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HISTORY OF ENGLISH LITERATURE

***SELECTED MINI LECTURES WITH
TASKS FOR THE STUDENTS
OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES FACULTY***

NUKUS-2017

**The Ministry of Higher and Special Secondary Education of
Republic of Uzbekistan**

Karakalpak State University named after Berdakh

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History of English Literature

**Selected mini lectures with tasks for the students of
Foreign Languages Faculty**

Nukus - 2017

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***“History of English Literature” учебное пособие по предмету
История английской литературы.***

Данное учебное пособие состоит из трех частей. Первая часть содержит лекций по курсу «История английской литературы». Во второй части даны задания для семинарских занятий. Части третья содержит тесты и контрольные вопросы для студентов по пройденному материалу. В конце пособия приведен список рекомендованной литературы по курсу.

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*Учебное пособие одобрено научно-учебным методическим советом КГУ –
протокол № 8 от 30-июнь 2017*

Preface

The History of the English literature is studied on the second course . In the third semester - Ancient literature, literature of the Middle ages and Renaissance, in the fourth semester - The Romantic Age in English literature, English literature in XIX-XX.

The usage of this elaboration during course the students master the following general cultural and professional competencies:

- the ability to own a culture of the thinking, the ability to argue and clearly build oral speech
- the ability to respect and cherish historical heritage and cultural tradition, tolerance in perception of social and cultural differences
- the ability to understand operative power and regularities of the history process; the role of the violence and nonviolence in histories, the place of a human being in the process of history and organization of political society.
- the ability to critical thinking background of experience, if necessary to change type and nature of owning professional activity.
- ability to use in professional activity modern programming languages and languages database, operating systems, electronic libraries and software package, network technologies.

The elaboration consists of mini-selected lectures with questions and case-study tasks with brainstorming activities and role-play assignments.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ENGLISH LITERATURE . IT'S PLACE IN THE WORLD LITERATURE .

1. The role of the English literature in the development of the world literature.
2. The Periods of the English Literature.
3. "Beowulf".
4. The literature of the 7th – 11th centuries.(Anglo – Saxon Literature)

KEY - WORDS AND EXPRESSIONS.

1. epic and lyric poetry.
2. essay.
3. runes.
4. Angles, Saxons, and Jutes.

1. The role of the English literature in the development of the world literature

English literature is a component part of the world literature. Its best national traditions have played an important role in enriching and development of the world literature. English Literature consists of the poetry, prose and drama, written by authors in England, Scotland and Wales.

English literature is a rich literature. It includes novels, short stories, epic and lyric poetry, essays and dramas. The masters of English literature from the turn of the XIV century to the present rank among the world's greatest literary figures. Such names as Geoffrey Chaucer, William Shakespeare, Christopher Marlowe, Daniel Defoe, Charles Dickens, Jonathan Swift, George Gordon Byron, Bernard Shaw are famous all over the world. Their way of writing influenced a great number of writers.

National literature is the reflection of the history and national peculiarities of people. One of the characteristic features of English authors is that they have always been deeply interested in political and social environment of their time.

2. THE PERIODS OF THE ENGLISH LITERATURE:

1. Old English Literature.
2. Middle English Literature.
3. The Renaissance.
4. English Literature in the 17th Century.
5. The 18th Century. The Age of Reason and Enlightenment.
6. The Romantic Age.
7. The Victorian Age.
8. English Literature at the End of the 19th and the beginning of the 20th Century.
9. English Literature in the 20th Century.

Old English Literature. (500 - 1100).

In the 1st century before our era the powerful state of Rome conquered Britain. The Romans were practical men. They were very clever at making hard roads and building bridges and tall houses. The Romans taught Britons many things. But at the end of the 4th century they had to leave Britain because they were needed to defend their own country.

After Romans leave Britain was invaded by the Germanic tribes called Angles, Saxons, and Jutes. At that time Angles and Saxons had their own letters called "runes". But they had no written literature yet. That's why the stories, poems had to be memorized. The 1st major work of English literature is the epic poem "Beowulf".

3. BEOWULF.

The beautiful Anglo-Saxon poem "Beowulf" may be called the foundation-stone of all British poetry. It tells of times long before Angles and Saxons came to Britain. The poem was composed around 700 by an unknown author. "Beowulf" is 3182 lines long, approximately 80 or 90 pages in book length. The narrative itself falls into two halves: the first part takes place in Denmark where, coming to the aid of King Hrothgar, Beowulf fight monster Grendel and Grendel's mother. The second part is set in Southern where, after the death of King Hygelac and his son, Heardred, Beowulf has ruled in peace and prosperity for 50 years before being called upon to combat a dragon that has been terrorizing the country after having its treasure hoard looted. "Beowulf" blends a fairy – tale narrative with cpnsiderable historical material. (Sweedish and Danish kings really ruled in the VI century). The manuscript of "Beowulf" is in the British Museum, in London. It is impossible for a non – specialist to read it in the original, so it has been translated onto modern English in the 20 century.

THE STORY BEOWULF.

Long, long ago there lived a king of the Danes named Hrothgar. He had won many battles, and gained great wealth. He built a large and beautiful palace and he presented costly gifts to his warriors and gave splendid banquets. But the joy of the king didn't last long. In the dark fens near his palace lived a sea – monster Grendel. He wanted to destroyt the palace Heorot, as he disliked noise. Grendel looked like a man but was much bigger, no weapon could harm him.

One night when everybody were asleep, Grendel came in, seized thirty men and devoured them. The next night the monster appeared again. The men defended themselves bravely, but their swords could not hurt the monster. From that time no one could not come to Heorot. For twelve years the palace stood deserted.

