKGROUND HISTORY

- The literature of the United States of America is written in the English language, which bears the stamp of the American nationality, ethos and sensibility.
- The language too has been transformed in order to give expression to typical American sentiments and environment.
- Hence it is American literature written in American English.
- Most of the early writing in American was about religion and politics.
- During the early century the sermons and theological discourses of the puritans were predominant.

- The later century themes were dominated by political tracts and essays that record the struggle of American settlers towards revolution, independence and a democratic form of government.
- There is little literary art in there writings, “but it does reveal the ideological development of the country in its formative period. Moreover, the forces at work during these years played an important part in the shaping of the American character and in the literary expression of the later poets, novelists and essayists”.
- American literature, the body of written works produced in the English language in the United States.
- Like other national literatures, American literature was shaped by the history of the country that produced it.
- For almost a century and a half, America was merely a group of colonies scattered along the eastern seaboard of the North American continent—colonies from which a few hardy souls tentatively ventured westward.
- After a successful rebellion against the motherland, America became the United States, a nation.
- By the end of the 19th century this nation extended southward to the Gulf of Mexico, northward to the 49th parallel, and westward to the Pacific.
- Its fortunes so interrelated with those of other nations that inevitably it became involved in two world wars.
- All these factors in the development of the United States molded the literature of the country.

1.2. PERIODS OF AMERICAN LITERATURE

1. The Colonial Period (1492-1700)
2. The Revolutionary Period (1700-1800)
3. The Period of Romanticism and Transcendentalism (1800-1880)
4. American Realism and Naturalism (1860-1930)
5. American Modernism and the Literature of the First half of the 20th Century
6. American Literature in the Second Half of the 20th century and Contemporary American Literature.

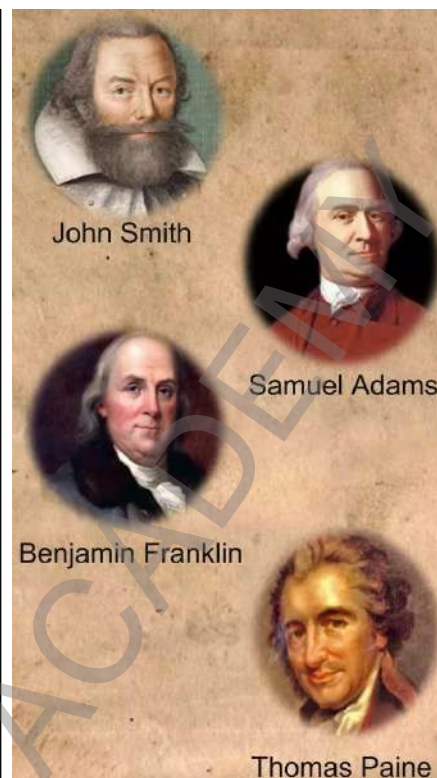
1.2.1. The Colonial Period (1492-1700)

- Native Americans, the first inhabitants of the continent, did not develop anything we can call ‘literature’ their stories and poems were spread orally, which means the American literary history begins with the age of colonialism.

Colonial Literature

Some of the earliest forms of American Literature were pamphlets and writings extolling the benefits of the colonies to both a European and colonist audience. Captain **John Smith** could be considered the first American author with his works: *A true Relation of ... Virginia* (1608)

The revolutionary period also contained political writings, including those by colonist **Samuel Adams**. Two key figures were **Benjamin Franklin** and **Thomas Paine**. Franklin's *Poor Richard's Almanac* and 'The Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin' are esteemed toward the formation of a budding American identity.



Characteristics of Colonial Period:

- It was the era of colonizing the continent.
- Since not only English explored and claimed the territories, the beginnings at American literature are more or less connected also with French, Spanish or Dutch literature as well.
- The first writers brought mainly English ideas and ways of writing, which means early American literature, is based on the literature of England.
- As years passed and literary theory developed, the writers who adopted the English Style are now sometimes called Pole faces, the poets included, Franklin, Longfellow, James, Pound.
- Their poetry is sometimes referred to as “**Cooked Poetry**”.
- On the other hand, there were authors who explored new topics and helped to shape America's own literary tradition.
- Those are called redskins, which includes (Walt Whitman, Emerson and the Beat Generation Poets).
- Their poetry is referred to as “**raw poetry**”.
- Religion Played an Important part in the writer's lives.
- Many Writings of the period were sermons and theological books.
- The fact is that the Pilgrims landed in the Massachwetts Bay in 1620 had an immense influence on the culture of the newly developing colonial system.

- The Topics common in the early period were connected with the issues of living in a new land and travelling.

John Smith (1580-1631) is considered as the first American writer. He was an explorer and colonist; he helped to found Jamestown in 1607.

- His ***A True Relation of Virginia (1608)*** is said to be the first American book written in English.
- It describes the problems of colonizing the area.
- He describes how the Jamestown Colonist first arrived to Virginia in April 1607.

William Bradford (1509-1657) was a puritan writer who described life in the early English settlements.

- His book ***Of Plymouth Plantation*** is full of religious topics and depictions of a difficult life in the colony.
- This is the first historical book.
- It was written in 1630 and first published in 1856.
- It was the beginning of American nationalism, which created a good atmosphere to the production of authentic literature.

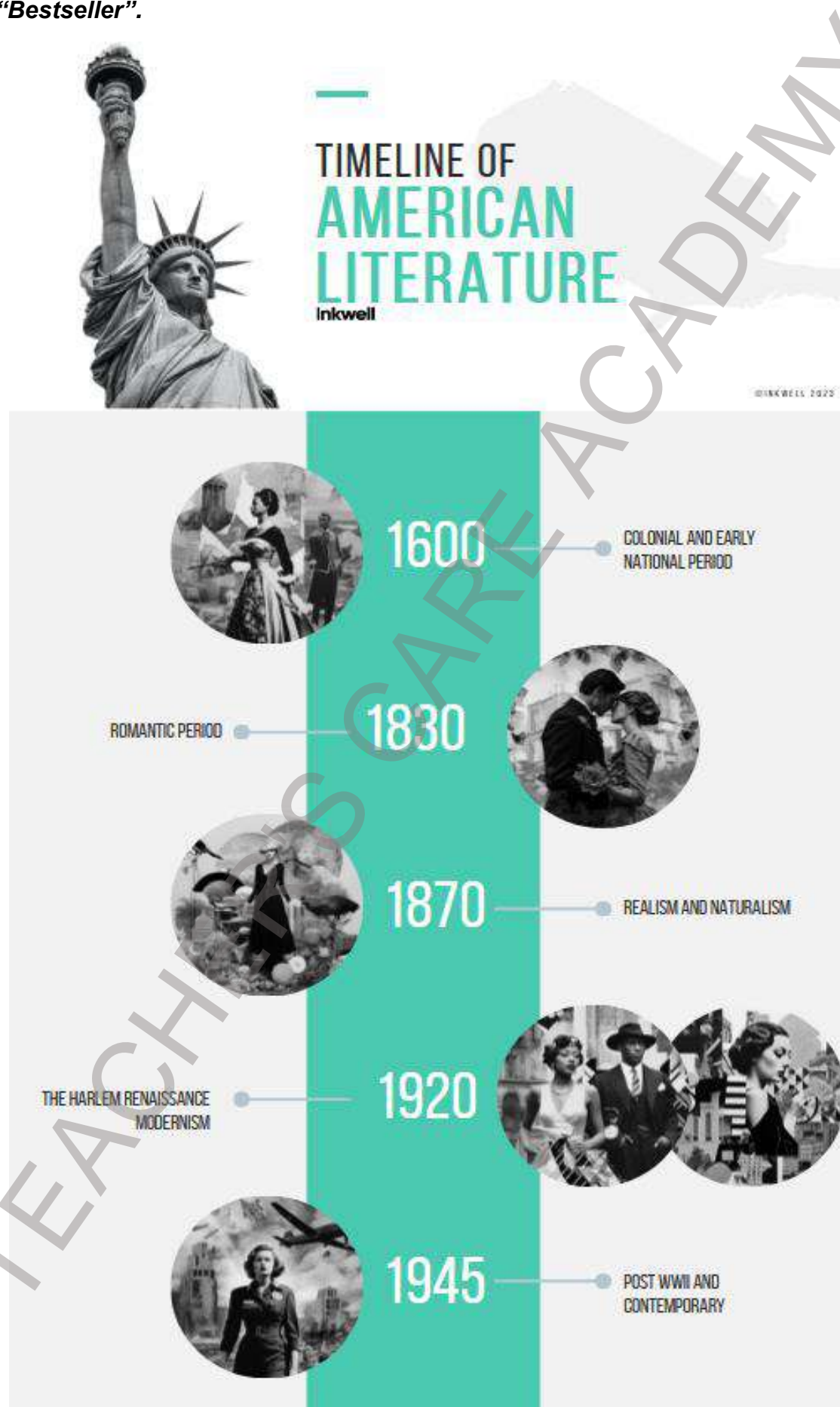
Anne Bradstreet (1612-1672) wrote lyrical, religious and personal poetry.

- She is the first Puritan figure in American Literature and notable for her large corpus of poetry.
- She is a free thinker and some consider her an early feminist.
- In 1678, her Self- Revised "Several Poems compiled with great variety of wit and Learning" was posthumously published in America and included one of her most famous poems, ***To my Dear and Loving Husband***.
- This volume is owned by the Stevens Memorial library of North and over and resides in the Houghton Library Vault at Harvard.

Mary Rowlandson (1637-1711) gives us the image of a women's life in the Colonial period.

- She was captured by Native Americans in 1676 during King Philip's war and held for 11 weeks before being ransomed.
- In 1682, six years after her ordeal, "The Sovereignty and Goodness of God: Being a Narrative of the Captivity and restoration of Mrs. Mary Rowlandson" was published.
- This treat is considered a formative American work in the literary genre of Captivity narratives.

- It went through four printings in 1682 and garnered readership both in the New England Colonies and in England, leading some to consider it the **First American "Bestseller"**.



1.2.2. The Revolutionary Period (1700-1800)

- The Revolutionary Period is created because of the dissatisfaction with the Colonial system and the relation with Britain grew, the literature gradually changed its shape in the work of art.
- The writers of this period became more politically, anti British and Revolutionary oriented, rationalism and enlightenment prevailed as their theme.
- Essays, Speeches and Pamphlets became more important, The Puritans religion poetry; fell out of favors as man was not considered naturally sinful any longer.



Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790) is one of the most important figures of this period.

- He can be described as what we call a “renaissance man”- a person of many skills.
- He was a Politician, Scientist, Philosopher, Publisher, Humorists, inventor and writer.
- Franklin was one of the founding father of the United States; a drafter and signer of the Declaration of Independence and the First Postmaster General.
- Benjamin Franklin was the 6th President of Pennsylvania (1785-1788).
- **The Way to Wealth** gives the readers advice how to become successful-hard work and common sense are very important.
- **Autobiography, Franklin** writes about his life, his success, his failures and individualism his style is very plain it is one of the first depictions of the American dream.

Thomas Paine (1737-1809) was an English-Born essayist and pamphleteer.

- His pamphlet "Common Sense" is a sharp critique of the colonial system and why the Americans should rise against the English.



Revolutionary Writers

- Thomas Paine – known for his works, *Common Sense* and *The Crisis*, which urge colonials to rebel.

Interesting Facts About Thomas Paine

- He nearly died of typhoid fever on his trip to America.
- Paine was also an inventor. He received a patent for a bridge design and invented a smokeless candle.
- Paine's writings also influenced future Americans such as Abraham Lincoln and Thomas Edison.

John Hector St. John (1735-1813) was a French-American writer, one of the fathers of the American Novel.

- His epistolary novel *Letters from an American Farmer* deals with the differences between life in Europe and in America.

Early U.S. Literature

- In the post-war period, The Federalist essays by **Alexander Hamilton**, **James Madison** and **John Jay** represented a historical discussion of government organization and republican values, **Thomas Jefferson's** United States Declaration of Independence, his influence on the Constitution, and the mass of his letters have led to him being considered one of the most talented early American writers.
- The first American novel is sometimes considered to be **William Hill Brown's** *The Power of Sympathy* (1789). Much of the early literature of the new nation struggled to find a uniquely American voice. European forms and styles were often transferred to new locales and critics often saw them as inferior.



Thomas Jefferson (1743-1826) was an architect, essayist, lawyer, and politician and later became the Third President (1801-1809) of the United States of America.

- His greatest contribution to the history of America is that he is the main author of the *Declaration of Independence*.

- It was adopted by the continental congress on 4th July 1776 during the war of Independence.

1.2.3. The Period of Romanticism and Transcendentalism (1800-1880)

- The period of romanticism represented a revolt against classicism and its value such as reason and form.
- The American variant of romanticism was different from the European one to a certain degree.
- There was a great interest in Indians and their culture.
- The writings were less political and religious themes, the topics were mostly American, and the writers stressed imagination, nature and individualism as their themes.

American Renaissance (1800 – 1880)

Romanticism, Transcendentalism & Realism

We will walk with our own feet

We will work with our own hands

We will speak our own minds

-Ralph Waldo Emerson

The Knickerbockers were a group of romantic writers who contributed to ***The Knickerbocker***, a magazine published in New York.

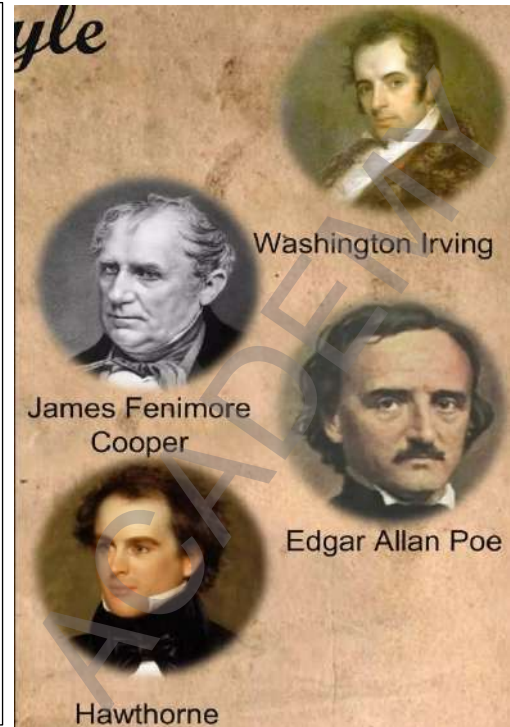
- They named themselves after Washington IRVING's (1783-1859).
- ***A History of New York***, by Diedrich Knickerbocker.
- Irving was America's first professional writer and the founder of short story in the USA.
- ***RIP van Winkle*** being one of his most famous short stories.
- It follows a henpecked husband who falls asleep in a forest and wake up many years later after the colonies have become an independent country.
- ***The Legend of sleepy Hollow*** is about a headless knight who terrorizes the inhabitants of a settlement.

James Fenimore Cooper (1789-1851) was interested in the life of wilderness and among the native inhabitants.

- He wrote a series of five novels, together called the ***Leatherstocking Tales***.
- They concentrate on Natty Bumppo, a whiteman living in the forest of New York and his friend Chingachgook, a Mohican Chief.
- There are five books in the series
 - *The Deerslayer*
 - *The last of the Mohicans*
 - *The Pathfinder*
 - *The Pioneers*
 - *The Prairie*

Unique American Style

- With the war of 1812 and increasing desire to produce uniquely American work, a number of key new literary figures appeared, perhaps most prominently **Washington Irving**, **James Fenimore Cooper**, and **Edgar Allan Poe**.
- Irving, often considered the first writer to develop a unique American style (although this is debated) wrote humorous works in *Salmagundi* and the well-known satire. *A History of New York, Diedrich Knickerbocker* (1809).
- Anti-transcendental works from **Melville** (*Moby-Dick*), **Hawthorne** (*Scarlet Letter*), and **Poe** (*The Fall of the House of Usher*) all comprise the Dark Romanticism subgenre of literature popular during this time.



Edgar Allan Poe (1809-1849) is one of the most important figures of the American literary tradition.

- His life was filled with sorrow and suffering.
- After unsuccessful studies he became an editor.
- He was also a literary critic who was best known for his poetry and short stories.
- He is widely regarded as a central figure of Romanticism and Gothic fiction of American literature.
- Poe was one of the country's earliest practitioners of the short story and is considered the inventor of the detective fiction genre, as well as a significant contributor to the emerging genre of science fiction.
- Poe drank alcohol and misfortune had a notable impact on his work.
- His writings are gloomy and bizarre; his characters are murderers, alcoholics, desperate lovers and tortured prisoners.
- **Poe is the founder of modern American horror story and detective story.**
- His short stories often describe the darkest states of human mind and mysteries solved by logic.
- The most famous short stories by Poe include: ***The Tell-Tale Heart (1843)***
- ***The Black Cat (1843)***, in the stories an unnamed narrator has a strong affection for pets until he perversely turns to abuse them.
- ***The Pit and the Pendulum (1842)***, it speaks about the torments endured by a prisoner of Spanish Inquisition, though Poe skews historical facts.

- ***The Mask of the Red Death (1842)***, the story follows prince Prospero's attempts to avoid a dangerous plague, known as the Red Death, by hiding in his abby.
- Poe is not less famous for his melancholic poems such as ***Annabel Lee***.
- It was written in 1849, but it was not published until shortly after Poe's death.
- It that same year like many of the Poe's poem, it explores the themes of the death of a beautiful woman.
- ***The Philosophy of Composition (1846)*** is an essay by him that elucidates a theory about how good writers write when they write well.
- In Philosophy of Composition, Poe discusses poetics with reference to ***"The Raven"*** [BRTE in SSA 2008-2009].
- ***Eldorado (1849)*** in which Poe describes the journey of a "gallant knight" in search of the legendary Eldorado.
- The Knight spends much of his life on this quest.
- In his old age, he finally meets a 'pilgrim shadow' who points the way through "the valley of shadow".
- ***The Raven (1845)*** is a narrative poem noted for its musicality, stylized language and supernatural atmosphere.
- This poem expresses the idea of variety through the eyes of a man asking a mysterious raven about his dead love while the raven's only answer is "nevermore".

Transcendentalism

- Transcendentalism is a movement of authors concentrated in Boston.
- They rejected the themes like common spirituality and materialism.
- They were inspired by nature, spent time alone and relied on themselves.
- The term 'transcendentalism' was derived from **Roman Romantic philosophy**. [TRB]
- They also stressed the role of intuition and God was omnipresent for them writing of essays were predominant in this period.

Transcendentalism

- The idea that in determining the ultimate reality of God, the universe, the self, and other important matters, one must transcend, or go beyond, everyday human experience in the physical world.
- Ralph Waldo Emerson influenced by ancient Greek – Plato.
- Also based on Puritan belief and Romantics.
- Based on intuition: optimistic.
- Henry David Thoreau Emerson's close friend.

Ralph Waldon Emerson (1803-1882), was an American essayist, lecturer, philosopher, abolitionist, and poet who led the Transcendentalist movement.

- He was seen as a champion of individualism and critical thinking, as well as a prescient critic of the countervailing pressures of society and conformity.
- Emerson gradually moved away from the religious and social beliefs of his contemporaries, formulating and expressing the philosophy of Transcendentalism in his essay ***Nature* (1836)**.
- Emerson's first two collections of essays, ***Essays: First Series* (1841)** and ***Essay: Second Series* (1844)**, represent the core of his thinking.
- They include the well-known essays ***Self-Reliance*, *The Over-Soul*, *The Circles*, *The Poets and Experience***.
- ***The American Scholar*** was his famous essay. It was a famous lecture delivered by him [Polytechnic TRB 2012]

Henry David Thoreau (1817-1862), was an American naturalist, essayist, poet, philosopher and a good friend of Emerson.

- A leading transcendentalist, he is best known for his book ***Walden* (1854)**, a reflection upon simple living in natural surroundings.
- His essay ***Civil Disobedience*** (originally published as ***Resistance to Civil Government***) an argument in favor of citizen disobedience against an unjust state.

Nathaniel Hawthorne (1804-1863) was an American novelist and short story writer.

- His works often focus on history, morality and religion.
- His writing centers on New England, many works featuring moral metaphors with an anti-Puritan inspiration.
- His fiction works are considered part of the Romantic Movement and more specifically dark romanticism.
- His themes often centre on the inherent evil and sin of humanity, and his works often have moral message and deep psychological complexity.
- His central theme in most of his stories is divinity of the human heart. [TRB]
- Hawthorne was predominantly a short story writer in his early career. His four major romances were written between 1850 and 1860:
 - ***The Scarlet Letter* (1850)**, one of the most famous and important books in the American Literary history. The book criticizes Puritan morals, Prejudice and intolerance.
 - ***The House of the Seven Gables* (1851)**
 - ***The Blithedale Romance* (1852)**
 - ***The Marble Faun* (1860)**

Henry Woodsworth Longfellow (1807-1882), is known for his romantic poems written in simple language.

- Much of his work is categorized as lyrical poetry, but he experimented with many forms, including hexameter and free verse.
- His most famous poem ***The Song of Hiawatha (1855)*** is an epic poem about the Indian chief Hiawatha inspired by the finest epic Kalevala.

Walt Whitman (1819-1892) is considered as one of the best American poets of all time.

- He introduced free verse- no metrical pattern and no rhymes appear in his poems.
- This influenced many poets to come- the Chicago Renaissance or the The Beat Generation.
- ***Leaves of Grass (1855)*** was written by Walt Whitman [2012 Polytechnic TRB].
- This is a best collection of poems where he compares freedom to grass.
- It is also notable for its discussion of delight in sensual pleasures during a time when such candid displays were considered immoral.
- ***When Lilacs Last in the Dooryard Bloom'd (1865)*** is a long elegy about the death of Abraham Lincoln. [TRB 2012]

Emily Dickinson (1830-1886) is another poet considered as one of the greatest in American history.

- She rarely left her house, her poems were scarcely published during her life, they are personal and lyrical.
- Her poems were unique for her era; they contain short lines, typically lack titles, and often use slant rhyme as well as unconventional capitalization and punctuation.
- Many of her poems deal with themes of death and immortality explore aesthetics, society, nature and spirituality.

Nobody knows this little Rose,

A Narrow Fellow in the Grass,

The Snake,

The Sleeping,

Sunset,

I Taste a Liquor Never Brewed,

Success is Counted Sweetest are some of her remarkable works.

1.2.4. American Realism And Naturalism (1860-1930)

- Just as in Europe, the period of romanticism was followed by the period of realism.
- Writers left behind the styles and topics adopted the previous generation and rather concentrated on describing life as it was with its negatives typical for the period.

- It was an era of industrialization and migration, determinism was a major discussion of the age. Regionalism also appeared.
- Local Color School- a group of authors who described the customs and specifics of particular regions.
- Novel was the main genre of the era

Realism

- Mark-Twain (the pen name of Samuel Langhorne Clements, 1835-1910) was the first major American writer to be born away from the East Coast – in the border state of Missouri. His regional masterpieces were the memoir *Life on the Mississippi* and the novel *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*. Twain's style changed the way Americans write their language. His characters speak like real people and sound distinctively American, using local dialects, newly invented words, and regional accent.
- **Henry James** (1834-1916) confronted the Old World New World dilemma by writing directly about it. Among his more accessible works are the novellas as *Daisy Miller*, about an enchanting American girl in Europe, and *The Turn of the Screw*, an enigmatic ghost story.



Mark Twain

Henry James

Mark Twain (1835-1910) was a great American novelist, short story writer and humorist.

- His actual name was Samuel Langhorne Clemens.
- He was a member of Local Color School.
- He spent a major part of his life on the Mississippi as a boatman, which plays an important part in his writings.
- His most famous novels are probably *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer (1876)*, a book describing the life of a mischievous boy.
- *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn (1884)* which concentrates on Tom Sawyer's friend Huck, who assist a black slave on his journey.
- The book criticizes slavery and tries to describe the world through the eyes of a native, uncivilized, yet honest boy.
- *The Prince and the Pauper*, tells the story of a poor boy called Tom Canty who changes places with Prince Edward, Henry VIII's son.