Beowulf was the nephew of the king of Jutes. Beowulf was the strongest and the bravest of all soldiers. He had the strenth of the thirty men. He decided to help Hrothgar. With fourteen chosen companions he set sail for the country of the Danes.

Hrothgar gladly welcomed Beowulf and gave a banquet in his honour. Late at night all went to sleep except Beowulf. Beowulf knew that no weapon could kill Grendel, he was ready to fight bare – handed.

Suddenly the man – eater came into the hall. He seized sleeping men and then approached Beowulf. They began fighting. It was so terrible that the walls of the palace shook. Beowulf managed to tear off Grendel's arm, and the monster retreated to his den howling and roaring with pain and fury. He was wounded and soon died.

The next night Grendel's mother, a water – witch came to Heorot to avenge her son's death. While Beowulf was asleep she snatched away one of Hrothgar's favourite warriors. Beowulf decided to fight the water – witch. He plunged into the water and found the water – witch in her den beside the dead body of her son Grendel. A desperate fight began. At first Beowulf was nearly overcome, as his sword had no power against the monster. But fortunately his glance fell upon a huge magic sword hanging on the wall. Beowulf killed the monster with its help. Then he cut off their heads. Heorot was freed forever. Heorot gave treasures to Beowulf

At last the day came for Beowulf to sail home. Everybody regretted his departure. When Beowulf arrived in his own land, he gave all the treasures he had brought to Higelac and the people. Beowulf was admired and honored by everybody. After the death of Higelac, Beowulf became king of the Jutes.

For fifty years he ruled his country wisely and well until one day a great disaster befell the happy land: every night there appeared a fire – breathing dragon who came and destroyed the villages. Beowulf decided to fight and save his people, but of all his earls only Wiglaf, a brave warrior and heir to the kingdom, had the courage to help him. In a fierce battle the dragon was killed, but his flames burnt Beowulf. Beowulf ordered Wiglaf to take as much treasure as he could carry and give it to the Jutes. In his last hour he thought only of his people, for whose happiness he had sacrificed his life.

Before burning the body of the king Wiglaf put the blame for his death upon the cowardly earls. Beowulf's victory over the monsters symbolized the triumph of a man over the powers of darkness and evil.

The merit of the poem lies in the vivid description of the life of that period, in the heroic deeds of Beowulf and in the beauty of the language.

4. The literature of the 7th – 11th centuries

At the end of the 6th century the head of the Roman church at that time Pope Gregory decided to spread his influence over England. He wanted to convert people to Christianity and he sent monks to the island. They landed in Kent and built the first church in the town of Canterbury.

The Roman civilization poured into the country again. Latin words once more entered the Languages of the Anglo – Saxons, because the religious books were written in Latin. Poets and writers of that period made up stories in Latin. The names of: Caedmon and Cynewulf have reached our days.

Caedmon lived in the 7th century. He composed hymns and a poem “Paraphrase”. This poem retells fragments from the Bible.

Cynewulf was a monk who lived at the end of the 8th century. He wrote poems “Elen” and “Juliana”. These poems are notable because they are the first Anglo – Saxon poems which introduced women characters.

THE VENERABLE BEDE.

The Venerable Bede is considered the father of English history. Because he was the author of the most important history of early England. He was the most learned scholar in all of Western Europe. He was born in the Anglo – Saxon kingdom, in 673. He was orphaned when he was only seven and his relatives put him under the supervision of monks at Wearmouth Abbey. Two years later, in 682, he was sent to the newly built abbey of Jarrow, where he was to spend the rest of his life. From boyhood Bede studied in the library of Jarrow. In 703 Bede began to write. He completed forty books: commentaries on the Bible, lives of abbots and saints, books on philosophy and poetry..

ALFRED THE GREAT.

The beginning of the 9th century was troubled time for England. Danish pirates came. Each year their number increased. Alfred was a king and he decided to make peace with them. The greater portion of England was given up the new – comes. The only part of the kingdom left in possession of Alfred was Wessex.

Alfred was a Latin scholar. He is famous not only for having built the first navy, but for trying to enlighten his people. He wrote laws and translated the Church history of Bede from Latin into Anglo – Saxon. He created the first history of England, the 1st prose in English Literature “ Anglo – Saxon Chronicle ” .

The literature of the early Middle ages and the church taught that man was an evil being and his life on earth was a sinful life.

As man was subordinated to God he had to prepare himself for the after – life by subduing his passions and disregarding all earthly cares.

QUESTIONS AND TASKS.

1. When was Britain conquered by Rome and what was it’s result?
2. Why is the Anglo – Saxon poem “ Beowulf ” called the foundation – stone of all British poetry?
3. Name the main heroes of the poem “ Beowulf ”.
4. Characterize Beowulf.
5. Does the poem “ Beowulf ” remind you of any Russian or Uzbek epic poems?

6. What places became the centers of learning in England in the 7 – 11th centuries?
7. What can you tell about the literary activity of Caedman?
8. What was the main plot of the literary works of that time?
9. What are Cynewulf's works notable for? Who was the greatest writer of the 7 – 8th centuries in England?
10. What was Alfred the Great famous for?

THE THEME: *MIDDLE ENGLISH LITERATURE.*

1. Literature of the Norman Period (12-13centuries)
2. The Medieval romance. Fables and Fabliaux
3. Geoffrey Chaucer is the founder of the English literature.
4. Robin Hood ballads.