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ENGLISH

UNIT – IV

NEW ZEALAND LITERATURE



**COMPETITIVE EXAM
FOR
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR TRB
2024 - 25**

INDEX

S.N.	CHAPTER	P.N.
1.	1. NEW ZEALAND LITERATURE	1
	1.1. New Zealand Literature: An Introduction	
	1.2. The Origin of New Zealand Literature	
	1.3. History of Maori and New Zealand	
	1.4. The early life of Maori	
	1.5. First contact with Europeans	
	1.6. The arrival of Captain James Cook	
	1.7. The European settlers	
	1.8. Musket wars	
	1.9. The Treaty of Waitangi	
	1.10. Reviving the Maori culture	
	1.11. Themes	
	1.12. New Zealand Poetry	
	1.13. New Zealand Poets and their Poems	
	1.13. Allen Curnow	
	1.14. Ronald Allison Kells Mason	
	1.15. Charles Orwell Brasch	
	1.16. Ruth Dallas	
	1.17. Alistair Campbell	
	1.18. James K. Baxter	
	1.19. Vincent O' Sullivan	
	1.20. Mary Ursula Bethell	
	1.21. Published works	
	1.22. Janet Charman	
	1.23. Collections of poetry published by Charman include	
	1.24. Louis Johnson	
	1.25. W.H. Oliver	
	1.26. Books of poetry	
	1.27. Vernice Wineera	
	1.28. Hone Tuwhare	
	1.29. Robert Sullivan	
	1.30. Phil Kawana	

	Multiple Choice Questions from Poetry	
	1.31. New Zealand Play	
	1.32. First New Zealand play	
	1.33. Later 19th-century plays	
	1.34. 'Maoriland' plays	
	1.35. British Drama League	
	1.36. Interwar plays	
	1.37. Radio plays	
	1.38. Extrav and Kiwi Concert Party	
	1.39. Plays by poets	
	1.40. Other literary playwrights	
	1.41. Curnow and Baxter	
	1.42. Women playwrights	
	1.43. Bruce Mason	
	1.44. Downstage Theatre	
	1.45. Plays for radio	
	1.46. Roger Hall	
	1.47. Robert Lord	
	1.48. Serious issues	
	1.49. Collective productions	
	1.50. From stage to screen	
	1.51. Maranga mai	
	1.52. First Māori playwrights	
	1.53. The 1980s and 1990s	
	1.54. Depot and Taki Rua	
	1.55. Māori on the world stage	
	1.56. Pacific playwrights	
	1.57. New playwrights	
	1.58. Playmarket	
	1.59. Foreskin's lament	
	1.60. Feminist theatre	
	1.61. Feminist cabaret	
	1.62. Other women playwrights	
	1.63. Male playwrights	
	1.64. Theatres rise and fall	

	1.65. Hoar and Hawes	
	1.66. Resilient contemporary playwrights	
	1.67. Jacob Rajan	
	1.68. Recent playwrights	
	1.69. Collective productions	
	1.70. Circus and puppetry	
	1.71. More Information on Some Individual Dramatists	
	1.71. Bruce Edward George Mason:	
	1.72. Plays	
	1.73. Vincent O'Sullivan's Plays:	
	1.74. Briar Grace-Smith	
	1.75. Michelanne Forster	
	1.76. Riwia Brown	
	1.77. Mervyn Thompson	
	1.78. Roger Hall	
	1.80. Hone Kouka	
	1.81. Ken Duncum	
	1.82. Jacob Rajan	
	1.83. Robert Lord	
	Multiple Choice Questions From Plays	
	1.84. New Zealand Fiction and Short Story	
	1.84. The first novels, 1860s and 1870s	
	1.85. 1860s	
	1.86. 1870s	
	1.87. Romance	
	1.88. Māori	
	1.89. Pioneers	
	1.90. Katherine Mansfield	
	1.91. Stories	
	1.92. Collections, journals and letters	
	1.93. Women writers, 1920s and 1930s - Jane Mander	
	1.94. Jean Devanny	
	1.95. Robin Hyde	
	1.96. Popular fiction	
	1.97. The New Zealand voice, 1930s and 1940s - Frank Sargeson	

	1.98. Short stories	
	1.99. Man alone	
	1.100. New writers after the Second World War - David Ballantyne	
	1.101. Essie Summers	
	1.102. Bill Pearson	
	1.103. Ronald Hugh Morrieson	
	1.104. Maurice Shadbolt	
	1.105. M. K. Joseph	
	1.106. Maurice Gee	
	1.107. New writers of the 1970s and 1980s - Women's writing and feminist themes	
	1.108. Fiona Kidman	
	1.109. Marilyn Duckworth	
	1.110. Barbara Anderson	
	1.111. Other women writers	
	1.112. Writing by men	
	1.113. C. K. Stead	
	1.114. Vincent O'Sullivan	
	1.115. Owen Marshall	
	1.116. Lloyd Jones	
	1.117. Contemporary fiction - Wider horizons	
	1.118. Growth	
	1.119. Elizabeth Knox	
	1.120. Emily Perkins	
	1.121. Eleanor Catton	
	1.122. Innovative fiction	
	1.123. Popular fiction	
	1.124. Māori and Pacific writers and writing about Māori - Pākehā writers on Māori topics	
	1.125. Te Ao Hou	
	1.126. Witi Ihimaera	
	1.127. Patricia Grace	
	1.128. Keri Hulme and Alan Duff	
	1.129. New Māori writers and Pacific writers	
	1.130. More Information on Some Individual Fiction Writers: -	

	Maurice Noel Duggan :	
	1.131. Vincent O' Sullivan:	
	1.132. Keri Ann Ruhi Hulme	
	1.133. Janet Frame:	
	Multiple Choice Questions From Fiction And Short Stories	
2.	AFRICAN LITERATURE	51
	2.1. What is African Literature?	
	2.2. Types of African Literature:	
	2.3. Oral Literature:	
	2.4. Precolonial Literature:	
	2.5. Colonial African literature:	
	2.6. Postcolonial African Literature:	
	2.7. Themes in African Literature:	
	2.8. Poetry of Africa:	
	2.9. African Poets: - Wole Soyinka:	
	2.10. Christopher IfekanduOkigbo:	
	2.11. J. P. Clark:	
	2.12. Gabriel Imomotimi Okara:	
	2.13. Themes in Written African Poetry:	
	Multiple Choice Questions From Poetry	
	2.14. The African Novel:	
	2.15. Chinua Achebe:	
	2.16. Characters in "Things Fall Apart":	
	2.17. A Brief Plot Overview:	
	2.18. Characters in "No Longer at Ease:"	
	2.19. J. M. Coetzee:	
	2.20. Wole Soyinka:	
	2.21. Nadine Gordimer	
	2.22. Buchi Emecheta:	
	2.23. Ngugiwa Thiong'o:	
	2.24. Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie:	
	2.25. Sir Ben Golden EmuobowhoOkri:	
	2.26. Novels	
	2.27. Poetry, essays and short story collections	

	Multiple Choice Questions from Fiction	
	2.28. The African Drama	
	2.29. Ama Ata Aidoo:	
	2.30. Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o:	
	2.31. Ngugi waMirii:	
	2.32. Peter Nazareth	
	2.33. Wole Soyinka	
	2.34. Wole Soyinka's Plays:	
	2.35. Main characters in The Lion and the Jewel:	
	2.36. Athol Fugard:	
	2.37. Ola Rotimi:	
	2.38. Zulu Sofola:	
	2.39. List of Famous Essayists and their Essays:	
	2.40. African Feminism:	
	2.41. Some African Female Writers: - Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie	
	2.42. Mariama Bâ	
	2.43. Aminatta Forna:	
	Multiple Choice Questions from Drama	
3.	CARIBBEAN LITERATURE	114
	3.1. What is Caribbean Literature?	
	3.2. The Origin of Caribbean Literature:	
	3.3. The main features of Caribbean literature:	
	3.4. Cultural Mosaic and Diversity:	
	3.5. Multilingualism and Linguistic Hybridity:	
	3.6. Oral Traditions and Storytelling:	
	3.7. Colonial Legacy and Postcolonial Perspectives:	
	3.8. Identity Formation and Hybrid Identities:	
	3.9. Migration and Diasporic Experiences:	
	3.10. Social Commentary and Advocacy:	
	3.11. Rhythmic Influences and Musical Integration:	
	3.12. Cultural Memory and Historical Trauma:	
	3.13. Global Impact and Recognition:	
	3.14. Caribbean Poetry:	
	3.15. Derek Walcott:	

	3.16. Derek Walcott's Poems:	
	3.17. Other Poets and their Works:	
	3.18. Aimé Césaire	
	3.19. Louise Simone Bennett-Coverle:	
	3.20. Nancy Morejón:	
	3.21. Edward Kamau Brathwaite	
	3.22. Edward Alston Cecil Baugh:	
	3.23. Martin Wylde Carter:	
	3.24. James Berry	
	3.25. Mahadai Das	
	3.26. Caribbean Drama:	
	3.27. Derek Walcott's Plays:	
	3.28. Ina Césaire	
	3.29. Maryse Condé	
	3.30. Errol Gaston Hill:	
	3.31. Dennis Scott:	
	3.32. Barrington John Reckord	
	3.33. Aston Cooke	
	3.34. Una Maud Victoria Marson:	
	3.35. Caribbean Fiction:	
	3.36. Novels and Short Stories of V.S. Naipau	
	3.37. Characters in A House for Mr Biswas:	
	3.38. Other Fiction Writers	
	3.39. List of Caribbean Essayists: - V.S. Naipaul	
	3.40. Non-fictionworks by Naipaul:	
	3.41. Jamaica Kincaid	
	3.42. Patrick Chamoiseau	
	3.43. Sir Theodore Wilson Harris	
	3.44. Sylvia Wynter	
	Part 1 – Multiple Choice Questions	
	UNIT – 4 - MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS	143

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SANNATHI STREET, KANCHIPURAM – 1. CELL: 9566535080

B.Off 2: B.Off 2: 65C, Thillai Ngr(West), 4th Cross St, Trichy – 620018.

B.Off 3:266-C, Advaita Ashram Road,(Opp to New Bus Stand), Salem-636 004.

Trichy: 76399 67359

Salem: 93602 68118

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR TRB

ENGLISH – 2024-25

UNIT 4 – NEW ZEALAND LITERATURE

1.1. New Zealand Literature: An Introduction:

- ❖ **New Zealand literature** is literature, both oral and written, produced by the people of New Zealand.
- ❖ It often deals with New Zealand themes, people or places, is written predominantly in New Zealand English, and features Māori culture and the use of the Māori language.

MAORI CULTURE

- New Zealand is the youngest country in the world.
- The Maori people are the indigenous people of New Zealand who first arrived in voyaging canoes.
- Today, New Zealand is multicultural with an educated and sophisticated society.
- Their culture is made up of traditional and contemporary arts, stories and legends, fishing, and Te Reo Maori.
- There are 663,900 people (as of 2010) that are apart of the Maori population in New Zealand.

- ❖ Māori in the colonial period, casually described as a 'dying race', were in fact working towards their own Indigenous modernity, participating in print culture, commerce, agriculture, and tourism
- ❖ Before the arrival and settlement of Europeans in New Zealand in the 19th century, Māori culture had a strong oral tradition.
- ❖ Early European settlers wrote about their experiences travelling and exploring New Zealand.

- ❖ The concept of a "New Zealand literature", as distinct from English literature, did not originate until the 20th century, when authors began exploring themes of landscape, isolation, and the emerging New Zealand national identity.

1.2. The Origin of New Zealand Literature:

- ❖ Like all Polynesian peoples, the Maori, who began to occupy the islands now called New Zealand about 1,000 years ago, composed, memorized, and performed laments, love poems, war chants, and prayers.
- ❖ They also developed a mythology to explain and record their own past and the legends of their gods and tribal heroes.
- ❖ As settlement developed through the 19th century, Europeans collected many of these poems and stories and copied them in the Maori language.
- ❖ The most picturesque myths and legends, translated into English and published in collections with titles like *Maori Fairy Tales* (1908; by Johannes Carl Andersen), were read to, or by, Pakeha (European) children, so that some—such as the legend of the lovers Hinemoa and Tutanekai or the exploits of the man-god Maui, who fished up the North Island from the sea and tamed the sun—became widely known among the population at large.

1.3. History of Maori and New Zealand:

- ❖ New Zealand is well-known for having a shorter human history than any other country.
- ❖ Most of the changes were brought by the Maori people who entered New Zealand in waves of migration.
- ❖ The Maori are indigenous and part of the Polynesian people in New Zealand.
- ❖ They used their incredible navigation skills to make their way from Polynesian island to Aotearoa (now, New Zealand).
- ❖ This migration occurred approximately thousands of years ago.
- ❖ As there was no written language of Maori, stories, and legends were passed orally from generation to generation to keep the Maori history alive.
- ❖ One of the most well-known legend tells the tales of Kupe, the first from the Maori tribe to discover New Zealand.
- ❖ He and his fellow members embarked from Waikiki and came across New Zealand.
- ❖ They traveled in wakas (large canoes) which further helped other people migrate to the island.
- ❖ It is also believed that Kupe's wife, Kuramarotini, gave New Zealand its very first name Aotearoa.

- ❖ After discovering this new island, Kupe and others who came along with him explored the parts of the North Island and Cook Strait.

1.4. The early life of Maori:

- ❖ New Zealand had been growing and evolving in isolation for almost 80 million years, which meant natural nature was untouched.
- ❖ Kupe passed his navigational and survival skills to the next generation which helped Maori people thrive in the remote island.
- ❖ They hunted Moa, a native flightless bird which constituted for their high protein diet, among many other larger birds and animals.
- ❖ This resulted in a huge population growth which expanded from the top of the North Island up to the South.
- ❖ However, resources started to dwindle soon after Moa and other similar species became extinct.
- ❖ Maori people decided to form tribes for security and fight for the resources that were left.
- ❖ Any tribal disputes would either be resolved through peaceful methods like diplomacy and intermarriages or in some cases, military campaigns.
- ❖ These tribes would live in separate villages but retreat to 'pa' when they felt threatened.
- ❖ Pa can be referred to various settlement styles, either a Maori village, defensive settlement, or hillforts.

1.5. First contact with Europeans:

- ❖ The first European encounter with the Maori was a very short one occurring in the year 1642.
- ❖ It was when Abel Tasman, a Dutch seafarer, sailed from Indonesia and stopped at Golden Bay or Mohua in New Zealand.
- ❖ Tasman was met with a Maori tribe in their wakas.
- ❖ Intrigued, Tasman lowered a boat of the crew to meet the Maori in hopes of becoming friends.
- ❖ This resulted in four crew members getting killed by the Maori as they rammed their boats.
- ❖ Tasman knew he wouldn't be able to make contact with hostile Maori tribes in Golden bay and left the majority of the area unexplored.
- ❖ After this encounter, the Maori people lived peacefully for 127 years with no contact from the outside world.

1.6. The arrival of Captain James Cook:

- ❖ In 1769, a mix of French and English people decided to contact the Maori tribes again.
- ❖ Under the command of Captain James Cook, the English beat the French to it.
- ❖ Cook mapped the coast of New Zealand to start the European migration.
- ❖ Similar to Tasman's meeting, the Maori people weren't content with outsiders stepping into their land.
- ❖ When Cook sent a boat to the shore, it resulted in some Maori people getting killed.
- ❖ This remained a very sensitive issue in New Zealand's history.
- ❖ However, he soon became successful but before that, a conflict broke out between Cook's boats and Maori waka.
- ❖ When three Maori people jumped out of their waka, they were seized by Cook.
- ❖ He explained to them that he wanted peace and showered them with gifts before taking them back to the shore.
- ❖ This is how Cook developed good relations with Maori.



1.7. The European settlers:

- ❖ In the early 1800s, whalers from America and Europe started making their way towards the Bay of Islands.
- ❖ They began setting up trading villages with the Maori.
- ❖ A town which is now known as Russell in New Zealand was the main hub for timber and tax in the 1800s.
- ❖ This was also known to be New Zealand's first capital city.
- ❖ Many whalers stopped in this city for rest and recreation.
- ❖ Although European settlers started their trading business with Maori people, peace was still practiced through intermarriages.
- ❖ This was also because European wanted Maori for protection and labor while Maori needed certain European articles like the Musket.
- ❖ Maori often referred to the European settlers in New Zealand as 'Pakeha' and soon their oral stories were converted to written form as Maori quickly adopted writing.

1.8. Musket wars:

- ❖ The ways of Western life soon found their way into the Maori lifestyle – technology, literacy, trade, religion, and muskets.
- ❖ The years 1818 to 1836 witnessed bloody inter-tribal wars which were commonly known as the Musket Wars.
- ❖ Ngapuhi, a tribe in North Island acquired muskets through trading and raided tribes residing in the south.
- ❖ They would win every battle until a new tribe would get their hands over the muskets.
- ❖ Once the Ngapuhi were defeated, other tribes would continue the war until every tribe had muskets with them.
- ❖ This is how the fight came to an end in the year 1836.

1.9. The Treaty of Waitangi



The Treaty of Waitangi

1. After signing (ceding) Governorship (te kawanatanga katoa) or Sovereignty of their land, Maori would get:
2. **Exclusive and undisturbed possession** of their lands, estates, fisheries and forests etc as long as they desired (tino rangatiratanga/ chieftainship).
Land and asset sales only through Crown at agreed prices (pre-emption).
3. The Queen promised Maori protection and **equal rights and privileges alongside British citizens**
4. **Freedom of religion** (the phantom clause)

- ❖ In the 1830s, Christian missionaries preached to many Maori tribes and converted them into Christianity.
- ❖ They also introduced them to the treaty of Waitangi.
- ❖ This was a document that stated the agreement between the British crown and all the Maori tribes and sub-tribes.
- ❖ This treaty was aimed to find a nation-state and government in New Zealand.
- ❖ As Maori thought of their profits with the Europeans, they signed the treaty of Waitangi.
- ❖ However, the document was not translated properly from English to the Maori language and caused a lot of controversies.
- ❖ The English version asserted that Maori had equality with the Britishers but the British will also have complete rights to the government.

- ❖ The Maori version promised chieftainship giving local rights of government.
- ❖ The problem grew immensely when Europeans started to grow on Maori land.
- ❖ As a result, they lost a lot of their land in no time.
- ❖ This European expansion continued but Maori didn't give up control over the land they had discovered.
- ❖ Several wars broke out, starting from the 1840s where Maori and Europeans fought with each other.
- ❖ In particular, the Waikato War was the biggest land war to ever happen which occurred from 1863 to 1864.
- ❖ Maori gave a strong fight against the European and won several the battles, even though the odds were against them.
- ❖ In the end, however, British resources doubled and overcame the Maori, dwindling their political independence.
- ❖ It finally expired in the year 1916 when police invaded the last sanctuary living in the Urewera mountains.

1.10. Reviving the Maori culture

- ❖ After the European colonization, the Maori population reduced while the European settlers overtook them in large numbers.
- ❖ Strong Maori leaders, especially Apirana Ngata, fought to keep the Maori culture alive.
- ❖ He formed the Maori Pioneer Battalion, initiated health and land reforms, and generally promoted the Maori culture.
- ❖ Yet, many Maori people decide to shift to the urban areas to find work.
- ❖ Even if they bought their cultural aspects to the city, they would always be subjected to westernization and were expected to assimilate with Western teachings.
- ❖ Many protests were organized once people realized the severe effects European colonization had on Maori.
- ❖ These protests have provided fruitful results such as the Maori language education system, Maori-owned enterprises, significant political representation, and many more.
- ❖ Today, it is widely known that Maori is a huge part of New Zealand's identity.

1.11. Themes:

- ❖ There are certain themes and ideas that pervade New Zealand literature.
- ❖ The perception of masculinity in New Zealand has been influenced by works like John Mulgan's *Man alone* and evocations of the good keen man can be seen in the writings of Sam Hunt, Ronald Hugh Morrieson and Barry Crump.

- ❖ A sense of magic and wonder is often at play in New Zealand literature, with novelists like Margaret Mahy and Elizabeth Knox experimenting with fantasy and altered realities.
- ❖ Cultural issues and the interplay of Māori and Pakeha, New Zealand and the Pacific Islands, have been expressed by authors such as Keri Hulme (her novel *The Bone People* famously won the Booker Prize in 1985), Witi Ihimaera, Alistair Te Ariki Campbell and poet Hone Tuwhare.

1.12. New Zealand Poetry:

- ❖ New Zealand's first poets writing in English arrived in the mid-19th century, and tried to find ways of writing about their new land.
- ❖ Their efforts were generally derided by later generations, who preferred modernism to Victorianism.



1.13. New Zealand Poets and their Poems

1.13. Allen Curnow:

- ❖ **Thomas Allen Monro Curnow** (17 June 1911 – 23 September 2001) was a New Zealand poet and journalist.
- ❖ The son of an Anglican clergyman, Curnow briefly attended Canterbury College before simultaneously studying theology at the College of St. John the Evangelist in Auckland and attending Auckland University College of the University of New Zealand (later University of Auckland).
- ❖ During that time he began publishing poetry in student journals.
- ❖ The literary nationalists were a group of writers who emerged in the 1930s.
- ❖ The new generation of writers who emerged in the 1930s have been called the 'Phoenix generation', the 'Caxton generation', or the 'literary nationalists'.
- ❖ They thought their audience and subject matter ought to be found in New Zealand, rather than overseas.
- ❖ Poet Allen Curnow was a key figure in this group, and his anthologies of New Zealand poetry were very influential in setting the style for generations.
- ❖ In two crucial poetry anthologies, *A book of New Zealand verse 1923–45* (1945) and *The Penguin book of New Zealand verse* (1960), Curnow summed up the history of New Zealand poetry from a nationalist point of view.
- ❖ Allen Curnow's first book of poems, *Valley of Decision*, is a collection of twenty-three short lyrics published in 1933 when he was 22.

- ❖ He published *Three Poems* in 1935.
- ❖ Notable collections of Curnow include *Enemies: Poems 1934–36* (1937), *Not in Narrow Seas* (1939), *Island & Time* (1941), and *Sailing or Drowning* (1943).
- ❖ Curnow edited the widely read *A Book of New Zealand Verse 1923–45* (1945; rev. ed., 1951), a collection of writing by New Zealanders in which he identified a number of distinctive national themes as New Zealand progressed beyond a strictly colonial identity; it was the first serious study of New Zealand poetry.
- ❖ More-personal verse was interspersed in the poems collected in *Jack Without Magic* (1946), *At Dead Low Water and Sonnets* (1949), and *Poems 1949–1957* (1957).
- ❖ Curnow also edited *The Penguin Book of New Zealand Verse* (1960).
- ❖ His selections for that volume came under fire from younger poets—such as James K. Baxter, Alistair Campbell, and Louis Johnson—who objected to what they perceived as a dated and attenuated nationalistic emphasis.
- ❖ Curnow's later collections include *A Small Room with Large Windows* (1962), *Trees, Effigies, Moving Objects* (1972), *You Will Know When You Get There: Poems 1979–81* (1982), *Selected Poems, 1940–1989* (1990), and *The Bells of St. Babel's* (2001).
- ❖ The verse that he wrote as Whim Wham was collected in, among other volumes, *Whim Wham's New Zealand: The Best of Whim Wham 1937–1988* (2005).
- ❖ Curnow also wrote a number of plays.
- ❖ In 1986 Curnow was made Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE), and in 1989 he received the Queen's Gold Medal for Poetry.
- ❖ He was appointed to the Order of New Zealand in 1990.

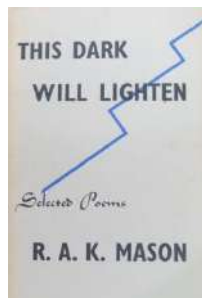
Allen Curnow

- Born in Timaru, Christchurch in 1911 and died in 2001.
- He attended the University of Auckland.
- In 1934, he found a job at "The Auckland Star" and started writing poems.
- Allen Curnow wished to answer questions that **did not present themselves as public and answerable, but questions which are private and unanswerable.**
- The poem "Time" was included in his collection in reverse chronological order. They are introduced by a quotation from Samuel Beckett.
- **'The Erewhonians say that we are drawn through life backwards; or again that we go onwards into the future as into a dark corridor.'**



1.14. Ronald Allison Kells Mason:

- ❖ **Ronald Allison Kells Mason** (10 January 1905 – 13 July 1971) was a New Zealand poet.
- ❖ Described by Allen Curnow as New Zealand's "first wholly original, unmistakably gifted poet" he was born in Penrose, Auckland on 10 January 1905.
- ❖ The following are his poems:
- ❖ *The Beggar* (Whitcombe & Tombs, 1924)
- ❖ *Penny Broadsheet* (Whitcombe & Tombs, 1924)
- ❖ *No New Thing* (Spearhead Publishers, 1934)
- ❖ *End of Day* (Caxton Press, 1936)
- ❖ *This Dark Will Lighten* (Caxton Press, 1941)
- ❖ *China Dances and Other Poems* (John McIndoe, 1962)
- ❖ *Collected Poems* (Pegasus Press, 1962)



1.15. Charles Orwell Brasch:

Charles Orwell Brasch (27 July 1909 – 20 May 1973) was a New Zealand poet, literary editor and arts patron.