KEY-WORDS AND EXPRESSIONS

1. Norman dialect
2. Tales in verse
3. Romances
4. Noble knight
5. Trouveres
6. Minstrelsy
7. Fables
8. Fabliau

In 1066, William, Duke of Normandy, defeated the English troops in a great Battle. The lands of most of the Anglo – Saxon aristocracy were given to the Norman barons. The English became an oppressed nation.

William the Conqueror could not speak a word of English. He and his barons spoke in Norman dialect of the French language.

During twenty years communication went on in three languages: in Latin, Norman French, in English.

In the 13th century the first universities in Oxford and Cambridge were founded.

By about 1300 English had again become the chief national language but it called Middle English included elements of French, Latin, Old English and local dialects.

Tales in verse and lyrical poems appeared. At first they were all in Norman – French. Many of the stories came from old French sources, the language of which was of a Romanic dialect. For that reason these works were called “romances” .

In the 15th century sir Thomas Mallory (1395 – 1471) collected the romances of king Arthur. They began with the birth of Arthur, how he become king.

The work was published in 1485 by Caxton, the first English printer , under the title of “ sir Thomas Malory’s Book of king Arthur and of his Noble knights of Round Table ” .

THE MEDIEVAL ROMANCE.

In the medieval period the term “ romance ” meant a long narrative in verse or prose telling of adventures of a hero. These stories include knights, ladies in distress, kings. The materials for the medieval romance in English were mainly drawn from the stories of King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table. This is called the “Matter of Britain”.

Central to the medieval romance was the code of the chivalry , the rules and customs connected with knighthood. The qualities of the ideal courtly knight in the Middle Ages were bravery, honor, protection of the weak, respect for women, generosity, and fairness to enemies. An important element in the code of chivalry was the ideal of courtly love. This concept required a knight to serve a virtuous noblewoman and perform brave deeds to prove his devotion while she remained chaste and unattainable.

The code of chivalry and the ideal of courtly love were still in evidence during the Renaissance as well. Knights and courtiers who wrote on courtly themes included the Earl of Surrey, Sir Thomas Wyatt, and Sir Walter Raleigh.

Edmund Spenser and Sir Philip Sidney wrote highly formalized portraits of ideal love.

Medieval romance and its attendant codes of chivalry and courtly love faded in the Age of Reason during the XVIII century, but in the nineteenth century, Romanticism brought back the ideals of chivalry.

FABLE AND FABLIAUX.

In the literature of the towns folk fables and fabliaux were also popular. Fables were short stories with animals for characters and conveying a moral. Fabliaux were funny stories about cunning humbugs and the unfaithful wives of rich merchants. They were metrical tales brought from France. These stories were told in the dialects of Middle English. They were collected and written down much later. The literature of the towns did not idealize characters as the romances did. The fabliaux show a practical attitude to life.

In the 14th century the Norman Kings made London their residence. It became the most populous town in England. The London dialect was the central dialect, and could be understood throughout the country.

There appeared poor priests who wandered from one village to another and talked to the people. They protested not only against rich bishops but

also against churchmen who were ignorant and could not teach people anything. Poets and priests William Langland and John Wyclif were among them.

William Langland (1332 – 1400). His name is remembered for a poem he wrote, “ The Visions of William Concerning Piers the Ploughman ”. The poem is called “ Piers Plowman ”.

In “Piers Plowman” Vice and Virtue are spoken of as if they were human beings. The poem was very popular in the Middle ages.

John Wyclif (1320 – 1384) He is remembered because he discussed political questions with the common people in the common tongue, and because he translated the Bible into English.

GEOFFREY CHAUCER.

Geoffrey Chaucer is one of the greatest poet in English literature. He was born in London (1340 – 1400). His service in that household indicates that his family had sufficient social status for him to receive a courtly education. In 1366 Chaucer married Phillipa Roet, a lady in – waiting to the Queen. Chaucer rose socially through his marriage. In 1368 he became one of the King’s esquires, which in those days meant that he worked in the administrative department of the King’s government.

Chaucer’s poetry is generally divided into three periods.

The first. French period. Chaucer came in contact with French literature, his earliest poems were written in imitation of the French romances. He translated from French a famous allegorical poem of the 13th century.

The second. Italian period. In Italy he became acquainted with Italian life and culture, with the classical authors and with the newer Italian works. Chaucer’s own writing, the French models of his earliest years gave way to this Italian influence. To the Italian period can be assigned “ The House of Fame ”, “ The Parliament of Fowls ”, and “ Troilus and Cressida ”.

The third, English period. After his return to London, Chaucer became a customs official at the port of London. And began composing his masterpiece “ The Canterbury Tales ”.

He died in 1400 and was buried in Westminster Abbey in a section , which later became established as the Poet’s Corner.

“THE CANTERBURY TALES”.

“The Canterbury Tales” is a long poem made up of general introduction and twenty four - stories, told in verse. Chaucer draws a rapid portrait of thirty men and women thus showing his characters. Chaucer himself and a certain Harry Bailly, the host of a London in are among them. Harry Bailly proposes the following plan: each pilgrim was to tell two stories on the way to the shrine and two on the way back.

Chaucer introduces each of his pilgrims in the prologue, and than he lets us know about them through stories they tell.

Chaucer’s contribution to English literature is usually explained by the following:

1. “ The Canterbury Tales ” sum up all types of stories that existed in the Middle ages.

2. He managed to show different types of people that lived during his time and through these people he showed a true picture of the life of the 14th century.

3. Chaucer was the creator of a new literary language. He chose to write in the popular tongue that is in English language.

4. Chaucer was by learning a man of the Middle ages, but his attitude towards mankind was so broad – minded that his work is timeless.

LITERATURE OF THE 15th CENTURY.

Folk poetry flourished in England and Scotland in the 15th century. The most interesting examples of folk poetry were the ballads. Ballads and songs expressed the sentiments and thoughts of the people. The art of printing did not stop the creation of folk – songs and ballads. They continued to develop till the 18th century.

The original authors of ballads are unknown ; a given ballad may exist in several versions, because many different people told and revised the ballad as it travelled from village to village.

Thus, the folk ballad is a popular literary form. The ballad tends to express its meaning in simple language.

Some folk ballads make use of refrains, repetitions of a line or lines in every stanza without variation. Refrains add emphasis and a note of continuity to the ballads.

As regards to content, the ballads are usually divided into three groups: historical, heroic, and romantic ballads. Historical ballads were based on a historical fact, while heroic ballads were about people who were persecuted by the law or by their own families.

Among the most popular ones were those about Robin Hood, Who was an outlaw.

ROBIN HOOD BALLADS.

The Robin Hood ballads, numbering some forty separate ballads, were written down at various times not earlier than the 14th and 15th centuries. Robin Hood is partly historical, partly legendary character. He lived in the second half of the 12th century, during the reign of Henry II and his son Richard I. The older ballads tell us much about the Saxon yeomen, who were famous archers and keen hunters. Being ill treated by the Norman robber – barons, they longed to live free in the forest with Robin as their leader.

Robin Hood always helped the country folk in their troubles. Though sheriff put a big price on Robin's head, Saxons didn't betray him.

Thus, Robin was an outlaw and lived in Sherwood Forests. He was smart and clever "with a twinkle in the eye". Whenever the Sheriff or the king sent out a party of men to catch him, Robin fought with so much vigour that his enemies, amazed at his bravery, confessed themselves beaten and stayed with him in the forest.

They became "the merry men of Robin Hood".

In the 16th century many new episodes were introduced into the ballads. They were arranged in series, the most popular of which was "The Jolly Life of Robin Hood and his Men in Sherwood".

QUESTIONS :

What were the tales and verse in Norman period about ?

What is the difference between fables and fabliaux ?

What can you tell about Romances which were composed in the 12 – 13th centuries ?

Into how many periods can Geoffrey Chaucer's literary work be divided ?

In what period was Chaucer's famous "The Canterbury Tales" written ?

What groups of English ballads do you know ?

What is the English literature of the 15th century characterized by ?

What features of Robin Hood's character attracted the people most of all ?

What kinds of ballads do you know ?

THE THEME : THE RENAISSANCE IN ENGLAND.

1. The Renaissance in England.
2. Sir Thomas Wyatt and Henry Howard , Earl of Surrey.
3. Sir Thomas More and Sir Francis Bacon. Their life and works.
 4. Sir Philip Sidney and his literary criticism.
 5. Edmund Spenser and Christopher Marlowe.
 6. Ben Jonson is affected to English literature.
 7. Shakespeare is the greatest playwright in the history of English and world literature

KEY – WORDS AND EXPRESSIONS :

1. Sonnet
2. High treason
3. Terzet.
4. to seek power
5. to depict characters
6. typical of
7. satirical comedy
8. carpe diem
9. valleys
10. sing madrigals
11. embroider
12. amber.

Renaissance was a great cultural movement that began in Italy during the early 1330's. It spread to England, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Spain, and other countries in the late 1400's and ended about 1600.

The word “Renaissance” comes from the Latin word “rinascere” and means rebirth. The Renaissance was the period when European culture was at its height. At that time great importance was assigned to intellect, to experience, to scientific experiment.

During the Middle Ages the most important branch of learning was theology. Renaissance thinkers paid greater attention to the study of humanity.

By the late 1500's the English people were speaking and writing English in a form much like that used today.

The Renaissance in England is usually studied by dividing it into three parts: the rise of the Renaissance under the early Tudor monarchs the height of the Renaissance under Elizabeth I , and the decline of the Renaissance under the Stuard monarchs.

The Rise of the Renaissance: During the Wars of thee Roses, in 1476, William Caxton had set up England's first printing press. Before that time, books and other literary works were slowly and laboriously copied by

hand. Printing made it possible to produce far more books at lower costs. By 1640 Caxton's and other presses had printed more than 216,000 different works and editions. It is estimated that by 1530 more than half the population of England was literate. Learning at that time flourished not only at Oxford and Cambridge, but at the lower educational levels too.

At that new types of literature were imported from the European continent. Other verse forms were also borrowed from the Italian the French.

The Height of the Renaissance : Queen Elizabeth I for interested in education established one hundred free grammar schools in all parts of the country. These schools were open to both sexes of all ranks. In 1579, Gresham College was founded in London to cater to the needs of the middle class. Unlike the classical curriculum offered by Oxford and Cambridge, its curriculum included law, medicine and other practical courses. As the children of the middle class grew better educated, the middle class itself grew in power.

The Elizabethan period was golden age of English drama. In 1576, James Burbage built England's first playhouse, called The Theatre, in a suburb of London. Until this time, drama had been performed in the streets, in homes and palaces, and at English universities. After Burbage built The Theatre, other playhouse were constructed, which rapidly increased the popularity of drama.

A group of leading Elizabethan playwrights was known as the "University Wits" because they had attended the famous English universities at Oxford or Cambridge. These playwrights included Robert Greene, Christopher Marlow, and George Peele.

In 1600, when the new century began, Elizabeth was an aging queen not in the best of health. She was childless. After her death, in 1603, King James of Scotland, the son of Mary Queen of Scots, became king of England.