- ❖ He was the founding editor of the literary journal *Landfall*, and through his 20 years of editing the journal, had a significant impact on the development of a literary and artistic culture in New Zealand.

The Quest

I have come to the end of doubt
And to the beginning of the
knowledge of self;
I have described a circle round the
earth
And reach my starting place,
And I am ready for that which awaits
me there.

Charles Orwell Brasch

- ❖ The following are his poems:
 - *The Land and the People, and Other Poems* (1939), Caxton Press
 - *Disputed Ground* (1948), Caxton Press
 - *The Estate* (1957), Caxton Press
 - *Ambulando* (1964), Caxton Press
 - *Home Ground* (1974), Caxton Press
 - *Collected Poems* (1984), Oxford University Press
 - *Selected Poems* (2015), Otago University Press

1.16. Ruth Dallas:

- ❖ **Ruth Minnie Mumford** (29 September 1919 – 18 March 2008), better known by her pen name **Ruth Dallas**, was a New Zealand poet and children's author.



- ❖ Dallas was born in Invercargill, the daughter of Frank and Minnie Mumford.
- ❖ She became blind in one eye at 15, then spent three years at the Southland

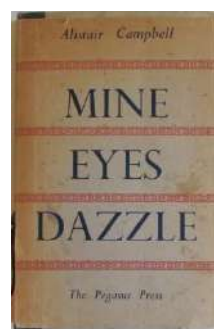
Technical College and was engaged at 19.

- ❖ But her fiancé broke off the engagement to serve in Great Britain during World War II.
- ❖ During the war she worked at an army office and as a milk tester.
- ❖ Following the war, in 1946, her first published poem, "Morning Mountains" appeared in *The Southland Times*.
- ❖ She adopted her maternal grandmother's name, Dallas, as a pen name.
- ❖ Her first book of poetry, *Country Road and Other Poems*, was published in 1953.
- ❖ In 1954 she moved to Dunedin, where she lived for most of her life.
- ❖ The following are her poems:
- ❖ *Country Road and Other Poems 1947-52* (Caxton Press, 1953)
- ❖ *The Turning Wheel* (Caxton Press, 1961)
- ❖ *Experiment in Form* (Press Room, University of Otago, 1964)
- ❖ *Day Book: Poems of a Year* (Caxton Press, 1966)
- ❖ *Shadow Show* (Caxton Press, 1968)
- ❖ *Walking on the Snow* (Caxton Press, 1976)
- ❖ *Song for a Guitar and Other Songs* (Otago University Press, 1976)
- ❖ *Steps of the Sun* (Caxton Press, 1979)
- ❖ *Collected Poems* (Otago University Press, 1987; 2nd ed. 2000)

- ❖ *The Joy of a Ming Vase* (Otago University Press, 2006)

1.17. Alistair Campbell:

- ❖ **Alistair Te Ariki Campbell** (25 June 1925 – 16 August 2009) was a poet, playwright, and novelist.
- ❖ Born in the Cook Islands, he was the son of a Cook Island Māori mother and a Pākehā father, who both died when he was young, leading to him growing up in a New Zealand orphanage.
- ❖ He became a prolific poet and writer, with a lyrical and romantic style tempered by a darkness borne out of his difficult childhood and struggles with mental health as a young adult.
- ❖ Although he wrote about Māori culture from his earliest works, after a revelatory return to the Cook Islands in 1976, his later works increasingly featured Pasifika culture and themes.
- ❖ He received a number of notable awards during his lifetime including the New Zealand Book Award for Poetry and Prime Minister's Award for Literary Achievement, and is considered one of New Zealand's foremost poets as well as a pioneer of Pasifika literature written in English.
- ❖ The following are her poems:
 - 1950: *Mine Eyes Dazzle: Poems 1947–49*, Christchurch: Pegasus Press



- 1951: *Mine Eyes Dazzle: Pegasus New Zealand Poets 1*, Christchurch: Pegasus Press ("With a Foreword by James K. Baxter")
- 1956: *Mine Eyes Dazzle*, Christchurch: Pegasus Press ("New Revised Edition")
- 1963: *Sanctuary of Spirits*, Wellington: Wai-te-ata Press
- 1964: *Wild Honey*, London: Oxford University Press
- 1967: *Blue Rain: Poems*, Wellington: Wai-te-ata Press
- 1972: *Kapiti: Selected Poems 1947–71*, Christchurch: Pegasus Press
- 1975: *Dreams, Yellow Lions*, Martinborough: Alister Taylor
- 1980: *The Dark Lord of Savaiki: Poems*, Pukerua Bay: Te Kotare Press
- 1981: *Collected Poems 1947–1981*, Martinborough: Alister Taylor
- 1985: *Soul Traps*, Pukerua Bay: Te Kotare Press
- 1992: *Stone Rain: The Polynesian Strain*, Christchurch: Hazard Press
- 1995: *Death and the Tagua*, Wellington: Wai-te-ata Press
- 1996: *Pocket Collected Poems*, Christchurch: Hazard Press
- 1999: *Gallipoli & Other Poems*, Wellington: Wai-te-ata Press
- 2001: *Maori Battalion: A Poetic Sequence*, Wellington: Wai-te-ata Press

- 2002: *Poets in Our Youth: Four Letters in Verse*, being four letters in verse to John Mansfield Thomson, Harry Orsman, Pat Wilson and James K. Baxter; Wellington: Pemmican Press
- 2005: *The Dark Lord of Savaiki: Collected Poems*, Christchurch: Hazard Press
- 2007: *Just Poetry*, Wellington: HeadworX
- 2008: *It's Love, Isn't It?* (with Meg Campbell), Wellington: HeadworX
- 2016: *The Collected Poems of Alistair Te Ariki Campbell*, Wellington: Victoria University Press

1.18. James K. Baxter:

The poem is a plank laid over the lion's den.

- ❖ **James Keir Baxter** (29 June 1926 – 22 October 1972) was a New Zealand poet and playwright.



- ❖ He was also known as an activist for the preservation of Māori culture.
- ❖ He is one of New Zealand's most well-known and controversial literary figures.
- ❖ He was a prolific writer who produced numerous poems, plays and articles in his short life, and was regarded as the preeminent writer of his generation.
- ❖ He suffered from alcoholism until the late 1950s.

- ❖ He converted to Catholicism and established a controversial commune at Jerusalem, New Zealand, in 1969.
- ❖ Educated in New Zealand and England, he first published *Beyond the Palisade* (1944), which displayed youthful promise.
- ❖ *Blow, Wind of Fruitfulness* (1948), superficially a less attractive collection, was more profound.
- ❖ *Recent Trends in New Zealand Poetry* (1951) was his first critical work, its judgments revealing a maturity beyond his years.
- ❖ Later verse collections include *The Fallen House* (1953), the satirical *Iron Breadboard* (1957), *Pig Island Letters* (1966), *Jerusalem Sonnets* (1970), and *Autumn Testament* (1972).
- ❖ He also published *Aspects of Poetry in New Zealand* (1967). Baxter's *Collected Poems* was first published in 1979 and his *Collected Plays* in 1982.
- ❖ He is a poet, short story writer, novelist, playwright, critic, editor, biographer, and librettist.
- ❖ His poems are
 - 1965 *Our Burning Time*
 - 1969 *Revenants*
 - 1973 *Bearings*
 - 1976 *From the Indian Funeral*
 - 1977 *Butcher & Co.*
 - 1980 *Brother Jonathan, Brother Kafka* (with prints by John Drawbridge)
 - 1982 *The Rose Ballroom and Other Poems*
 - 1982 *The Butcher Papers*
 - 1986 *The Pilate Tapes*
 - 1992 *Selected Poems*
 - 1988 *Seeing You Asked*
 - 2001 *Lucky Table*
 - 2004 *Nice Morning for It, Adam*
 - 2004 *Homecoming - Te Hokinga Mai*
 - 2007 *Blame Vermeer*
 - 2009 *Further Convictions Pending: Poems 1998–2008*
 - 2011 *The Movie May Be Slightly Different*
 - 2013 *Us, Then*
 - 2015 *Being Here: Selected Poems*
 - 2016 *And So It Is: New Poems*

1.19. Vincent O' Sullivan:

If you are different from the rest of the flock, they bite you.

Vincent O' Sullivan

- ❖ **Sir Vincent Gerard O' Sullivan** (born 28 September 1937) is one of New Zealand's best-known writers.

1.20. Mary Ursula Bethell:

- ❖ **Mary Ursula Bethell** (pseudonym, **Evelyn Hayes**; 6 October 1874 – 15 January 1945), was a New Zealand poet.
- ❖ She settled at the age of 50 at Rise Cottage on the Cashmere Hills near Christchurch, with her companion Effie Pollen, where she created a sheltered garden with views over the city and towards the Southern Alps, and began writing poems about the landscape.
- ❖ Although she considered herself "by birth and choice English", and spent her life travelling between England and New Zealand, she was one of the first distinctively New Zealand poets, seen today as a pioneer of its modern poetry.
- ❖ Bethell only began to write poetry at the age of about 50.
- ❖ Most of it was written during her years at Rise Cottage with Pollen.
- ❖ At first she had no design to publish her poems, but wrote them as messages to send in letters to her friends.
- ❖ She was deeply affected by Pollen's death in 1934, writing to a friend that the event was "a complete shattering of my life.... [for] from her I have had love, tenderness, and understanding... and close and happy companionship".
- ❖ She wrote little more afterwards, so that most of her output dates from the one decade of 1924 to 1934.
- ❖ Vincent O'Sullivan said, "She was surprised that people admired her 'garden' poems, often written as casual messages to friends.... By the late 1920s, she was also writing the more deliberate and intellectually adventurous poems which took their place in her later two books."

MARY URSULA BTHELL

Response

When you wrote your letter it was April,
And you were glad that it was spring weather,
And that the sun shone out in turn with showers of rain.

I write in waning May and it is autumn,
And I am glad that my chrysanthemums
Are tied up fast to strong posts,
So that the south winds cannot beat them down.

I am glad that they are tawny coloured,
And fiery in the low west evening light.

And I am glad that one bush warbler
Still sings in the honey-scented wattle...

But oh, we have remembering hearts,
And we say 'How green it was in such and such an April,'
And 'Such and such an autumn was very golden,'
And 'Everything is for a very short time.'