The Decline of the Renaissance : Drama continued to flourish in England under the Stuarts. Shakespeare's great tragedies were written during the reign of King James, and Shakespeare's acting company, taken under the patronage of the king, became known as the King's Men. The theatre in fact remained a popular form of entertainment until the puritan government closed all playhouses in 1649.

The greatest of the Puritan poets, and one of the greatest English poets was John Milton, Latin secretary to the Puritan Commonwealth. While in this position his sight began to fail ; eventually he became blind. He composed " Paradise Lost ", his greatest work and the most successful English epic, sightless.

SIR THOMAS WYATT (1503 – 1542) AND HENRY HOWARD , EARL OF SURREY (1517 - 1547) .

Sir Thomas Wyatt and Henry Howard and Earl of Surrey were the poets of the period. Wyatt wrote some beautiful lyrics and songs, and is also remembered for introducing the Italian sonnet form into English verse. Another form of the sonnet, purely English, was invented by Surrey.

The lives of both Wyatt and Surrey ended tragically: both were accused of high treason; Wyatt managed to get free, but soon after his release he died, because his health had been undermined by cruel torture. Surrey, a member of one of the noblest English families, famous for his brave deeds as a warrior, was beheaded before reaching the age of thirty.

Few of Wyatt's and Surrey's poems were published in their lifetime, typical of an age when courtiers privately circulated their poems in manuscript. In 1557 after their death "Tottel's Miscellany", an important collection of early English Renaissance poetry, was published. 97 of its 276 poems are by Wyatt, and 40 of them are by Surrey.

SIR THOMAS MORE (1478 – 1535) AND SIR FRANCIS BACON (1561 – 1626)

Thomas More was a great English author, statesman, and scholar. He was born in London, in 1478. He studied at Oxford University. More served as Lord Chancellor, the highest judicial official in England, from 1529 to 1532, but resigned because he opposed King Henry VIII's plan to divorce his queen. He was beheaded in 1535 for refusing to accept the king as head of the English church. The Roman Catholic Church declared him a saint 1935.

More published his famous work "Utopia" at the age thirty – eight. It was written in Latin language. "Utopia" is an account of an ideal society, with justice and equality for all citizens. "Utopia" is divided into two books.

Book I contains a conversation between More himself, the Flemish humanist Petrus Aegidius, and a philosophical sailor Raphael Hythloday. Their conversation deals with social and economic conditions in Europe and in England.

Book II is dedicated to Hythloday's description of the island of Utopia, which he had visited during one of his journeys. It is a state that has achieved absolute social and economic harmony.

In "Utopia" the author criticizes the social system of England. He advances the proposal that education should be provided for everybody, men and women. Wars and Warriors are abolished in Utopia. Kings are also attacked in this book.

The book is interesting because it reflects the Renaissance, its learning, its enthusiasm for new ideas. "Utopia" was read in Latin by every humanist in Europe all over the continent.

Thomas More also produced much English and Latin prose and poetry. He wrote his fine English work "A Dialogue of Comfort Against Tribulation" while he was in prison. His other works included "The History of King Richard III", written in English in 1513.

Sir Francis Bacon was born in London, 1561. When he was in twelve, in 1573, Bacon entered Trinity College, Cambridge. In 1576 he was admitted to Gray's Inn to study law. When he was sixteen, he traveled to France, Italy and Spain. At that time such European tours were typical for promising young men of good families.

His father was a government minister in Queen Elizabeth's court. In 1579 his father, who was Lord Keeper of the Great Seal to Queen Elizabeth, died and Bacon was recalled to England. In 1584 he was elected to Parliament and began his political career.

Bacon's political career ended that same year, when he was charged with misconduct in office, admitted his guilt and was fined. In 1626, while he was conducting an experiment to determine whether stuffing a chicken with snow would prevent it from spoiling, he caught cold that developed into bronchitis, from which he died.

Bacon won fame in his day as a philosopher and scientist, he receives most attention today as an author, particularly an essayist. He introduced the essay form into English literature, and from 1597 to 1625 he published, in three collections, a total of fifty-eight essays.

Bacon is known also for other works, among them "The New Atlantis" which might be considered an early example of science fiction, in which he describes an ideal state. In 1620 "Novum Organum", written in Latin, was published. It influenced future scientific research with its inductive method of inquiry. Thus, scientists today owe their reliance on the inductive method of reasoning to Bacon.

The Sonnet was very popular during the Renaissance. It was brought to perfection by the great Italian poet Francesco Petrarca (1304 – 1374). It is a poem of 14 lines divided into two quatrains and two tercets. During the period of Renaissance Sonnets in English Literature were written by Wyatt, Surrey and Shakespeare. Among the foremost English Masters of the sonnet during later centuries, we must mention John Milton, William Wordsworth, John Keats, Dante Gabriel Rossetty, Algernon Charles Swinburne and Oscar Wilde.

The most brilliant period of English literature was in the second half of the 16th and the beginning of the 17th century. Usually it is called the Elizabethan age after Queen Elizabeth I, who reigned from 1558 to 1603, but it must be remembered that many authors of that time. The foremost

poets of the period were the following : Philip Sidney, Edmund Spenser, Christopher Marlowe, and Ben Jonson.

SIR PHILIP SIDNEY (1554 – 1586) AND HIS LITERARY CRITICISM.

Sidney was born in Penshurst in Kent. He was of high birth and received an education that accorded with his background: studied at Shrewsbury School, followed in 1568 by Christ Church College, Oxford, which he left in 1571 without taking his degree, because of an outbreak of plague. For several years he traveled in France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, and the Netherlands, managing to study music and astronomy along the way.

Philip Sidney was a poet, scholar, and courtier. He became famous for his literary criticism, prose fiction and poetry.

In 1575 Sidney returned to England and to Elizabeth's court. He accompanied Elizabeth on a visit to the estate of the Earl of Essex, where he met the Earl's thirteen-year-old daughter, Penelope.

Philip Sidney is the author of the prose fiction "Arcadia". Some critics consider "Arcadia" the most important original work of English prose written before the 18th century. And "Arcadia" was published in 1590, in revised form, as "The Countess of Pembroke's Arcadia". Though written chiefly in prose, it contained some poems. Lost for more than three hundred years, two manuscript copies of Sidney's original "Arcadia" were finally found in 1907.

A pamphlet titled "Apology for Poetry", published in 1595. In 1583 Sidney was knighted and married Frances Walsingham, the daughter of Sir Francis Walsingham, Elizabeth's Secretary of State. In 1585 Queen Elizabeth sent him to the Netherlands to join the Protestant forces there. In September 1586, in a minor skirmish, Sydney received a bullet wound in the left thigh. Medical care of that time was still primitive, and Sidney died of his wound twenty-six days later.

EDMUND SPENSER (1552 – 1599) AND CHRISTOPHER MARLOWE (1564 – 1593)

The Elizabethan age Edmund Spenser is generally regarded as the greatest non-dramatic poet. Spenser was born in London to a poor family and was educated at Cambridge on a scholarship. He studied philosophy, rhetoric, Italian, French, Latin, and Greek. Spenser is called "the poet's poet" because many later English poets learned the art of versification from his works. He created a sonnet form of his own, the Spenserian sonnet. He is the author of the poems "Shepherd's Calendar", "The Faerie Queen", the sonnet cycle "Amoretti" and beautiful marriage hymns "Epithalamion", "Prothalamion".

Spenser's "Shepherd's Calendar" consists of 12 eclogues, or dialogues, between shepherds. The most important of these is "October" which deals with the problem of poetry in contemporary life and the responsibility of the poet.

"The Faerie Queen" describes nature, or picturesque allegorical scenes. The title of his sonnet cycle "Amoretti" means "little love stories". At that time Spenser was in love with her and his sonnets tell the story of their romance. His sonnets are melodious and expressive. One of the sonnets from "Amoretti" is given below:

SONNET 75

One day I wrote her name upon the strand,
But came the waves and washed it away:
Again I wrote it with a second hand,
But came the tide and made my pains his prey.
"Vain man," said she, "that dost in vain assay
A mortal thing so immortalize,
For I myself shall like to this decay,
And eke my name be wiped out likewise."
"Not so," quoth I, "let baser things devise
To die in dust, but you shall live in fame;
My verse your virtues rare shall eternize,
And in the heavens write your glorious name.
Where, whenas death shall all the world subdue,
Our love shall live, and later life renew."

Christopher Marlowe was born in Canterbury, in 1564. And he studied at Cambridge. Yet, Marlowe by the time of his death had already established himself as a powerful dramatist, earning the title "father of English tragedy". He wrote the tragedies: "Dido, Queen of Carthage", "Tamburlaine the Great", "The Jew of Malta", "The Tragical History of Dr. Faustus", a chronicle history play "Edward II"

Marlowe established his theatrical reputation with "Tamburlaine the Great" written about 1587. In this tragedy Marlowe wrote about the great conqueror, Tamburlaine.

An outstanding feature of Renaissance ideology was the belief in man, himself the master and creator of his destiny. Marlowe's tragedies portray heroes who passionately seek power the power of absolute rule, the power of money, the power of knowledge. Marlowe delights in the might and the strong will of his heroes.

Marlowe wrote one of the most famous of Elizabethan lyric poems, "The Passionate Shepherd to His Love". This carpe diem poem is an invitation to the pastoral life, the happy peaceful life of country shepherds.

CARPE DIEM POETRY.

Carpe diem is Latin for “seize the day” and this poetry dealt with the swift passage of time and transiency of youth.

The carpe diem theme, which goes back to Horace and other Roman poets who wrote verses in Latin, achieved great popularity in Renaissance England. Illness, accident, war, and the executioner’s axe killed men and women in their prime. The biographers of the English authors illustrate it by the point that Wyatt died of fever at 39; Surrey was 30 when he was beheaded; Bacon was 65 when he died of bronchitis; Raleigh was about 66 when he was beheaded; Marlowe was 29 when he was killed; Spenser died at 47; Sidney died because of a battle wound at 32; Shakespeare lived only 52 years.

It was necessary to “seize the day” at an early age, for life was indeed short. The most famous carpe diem poem is Marlowe’s “The Passionate Shepherd to His Love”. Below some stanzas from this poem are given:

THE PASSIONATE SHEPHERD TO HIS LOVE.

Come live with me and be my love?
And we will all the pleasures prove
That hills and valleys, dales and fields,
Or woods, or steepy mountain yields.
And we will sit upon the rocks,
Seeing the shepherds feed their flocks,
By Shallow rivers to whose falls
Melodious birds sing madrigals.

And I will make thee beds of roses
And a thousand fragrant posies,
A cap of flowers, and a kirtle
Embroidered all with leaves of myrtle;

A belt of straw and ivy buds,
With coral clasps and amber studs –
And if these pleasures may thee move,
Come live with me and be my love.

Later John Donne (1572 – 1631) parodied Marlowe in “The Bait”. The following lines may show how well he succeeded in doing it:

THE BAIT

Come live with me, and be my love ,
And we will some new pleasures prove
Of golden sands , and crystal brooks
With silken lines , and silver hooks .