ENGLISH

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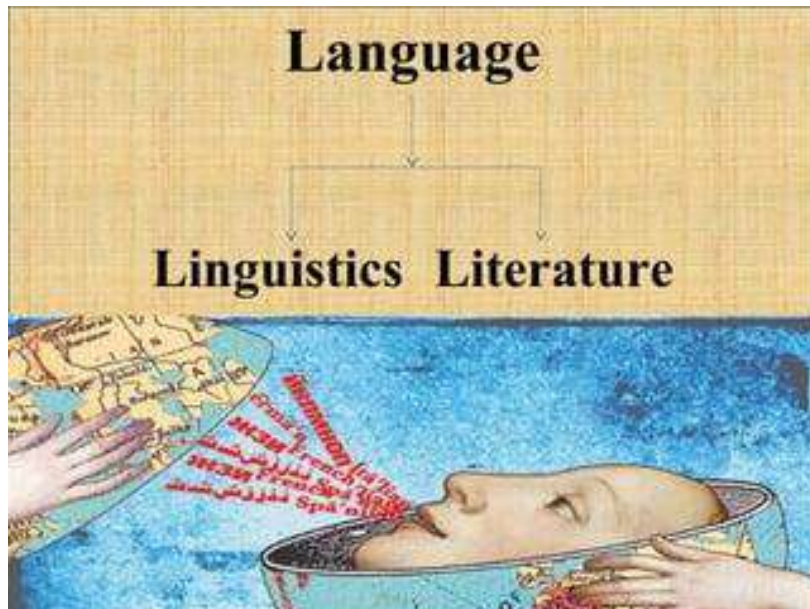
TEACHER'S CARE ACADEMY KANCHIPURAM



ENGLISH

UNIT – V

LITERARY, LANGUAGE AND LINGUISTICS



COMPETITIVE EXAM FOR ASSISTANT PROFESSOR TRB 2024 - 25

INDEX

S.N.	CHAPTERS	P.N.
1	LITERARY FORMS	1
	1.1. Lyric:	1
	1.2. Sonnet	2
	1.2.1. The Petrarchan Sonnet:	
	1.2.2. Shakespearean Sonnet:	
	1.3. Elegy:	5
	1.4. Ballad:	9
	1.5. Mock-Epic:	12
	1.5.1. Mock-Epic Poetry:	
	1.6. Satire:	13
	1.6.1. Classification of Satire:	
	1.6.2. (1) Horatian satire:	
	1.6.4. (3) Menippean satire:	
	1.7. Drama:	14
	1.8. Farce:	15
	1.9. Melo-Drama:	17
	1.10. Novel:	17
	1.10.1. Types of Novels:	
	1.10.2. Novel of Manners:	
	1.10.3. Bildungsroman:	
	1.10.4. Social Novel:	
	1.10.6. Historical Novel:	
	1.10.7. Regional Novel:	
	1.10.8. Antinovel:	
	1.10.9. Gothic Novels:	
	1.10.10. Science Fiction Novels	
	1.10.11. Mystery Novels:	
	1.11. Short Stories:	21

	1.11.1. Magical Realism:	
	General MCQ:	22
2	LITERARY MAGAZINES, PERIODICALS AND JOURNALS	23
	2.1. Tatler:	23
	2.2. Spectator:	24
	2.3. The Monthly Review:	25
	2.4. Rambler:	25
	2.5. The Critical Review:	25
	2.6. The Idler:	25
	2.7. The Analytical Review:	26
	2.8. The Monthly Magazine:	26
	2.9. The Anti-Jacobian or Weekly Examiner:	26
	2.10. The Edinburgh Review:	26
	2.11. The Friend:	27
	2.12. The Examiner:	27
	2.13. The Quarterly Review:	27
	2.14. The Reflector:	28
	2.15. New Monthly Magazine:	28
	2.16. Blackwood's Magazine	28
	2.17. The Literary Gazette:	29
	2.18. The Indicator:	29
	2.19. The Retrospective Review:	29
	2.20. The Westminster Review:	29
	2.21. The Athenaeum:	29
	2.22. Fraser's Magazine:	30
	2.23. The Englishman's Magazine:	30
	2.24. Penny Magazine:	30
	2.25. Bentley's Miscellany:	30
	2.26. The Dial:	30

	2.27. The Nation:	31
	2.38. Germ:	31
	2.29. Harper's Monthly Magazine:	32
	2.30. Household Words:	31
	2.31. The Saturday Review:	31
	2.32. The Oxford and Cambridge Magazine:	32
	2.33. Atlantic Monthly Magazine:	32
	2.34. Harper's Weekly Magazine:	32
	2.35. Macmillan's Magazine:	32
	2.36. Cornhill Magazine:	32
	2.37. The Fortnightly Review:	32
	General MCQ:	36
3	18th CENTURY LITERARY MOVEMENTS:	37
	3.1. The Kit-Kat Club:	37
	3.2. The Scriblerus Club:	38
	3.3. Classicism:	39
	3.4. The Tudor Dynasty:	40
	3.5. University Wits:	41
	3.5.1. John Lyly:	
	3.5.2. George Peele:	
	3.5.3. Thomas Kyd:	
	3.5.4. Thomas Lodge:	
	3.5.5. Robert Greene:	
	3.5.6. Thomas Nashe:	
	3.5.7. Christopher Marlowe:	
	3.6. Types of Comedies:	44
	3.6.1. Romantic Comedy:	
	3.6.2. Satiric Comedy:	
	3.6.3. Comedy of Humors:	

	3.6.4. Comedy of Manners:	
	3.6.5. High Comedy:	
	3.6.6. Comedy of Menace	
	3.6.7. Top of Form	
	3.7. What is a Masque	47
	3.8. Sons of Ben:	48
	3.8.1. Metaphysical Poetry:	
	3.9. Cavalier Poets:	49
	3.10. Commedia Dell'arte	49
	3.11. Graveyard Poets:	51
	3.12. The Lake School of Poets:	51
	3.13. The Satanic School of Poetry:	52
	3.14. The Cockney School of Poets:	52
	3.15. The Dark Romanticism:	52
	3.16. Transcendentalism:	53
	3.17. Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood:	55
	3.18. Aestheticism:	56
	3.19. Fireside Poets:	58
	3.20. Oxford Movement:	60
	3.21. Realism:	61
	3.22. Naturalism:	62
	3.23. Impressionism	63
	3.24. Symbolism	65
	3.25. Imagism:	67
	3.26. Surrealism:	68
	3.27. Dadaism:	70
	3.28. Existentialism:	70
	3.29. Lost Generation:	71
	3.30. Rhymer's Club:	71
	3.31. Irish Dramatic Movement:	72

	General MCQ:	76
	3.32. W.H. Auden Group:	77
	3.33. Pylon School:	78
	3.34. Georgian Poetry:	78
	3.35. The Harlem Renaissance:	80
	3.36. Bloomsbury Group:	82
	3.37. Stream of Consciousness:	83
	3.38. Black Mountain Poets:	83
	3.39. Celtic Revival:	84
	3.40. Chicago Poets:	84
	3.41. New Apocalyptic Movement:	85
	3.42. Southern Agrarians:	85
	3.43. Beat Generation:	86
	3.44. Black Arts Movement:	87
	3.45. Black Aesthetic Movement:	88
	3.46. Theatre of Absurd:	88
	3.47. Agit Prop:	90
	3.48. Theatre of Cruelty:	91
	3.49. Kitchen Sink Drama:	91
	3.50. Confessional Poetry:	92
	3.51. Movement Poets:	94
	3.52. Symbolism and Imagism	94
	3.53. American Literary Movements	95
	General MCQ:	96
4	LITERARY TERMS	97
	4.1. Allegory	97
	4.1.1. Definition:	
	4.1.2. Aporia:	
	4.1.3. Alliteration:	

	4.1.4. Assonance:	
	4.1.5. Asyndeton:	
	4.1.6. Polysyndeton:	
	4.1.7. Epiphora:	
	4.1.8. Antithesis:	
	4.1.9. Bathos:	
	4.1.10. Chiasmus:	
	4.1.11. Diacope:	
	4.1.12. Hyperbole:	
	4.1.13. Imagery:	
	4.1.14. Irony:	
	4.1.15. Verbal Irony:	
	4.1.16. Kenning:	
	4.1.17. Oxymoron:	
	4.1.18. Paradox:	
	4.2.	112
	4.2.1. Pathetic Fallacy:	112
	4.2.2. Analepsis:	
	4.2.3. Synecdoche:	
	4.2.4. Synesthesia:	
	4.2.6. Zeugma:	
	4.2.7. Carpe diem:	
	4.2.8. Dream Vision:	
	4.2.9. Epiphany:	
	4.2.10. Euphemism	
	4.2.11. Incunabula:	
	4.2.12. Purple Patch:	
	4.2.13. Poetic Diction:	
	4.2.14. Poetic Justice:	
	4.2.15. Poetic License:	

	4.2.16. Palinode:	
	General MCQ:	
5	LANGUAGE: BASIC CONCEPTS, THEORIES, AND PEDAGOGY	124
	5.1. Language Around Us:	124
	5.2. Concept of Language, Nature Of English Language And Its Importance In Human Life:	124
	5.3. Concept of Language:	124
	5.4. Nature of English Language:	125
	5.5. Definition, Nature and Scope of Linguistics:	125
	5.6. Scope of Linguistics:	126
	5.7. Types and Branches of Linguistics:	126
	5.8. Key Points on Linguistic Concepts:	127
	5.8.1. Ferdinand de Saussure's Distinction:	
	5.9. Pidgin:	134
	5.10. Creole:	134
	5.11. Esperanto:	134
	5.12. Dialect:	135
	5.12.1. Dialect Dictionary:	
	5.12.2. Sociolect:	
	5.12.3. Diglossia:	
	5.12.4. Idiolect:	
	5.13. Register:	135
	5.14. Structural Grammar (Major Tenets)	135
	5.15. Transformational Generative Grammar:	135
	5.15.1. Theory Overview:	
	5.15.2. Conceptual Shift:	
	5.15.3. Structural Analysis:	
	5.15.4. Syntax Principles:	
	5.15.5. Influence on Language Studies:	

	5.15.6. Legacy and Criticisms:	
	5.16. Transformational Generative Grammar	136
	5.16.1. Transformational Grammar and the Teaching of Writing	
	5.16.2. The Transformation of Transformational Grammar	
6	PHONETICS	140
	6.1.1. Voiced and voiceless sounds:	
	6.1.2. Place of Articulation in Consonant Sounds	
	6.1.3. Approach to Describing Place of Articulation:	
	6.1.4. Bilabials:	
	6.1.5. Labiodentals:	
	6.1.6. Dentals:	
	6.1.7. Alveolar:	
	6.1.8. Palatals:	
	6.1.9. Velars:	
	6.1.10. Glottal:	
	6.2. Manner of Articulation:	144
	6.2.1. Stop Consonants:	
	6.2.2. Fricative Consonants:	
	6.2.3. Stops:	
	6.2.4. Fricatives:	
	6.2.5. Affricates:	
	6.2.6. Nasals:	
	6.2.7. Liquids:	
	6.2.8. Glides:	
	6.2.9. Glottal Stops and Flaps:	
	6.2.9.1. Glottal Stop [ʔ]:	
	6.2.9.2. Flap [D] or [r]:	
	6.2.9.3. Usage Differences:	
	6.2.9.4. Phonetic Representation:	

	6.2.9.5 Importance:	
	6.2.10. Acquaintance with some terms:	
	6.3. Vowels:	150
	6.4. Diphthongs:	151
	6.4.1. Types of Diphthongs:	
	General MCQ:	154
	6.5. Vowel and Consonant:	155
	Phonetics: MCQ	157
	6.6. Phonology:	160
	6.6.1. Phonemes:	
	6.6.2. Morphemes:	
	6.6.3. Syntax:	
	6.6.4. Semantics:	
	6.6.5. Phonology and Morphology Relationship:	
	6.6.6. Syntax and Semantics Relationship:	
	6.6.7. Importance in Language Comprehension:	
	6.6.8. Free Morpheme:	
	6.6.9. Bound Morpheme	
	6.6.10. Derivational Morpheme:	
	6.6.11. Inflectional Morpheme:	
	6.6.12. Base Morpheme:	
	6.7. Prescriptive and Descriptive Grammar:	162
	6.7.1. Prescriptive Grammar:	
	6.7.2. Descriptive Grammar:	
	6.7.3. Prescriptive Grammar Advantages & Disadvantages:	
	6.7.4. Descriptive Grammar Advantages & Disadvantages:	
	Linguistics MCQ:	163
	Overall MCQ – Important Questions	165

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B.Off 3: 266-C, Advaita Ashram Road, (Opp to New Bus Stand), Salem-636 004.

Trichy: 76399 67359

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ASSISTANT PROFESSOR TRB

ENGLISH – 2024-25

UNIT 5 – LITERARY, LANGUAGE AND LINGUISTICS

1. LITERARY FORMS

1.1. Lyric:

- The word 'lyric' is derived from the Greek word lyre which is an instrument used by the Greeks as an accompaniment to a poem.
- Poets who use lyrical form of poetry exhibit particular temperaments and sentiments by means of words

Lyric Poetry Developments:

16th Century

- During this period in Britain, an English composer, Thomas Campion composed lute songs and the sonnet gained popularity due to ardent efforts of poets like **Sir Philip Sidney, Edmund Spenser and William Shakespeare.**
- French poets like **La Pléiade, Pierre de Ronsard, Joachim du Bellay, and Jean-Antoine de Baïf** worked with the aim of breaking free from age old traditional French poetry, predominantly Marot and the grands rhétoriqueurs, so they started to imitate classical Greek and Roman poetry forms like the odes.
- Pindar, Anacreon, Alcaeus, Horace, and Ovid are some well acclaimed names of this school of thought. They also produced Petrarchan sonnet cycles.

17th Century

- During the 17th century, lyrical poetry dominated as a major form of poetry in literature.

- Works of poets such as **John Donne, Andrew Marvell, Thomas Carew, Ben Jonson, Richard Crashaw, Robert Herrick, George Herbert, Richard Lovelace, John Suckling, John Milton, and Henry Vaughan**, helped this form to gain an important place in literature.
- Readers appreciated such form of poetry as it was short, full of emotions which one could easily connect with.

18th Century

- During the period of 18th century, countries such as England and France saw a decline in the lyrical form of poetry.
- Poets like **Robert Burns, William Cowper, Oliver Goldsmith and Thomas Gray** however, were exceptions to this newly formed opinion and their lyrics were not much affected by the general opinion floating around.
- Some popular 18th century German lyric poets are **Novalis, Johann Wolfgang, Friedrich Schiller, von Goethe, and Johann Heinrich Voß**. **Kobayashi Issa**, a poet of Japanese origin gained popularity in lyric poetry during this era.

19th Century

- In Europe, the lyric, 1842 portrait of William Wordsworth written by Benjamin Haydon appeared as the primary form poetry of the 19th century.
- **William Wordsworth** is known for his contribution in the field of writing sonnets.
- Other renowned poets such as **John Keats, Samuel Taylor Coleridge, Lord Byron and Percy Bysshe Shelley** are other proclaimed names in the field of Romantic lyric poetry.
- Towards the end of the century, the Victorian lyric became more linguistically self-conscious and defensive in comparison to the Romantic Lyric form of poetry. **Alfred Lord Tennyson and Christina Rossetti** are some well-known Victorian lyric poets of this era.

Note: "Resolution and Independence" is a lyric poem of the English Romantic poet William Wordsworth, composed in 1802 and published in 1807 (UGC NET).

1.2. Sonnet:

- A sonnet is poem which is written in fourteen lines.
- The sonnet form was introduced by **Sir Thomas Wyatt and Henry Howard, Earl of Surrey** in the sixteenth century in English
- The word sonnet itself was introduced in English language in **1557** as the title of Surrey's poems.

- This form of lyrical poetry follows iambic pentameter with five pairs of accented and unaccented syllables.
- A sonnet's structure, having prearranged syllables and rhyme scheme, makes it similar to a song
- Two forms of Sonnet: 1. The Petrarchan sonnet/ The Italian Sonnet 2. Shakespearean sonnet

1.2.1. The Petrarchan Sonnet:

- The Petrarchan sonnet created a huge impact on European poetry.
- The traditional Italian or Petrarchan sonnet is a fourteen-line poem with an octave and sestet.

- Usually, these fourteen lines follow the hendecasyllable (a line of verse containing eleven syllables)

3 Forms of Sonnet		
Petrarchan Sonnet	Shakespearean Sonnet	Spenserian Sonnet
Rhyming Pattern: abba abba cde cde or abba abba cdc dcd	Rhyming Pattern: abab cdcd efef gg	Rhyming Pattern: abab bcba cdcd ee

- Alexandrine (a line of two **hemistichs** [half-lines] of six syllables each, separated by a caesura) meters.
- The octave, **first eight lines normally ask questions** and the sestet, **the last six lines answer them**.
- At the end of the eighth line of the Petrarchan sonnet, there is a '**volta**' or '**turn**', a point in the sonnet where the idea or theme is turned on its head.
- A Petrarchan sonnet's rhyme scheme: **abba, abba, cdecde**, though with some variation, especially within the final six lines
- The Petrarchan form was later used, for a great variety of subjects, by Milton, Wordsworth, Christina Rossetti, D. G. Rossetti
- Example: **John Milton's "On His Blindness"**

Note: Tottel's Miscellany- contained 60 sonnets. (UGC. NET. Dec. 2008).

1.2.2. Shakespearean Sonnet:

Note:

- The Shakespearean Sonnet has the rhyme scheme of ABAB CDCD EFEF GG, forming three quatrains (four line in a group) and a closing couplet (two rhymed lines). (UGC. NET. Dec. 2006)

- The Earl of Surrey and other English experimenters in the sixteenth century also developed a stanza form called **the English sonnet**, or else **the Shakespearean sonnet**, after its greatest practitioner.
- The Shakespearean sonnet is divided into **four stanzas**. The first three are **quatrains** (four line stanza) followed by a **couplet** (two line stanza).
- This sonnet falls into three quatrains and a concluding couplet: **abab cdcd efef gg**.
Eg: **William Shakespeare's "Time and Love"**
- There was a notable variant, **the Spenserian sonnet**, in which Spenser linked each quatrain to the next by a continuing rhyme: **abab bc bc cdcd ee**.

Note:

The Spenserian sonnet is a variation of the English sonnet with the rhyme scheme. ABAB, BCBC, CDCD, EE in which the quatrains are interlinked by a continuation of one end rhyme from the previous quatrain. (UG. NET. 2006)

- Following Petrarch's early example, a number of Elizabethan authors arranged their poems into **sonnet sequences**, or **sonnet cycles**
- Out of these **154 sonnets**, the first **126 sonnets** written are addressed to a fair young man in his youth and the **last 28 sonnets** are addressed to the **dark lady**.
- Nobody knows that a flesh and blood person exists in reality or not. The themes of the sonnets abound in love, beauty and mortality. This sequence was published in 1609
- **Shakespeare** ordered his sonnets in a sequence.
- **Sidney's "Astrophel and Stella"** (1580) and **Spenser's "Amoretti"** (1595) are examples of sonnet sequences.
- Later examples of sonnet sequences include **Wordsworth's "The River Duddon," D.G. Rossetti's "House of Life," Elizabeth Barrett Browning's "Sonnets from the Portuguese,"** and **William Ellery Leonard's "Two Lives."**
- **Dylan Thomas' "Altarwise by Owl-light"** (1936) is a sequence of ten sonnets that meditate on the poet's life.
- **George Meredith's "Modern Love"** (1862) is sometimes considered a sonnet sequence, despite its poems consisting of sixteen lines rather than the traditional fourteen.

Note: Sidney's sonnet sequence *Astrophel and Stella* is 108 sonnets and 11 songs (UGC. NET. Dec. 2007)

- John Donne is known for his famous **Holy sonnets**. Here, the lover is mankind and the beloved is God, his creator.

- In this sonnet, he mixes the style of the Italian and Shakespearean sonnets into one.
- The first eight lines of the sonnet have a rhyming scheme of 'abbaabba' that corresponds to the **Petrarchan sonnet**.
- But in the last six lines, the rhyming scheme is 'cdcdcc' where you have a concluding couplet like that of **Shakespearean sonnets**.
- **William Wordsworth** wrote **523 sonnets**, **John Keats** **67 sonnets**, **Samuel Taylor Coleridge** **48 sonnets**, and **Percy Bysshe Shelley** wrote **18 sonnets**.
- These sonnets imbibed the elements belonging to both the Shakespearean and Petrarchan traditions.

METRE

- The term 'metre' refer to the pattern of stresses in a line of verse, In English, every syllable in a word is either stressed and unstressed. A metrical foot is a combination of a strong Stress and an associated weak stress or stresses. An iambic foot, for example, will contain an unstressed syllable followed by stressed syllable. Take a look at the iambic units in the following line.

The cur | few tolls | the knell | par | ting day.

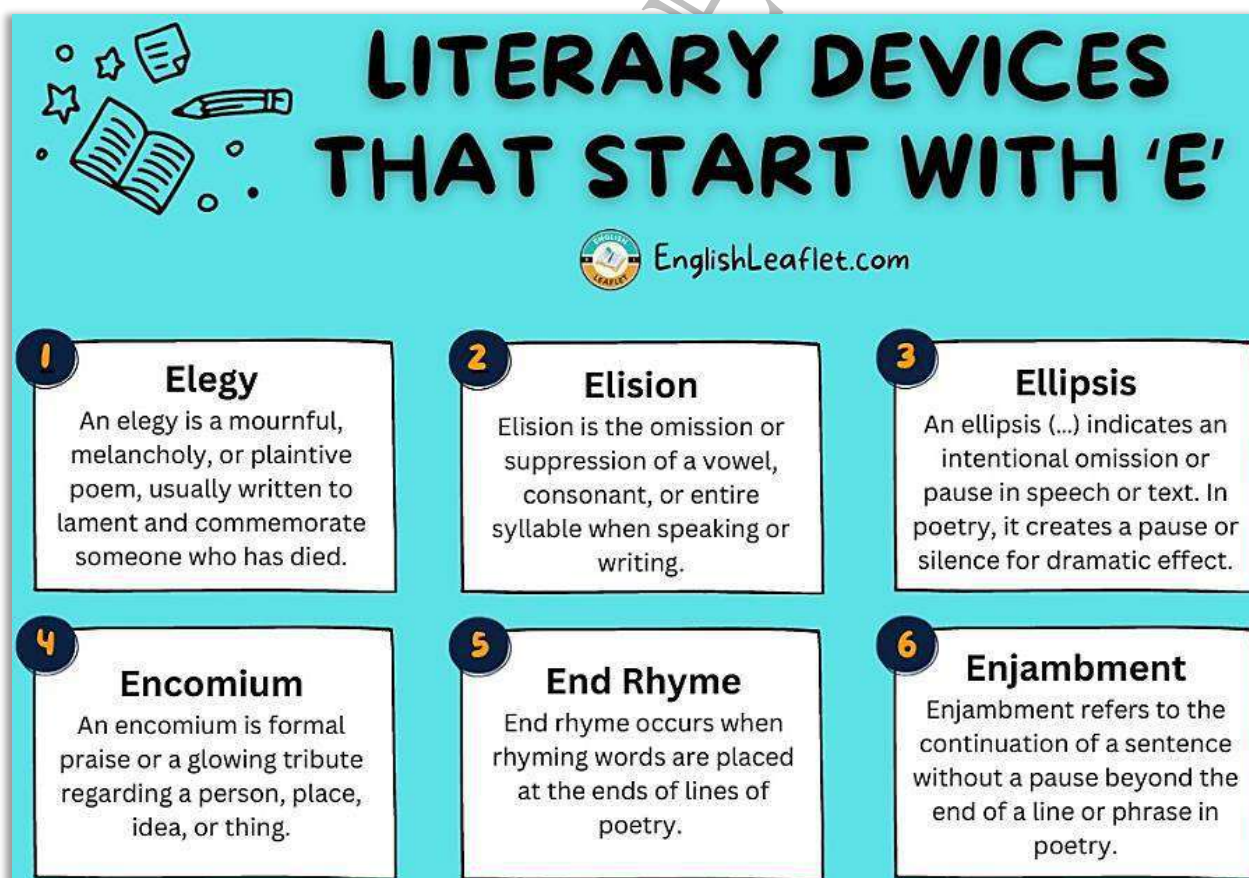
In the English language, there are five standard feet.

Foot	Adjective	Stress Pattern
Lamb	iambic	Unstressed – stressed
Anapaest	Anapaestic	Unstressed - unstressed – stressed
Trochee	Trohaic	Stressed – Unstressed
Dactyl	Dactylic	Stressed – Unstressed - Unstressed
Spondee	Spondaic	Stressed – stressed

1.3. Elegy:

- In Greek and Roman times, "**elegy**" referred to poems in elegiac meter, often expressing themes of change and loss, especially in love. Old English poems like "**The Wanderer**" and "**The Seafarer**" are considered elegies.
- **John Donne's** elegies, written in the late sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries, are love poems, although they relate to the sense of elegy as lament, in that many of them emphasize mutability and loss.
- Examples are the medieval poem **Pearl** and **Chaucer's Book of the Duchess** (elegies in the mode of dream allegory); **Alfred, Lord Tennyson's In Memoriam (1850)**, on the death of Arthur Hallam;
- **W. H. Auden's "In Memory of W. B. Yeats" (1940)**.