There will the river whispering run
Warmed by the eyes , more than the sun .
And there th' enamoured fish will stay ,
Begging themselves they may betray.

When thou wilt swim in that live bath ,
Each fish , which every channel hath ,
Will amorously to thee swim ,
Gladder to catch thee , than thou him .

BEN JONSON (1572 – 1637) .

Ben Jonson was a great scholar of the classics and consequently affected English literature for nearly two hundred years.

Jonson's poetry was to adapt the poetic forms that had been used by the classic writers of ancient Rome. He introduced to English specific and strong language, great order and balance. He is considered the forerunner of English neoclassicism .

He is the author of the best English satirical comedies . Among his best works are : “ Volpone , or the Fox ” , “ The Silent Woman ” , “ The Alchemist ” , “ Bartholomew Fair ” .

His minor poems and the songs in many of his plays are true masterpieces. But it was in the genre of satirical comedies that Ben Jonson became leader and excelled all other dramatists . Jonson's comic manner of depicting characters typical of contemporary life influenced the whole English literature .

A number of young poets of his time , including Herrick and Lovelace respecting Jonson's talents , called themselves the “ Sons of Ben ” . Among his followers we may list the novelists of the enlightenment and such writer's of later periods as Charles Dickens , Bernard Shaw and John Boynton Priestly.

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE (1564 – 1616) .

William Shakespeare was born at Stratford – on – Avon . While a youth , he left for London and became attached to a company of players . He was an actor , and produced his plays which were staged at the Globe Theatre .

Shakespeare is the greatest playwright in the history of English and world literature . His prodigious vitality remains unimpaired for centuries. The poet wrote of the eternal things in life : love , death and high human aspirations. He reflected the spirit of the Renaissance , the epoch of great discoveries and darings , with all its contradictions and tragedies . Shakespeare taught to understand the essence of human relations , passions and conflicts , and presented them with great dramatic vigour. He gave lively representations of his contemporaries and historical types.

Shakespeare wrote 37 plays altogether. His creative work can be divided into four periods.

The first period (1590 – 1593) may be named his period of apprenticeship. It includes histories and comedies : “King Henry VI” , “King Richard III” , “The Comedy of Errors” , “The Taming of the Shrew” , and “Titus Andronicus”.

In the second period (1594 – 1600) , apart from comedies and histories : “A Midsummer Night’s Dream” , “Much Ado About Nothing” , “As You Like It” , “Twelfth Night: or, What you Will” , etc.; “King Richard II” , “King Henry IV” , etc.; Shakespeare wrote his first notable tragedies , “Romeo and Juliet” and “Julius Caesar”. These periods of the playwright’s creative activities are remarkable mostly for optimism , sunny , sparkling joyousness , and faith in the Renaissance . Still, the historical plays first put forth the problems later to be developed in his great tragedies.

The third period (1601 – 1608) includes tragedies which appear in succession : “ Hamlet , Prince of Denmark” , “Othello” . “The Moor of Venice” , “King Lear” , and “Macbeth” . Light – hearted , buoyant joyousness that brightens up his comedies gives way to dark and gloomy colours . William Shakespeare emphasizes dramatic circumstances in human life.

The fourth period (1609 – 1612) , contains “ Cymbeline ” , “ The Winter’s Tale ” , “ The Tempest ” , and “ King Henry VIII ” . It suggests philosophic meditation on the eternal verities of human life .

William Shakespeare is also known as the author of two poems and 154 sonnets .

The chronology of his plays . A famous Shakespearian scholar , Sir Edmund K. Chambers , solved it in 1930 . His chronological table is considered the most convincing one . The double dates in it indicate the theatrical season during which the particular play was first performed .

- 1590 – 1591 . Henry VI , Part II
- Henry VI , Part III
- 1591 – 1592 . Henry VI , Part I
- 1592 – 1593 . Richard III
- The Comedy of Errors
- 1593 – 1594 . Titus Andronicus
- The Taming of the Shrew
- 1594 – 1595 . The Two Gentlemen of Verona .

- Love's Labor's Lost .
 Romeo and Juliet .
- 1595 – 1596 . Richard II.
 A Midsummer Night's Dream .
- 1596 – 1597 . King John .
 The Merchant of Venice.
- 1597 – 1598 . Henry IV , Part I .
 Henry IV , Part II .
- 1598 – 1599 . Much Ado About Nothing .
 Henry V .
- 1599 – 1600 . Julius Caesar .
 As You Like It .
 Twelfth Night .
- 1600 – 1601 . Hamlet .
 The Merry Wives of Windsor .
- 1601 – 1602 . Troilus and Cressida .
- 1603 – 1604 . All's Well That Ends Well .
- 1604 – 1605 . Measure for Measure .
 Othello .
- 1605 – 1606 . King Lear .
 Macbeth .
- 1606 – 1607 . Antony and Cleopatra .
- 1607 – 1608 . Coriolanus .
 Timon of Athens .
- 1608 – 1609 . Pericles .
- 1609 – 1610 . Cymbeline .
- 1610 – 1611 . The Winter's Tale
- 1611 – 1612 . The Tempest .
- 1612 – 1613 . Henry VIII .

“ROMEO AND JULIET”

This tragedy was first published in 1597 and first performed in 1596.

“Romeo and Juliet” is a story of love and hate. It deals with two teen-aged lovers in Verona, Italy, who are caught in a bitter feud between their families, the Montagues and the Capulets. It is a story of two young people who fall in love at first sight, marry secretly because their families are bitter enemies, and die because each cannot bear to live without the other.