- Occasionally the term is used in its older and broader sense, for somber meditations on mortality such as **Thomas Gray's "Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard" (1757)**
- The **Duino Elegies (1912–22)** of the German poet **Rainer Maria Rilke** on the transience both of poets and of the earthly objects they write poems about.
- The term, '**dirge**' is a short expression of grief for someone's death, less formal and often sung.
- Examples include a piece by **Shakespeare** and one by **William Collins**.
- "**Threnody**" is now often used as a synonym for "**dirge**," and "**monody**" for a mournful solo piece.
- John Milton's** work describes a lament for a friend, and **Matthew Arnold's** elegy is called "**Thyrsis: A Monody**."
- Shakespeare's** *Full Fathom Five Thy Father Lies* and **William Collins' A Song from Shakespeare's Cymbeline (1749)** are some good examples of the **dirge**.



LITERARY DEVICES THAT START WITH 'E'

EnglishLeaflet.com

- 1 Elegy**
An elegy is a mournful, melancholy, or plaintive poem, usually written to lament and commemorate someone who has died.
- 2 Elision**
Elision is the omission or suppression of a vowel, consonant, or entire syllable when speaking or writing.
- 3 Ellipsis**
An ellipsis (...) indicates an intentional omission or pause in speech or text. In poetry, it creates a pause or silence for dramatic effect.
- 4 Encomium**
An encomium is formal praise or a glowing tribute regarding a person, place, idea, or thing.
- 5 End Rhyme**
End rhyme occurs when rhyming words are placed at the ends of lines of poetry.
- 6 Enjambment**
Enjambment refers to the continuation of a sentence without a pause beyond the end of a line or phrase in poetry.

Famous Elegy Poets

Some of the famous poet who have written elegies are as follows:

- Thomas Gray: 1716 – 1771
- Rainer Maria: 1875 – 1926

- John Donne: 1572 – 1631
- Anna Akhmatova: 1889 – 1996
- Johannes Secundus: 1511 – 1563
- Jochim du Bellay: 15522 – 1560
- Some modern poets like, William Carlos Williams and W H Auden still follow the original form of pastoral poetry and they have written poems that withhold its traditional form and characteristics.
- Notable English pastoral elegies are **Spenser's "Astrophel,"** on the death of Sir Philip Sidney (**1595**);
- **Milton's "Lycidas" (1638); Shelley's "Adonais" (1821);** and in the Victorian age, **Arnold's "Thyrsis."**
- The pastoral elegists, from the Greeks through the Renaissance, developed a set of elaborate conventions, which are illustrated here by reference to "**Lycidas.**"

Note:

- "Lycidas" is written by John Milton in 1637. It is a Pastoral elegy. Milton dedicates this poem to his friend Edward King, who drowned when his ship sank in the Irish Sea off the coast of Wales in Aug 1637 (UGC. NET. Jun. 2009).

Keywords:

- **Distich:** It is defined as a couplet which consists of successive lines of metre in poetry. It usually comprises of two successive lines that has the same meter.
- **Elegy:** It is defined as a poem which expresses gloomy thoughts of a person and is commonly written in praise of the deceased and has an air of sorrow around it.
- **Eulogy:** It is defined as a piece of writing which praises someone and is usually a tribute to the deceased person.
- **Pastoral elegy:** It is defined as a poem which dwells upon the combined subject of death and sublime country life. It usually includes shepherds who express their emotions.

Note:

- "In Memory of W.B. Yeats" is an elegy written by **W.H. Auden.** (UGC. NET. Dec. 2009).

Epic

- **Epic** is defined as a long narrative poem which recounts the heroic deeds of the heroes. It deals with various subjects such as **legends, myths, and histories,**

philosophical or mythical theories, and so on. It has been used as a literary form by people to transmit their traditions to the world.

- Epics are born from **oral tradition**. People pass on the narratives of their culture orally and stir the spirit of warriors in the people. It praises the actions of the **heroes**, their **ancestors**.
- There are differences between **traditional** and **literary epics**. **Traditional epics** are also called **folk epics**. They were not written but transferred orally from generation to generation. They were about a tribal or national hero during a warlike age.
- **Homer's Iliad** and **Odyssey** in Greek, in Sanskrit **Valmiki's Ramayana** and **Vyas' Mahabharata**, the Old English **Beowulf**; the French *Chanson de Roland*, German epic *Nibelungenlied* and the Spanish *Poema del Cid* are all examples of **traditional epics**.
- There is no written testimony regarding the authors of these oral epics. The Greek epic is attributed to **Homer**, for example.
- **Northrop Frye**, in his acclaimed book, *Anatomy of Criticism* (1957), talks about how **Homer** established for his successors the 'demonstration that the fall of an enemy, no less than of a friend or leader, is tragic and not comic,' and that with this 'objective and disinterested element,' the epic acquired an authority based 'on the vision of nature as an **impersonal order**'.
- **Literary epics**, on the other hand, were written by individual poets but certainly drew inspiration from the traditional form.
- The Latin epic poem **The Aeneid** written by **Virgil**, the English epic poem **Paradise Lost** written by **John Milton**, **Hyperion** by **John Keats** are examples of **literary epics**.
- **The Aeneid** served as the model for **Paradise Lost**. **Paradise Lost** in turn became the fragmentary epic **Hyperion**.
- Many works like **Dante's Divine Comedy** and **Spencer's The Faerie Queene** do not strictly adhere to the traditional or literary epic style but their scale and grandeur are the same.
- Nowadays, the term **epic** is applied to literary works that follow that model without the verse form. Prose forms like **Herman Melville's Moby-Dick**, **James Joyce's Ulysses**, and so forth are treated as epic poems because of the large-scale treatment of the subject matter.
- **Georg Lukács**, Hungarian Marxist philosopher, further uses the term **bourgeois epic** for all the novels that talk about the social reality of their capitalist age on a broad scale.

- **Lukács** said that the novel is the epic of a world that has been abandoned by God.
- Therefore, the **epic genre** is divided into two types, **traditional** and **literary**.
- The traditional epic provided some features that the later **literary writers** tried to incorporate in their works.
- In **Iliad**, words, phrases, and sometimes entire passages are repeated by different characters in different scenes.
- **Virgil's The Aeneid** is an example of a **literary epic**. **Virgil** was asked to write a grand epic to celebrate the glory of the Augustan age in Rome by Emperor Augustus.
- The epic talks about several legendary heroes. In **The Aeneid**, this happens in the seventh book where there is an entire catalogue of the allies of Turnus.
- Though **The Canterbury Tales** cannot be considered as a true epic, yet it has incorporated several features of an epic. It is also a long narrative poem written in iambic pentameter.
- **John Milton's Paradise Lost** can be seen as the true English literary epic. It is a long poem and comprises approximately twelve books of ten thousand lines.
- **Epic**: It is defined as a lengthy poem that recounts the adventure of a hero or a great war.
- **Prologue**: It is defined as an opening to the story which connects the background to the main plot.
- **Typical scene**: It is defined as events in an epic that tend to recur and whenever similar events are described it follows set patterns.
- **Spondee**: It is defined as a metrical foot which consists of two long syllables or two stressed syllables in modern times.

1.4. Ballad:

- A short definition of the **popular ballad** (also called the **folk ballad** or **traditional ballad**) is that it is a **song**, transmitted **orally**, which tells a **story**.
- Ballads are thus the **narrative species** of **folk songs**, which **originate**, and are **communicated orally**, among **illiterate** or only **partly literate people**.
- In most of the forms, a **ballad** is set to **music** and has a **refrain** (a repeated **chorus**).
- **Ballads** have a long history and are found in **many cultures**.
- The **story** mentioned in the **poem** is usually a **folk story** or a **popular story** derived from a **tragic incident** that has happened in **society**.
- A typical **ballad** consists of a **quatrain**, which is a **four-line stanza**.
- The **first** and the **third lines** will be in **tetrameter** in **iambic foot**.

- The **second** and **fourth lines** will be in **trimeter iambic foot**.
- This implies that it usually has **eight or six syllables** in a line, where the **even-numbered syllables** will be **stressed**. Similarly, the **rhyme scheme** is often 'abcb' because of the musical quality of this rhyme pattern, meaning only the **second** and **fourth line** will rhyme.
- This is called the **ballad meter** or **ballad stanza**.
- Most of the **Romantic poets** such as **William Wordsworth**, **Samuel Taylor Coleridge**, and **John Keats** also wrote **ballads**.
- **John Keats's** poem, *La Belle Dame sans Merci*, is a **typical example** of a **literary ballad** as it follows the typical structure of a ballad.
- The poem is divided into **twelve quatrains** that follow the **rhyme scheme** of 'abcb'.
- In each **quatrain**, the **first three lines** are of **iambic tetrameter** and the **last line** an **iambic trimeter**, which is just about the **traditional ballad meter**.

Keywords:

Ballad: It refers to a **song** which tells a **story** and consists of **short stanzas**.

Incremental repetition:

- It refers to a device used in **ballads** in which a line is **repeated** with **slight changes** and a different context.

Refrain:

- It refers to a **short part** of a **song** which is **repeated** between the **verses**.


Quatrain:

- It refers to a **stanza** of **four lines** which **rhymes alternately**.


Many **ballads** employ **set formulas** (which helped the singer remember the course of the song) including:

1. **Stock descriptive phrases** like "blood-red wine" and "milk-white steed".
 2. A **refrain** in each stanza ("Edward," "Lord Randall").
- A **broadside ballad** is a **ballad** that was **printed** on **one side** of a single sheet (called a "**broadside**").
 - It dealt with a **current event**, **person**, or **issue**, and was **sung** to a **well-known tune**.
 - The **traditional ballad** has greatly influenced the **form** and **style** of **lyric poetry** in general. It has also engendered the **literary ballad**, which is a **narrative poem** written in deliberate imitation of the form, language, and spirit of the traditional ballad
 - **Heroic Quatrain:** is a poetic stanza consisting of **four lines** of **iambic pentameter** rhyming alternately. The **first** and **third** lines and the **second** and **fourth** lines rhyme

similarly. Every line has ten syllables and every alternate syllable is stressed starting with the second. UGC. NET. Jun. 2008.




Types of Ballads

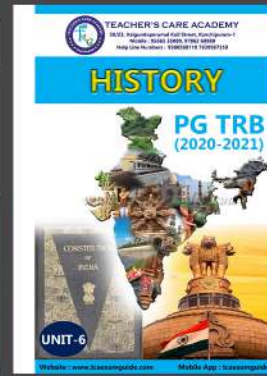
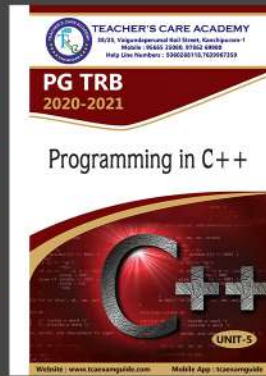
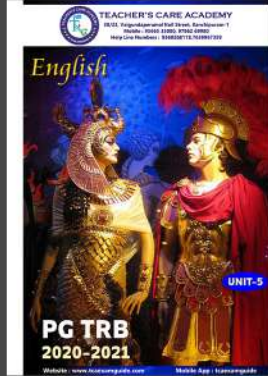
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A ballad is a type of narrative poem that originally was meant to be sung or recited and tells a simple, dramatic story.

Here are six types of ballads. Each briefly discussed with examples.

<p>TRADITIONAL BALLADS</p> <p>These are anonymous folk ballads passed down orally over generations. These often tell a story.</p> <p>Examples: "Barbara Allen," "Lord Randall."</p>	<p>LITERARY BALLADS</p> <p>Ballads that are written by specific authors in imitation of the traditional form.</p> <p>Examples: "The Rime of the Ancient Mariner" by Coleridge, "La Belle Dame sans Merci" by Keats.</p>	<p>LYRIC BALLADS</p> <p>These ballads focus on expressing emotion and ideas rather than telling stories.</p> <p>Examples: "Dream Variations" by Langston Hughes.</p>
<p>NARRATIVE BALLADS</p> <p>Ballads that relate to events and tell the stories. This type of ballad often featured dialogue and drama.</p> <p>Examples: "The Ballad of Bonnie and Clyde" by Georgie Fame, "Frankie and Johnny."</p>	<p>COWBOY BALLADS</p> <p>The ballads originating in the American Old West, often romanticizing the cowboy way of life.</p> <p>Examples: "The Streets of Laredo," "El Paso" by Marty Robbins.</p>	<p>MURDER BALLADS</p> <p>Dark ballads are dramatized on violent murders. These are sometimes based on true events.</p> <p>Examples: "Mack the Knife," "Knoxville Girl."</p>

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