“Romeo and Juliet” is not a simple story of good and bad people, for all the major characters bear some responsibility for the disaster. Romeo and Juliet have little chance to preserve both their love and their lives in the hatred that surrounds them. Yet the final choice is theirs, and they choose to die together instead of living apart.

Shakespeare sets the scene of “Romeo and Juliet” in Verona, Italy, as earlier tellers of the story had done. The time of the action is vague, although it clearly takes place at some time before Shakespeare’s days.

Although he sometimes uses prose, Shakespeare has written most of his play in poetry, because that was the way plays were written during his lifetime. Some of the lines rhyme, but most of them are written in blank verse.

“HAMLET, PRINCE OF DENMARK”

“Hamlet”, is also considered the hardest of his works to understand. The source of the plot can be found in a Danish chronicle written around 1200. The plot of the tragedy is following: a usurper Claudius murders his brother, the lawful king, and seizes the throne. The son of the murdered king and lawful heir to the throne Hamlet, discovering the crime, struggles against usurper.

There is nothing mysterious in the plot of the tragedy, but mysterious is the complex character of Hamlet himself. We see Hamlet plunged into despair: he is grieved by the death of his father, shocked and horrified by the inconstancy and immorality of his mother, filled with disgust and hatred for Claudius, and begins to be disgusted with life in general.

After talking to the Ghost, he learns of the murder of his father. He sincerely wants to kill Claudius, and avenge for his father. Hamlet even rejects a chance to kill Claudius while he is on his knees in prayer.

Instead of Claudius Hamlet, by mistake, kills Polonius, Ophelia’s father. It happens because Polonius, the king’s adviser, decides to eavesdrop on Hamlet while the prince is visiting his mother in her sitting room. He hides behind a curtain, but Hamlet becomes aware that someone is there.

The king, Claudius, exiles Hamlet to England for the murder. He also sends secret orders that the prince be executed after he arrives in England. But Hamlet intercepts the orders and returns to Denmark safe and sound. He arrives in time and sees Ophelia’s burial.

Ophelia is the daughter of Polonius and the girl whom Hamlet loves. Laertes, Ophelia’s brother, blames Hamlet for his sister’s death and father’s death. He agrees to Claudius’s suggestion to kill Hamlet with a poisoned sword in a fencing match. Laertes wounds Hamlet during the duel, and is wounded himself by the poisoned weapon.

The role of Hamlet in this outstanding play is considered one of the greatest acting challenges of the theatre. Shakespeare focused the play on the deep conflict within thoughtful and idealistic Hamlet.

Shakespeare’s comedies are composed on opposite principles. The scenes of his comedies are usually set in some imaginary country, and the action is based on stories that are almost fairy tails. But the characters placed in these non – realistic settings and plots, are true to life and are

depicted with the deep knowledge of human psychology for which Shakespeare is famous. Each comedy has a main plot and one or two sub-plots, and sometimes sub-plots attract more attention than the main plots. The comic characters of these plays always have English colouring, even if the scene is laid in other countries.

All these plays are written in easy-flowing verse and light, tripping prose. All the comedies tell of love and harmony, at first disturbed, and finally restored. In them Shakespeare supports the right of a human being to free choice in love, despite the existing conventions and customs. More often Shakespeare embodies this tendency in female characters. His typical comedy heroines are brave, noble, free in speech, and enthusiastic.

Another motif stressed in the comedies is the contrast between appearance and reality. Shakespeare makes his readers understand the importance of self-knowledge. In the complicated plots of Shakespearian comedies the heroes and heroines often select wrong partners because they have formed wrong opinions about their own characters, that is they do not know or understand their own self and feelings. But their mistakes are treated goodhumourly and the comedies end happily, because at the end of the plays the characters understand themselves and those they love.

“TWELFTH NIGHT”

“Twelfth Night” centres on the typical Shakespearian conflict between true and false emotion. Duke Orsino tries to convince himself that he is in love with Countess Olivia and grows more absorbed by his feelings after each rebuff received from her. But Olivia is in deep grief for her dead brother and renounces all joy of life.

The solution of the complicated lot is provided by the twin sister and brother, Viola and Sebastian. They become separated during a shipwreck. Finding herself stranded in the country of Illyria, Viola disguises herself as Cesario, a page, and enters the service of Duke Orsino.

The marriage of Orsino to Viola and Sebastian to Olivia brings the comedy to happy ending.

Shakespeare wrote a sequence of 154 sonnets. His sonnets written in the 1590s but first published in 1609.

The three main characters in the sonnets are the poet, his friend and the dark lady. The poet expresses the warmest admiration for the friend. The dark lady is the beloved of the poet; unlike the idealized ladies in the sonnets of Petrarch and his followers, she is false and vicious, but the poet, though aware of the fact, can't help loving her.

By reading between the lines of the sonnets, we may see a tragedy in Shakespeare's life, a tragedy that he might not have fully understood himself. Despite the author's intention, we feel that the poet's friend, who is praised so warmly, is a shallow, cruel and petulant man; the dark lady is wicked and lying.

Scholars and critics have made many attempts to discover all the mysteries of Shakespeare's sonnets, as they may shed light on his life, but generally to no avail.

Shakespeare's sonnets were written at a time when such sequences were fashionable, and thus the sonnets may be more an exercise in literary convention than in autobiography.

QUESTIONS :

1. Characterise the Renaissance on the whole.
2. What is sonnet ?
3. Who were masters of sonnet writing in English literature?
When was the most brilliant period of English literature ?
What English writers can be listed as the followers of Ben Jonson ?
What contribution did Ben Jonson make to English literature ?
What works made Shakespeare immortal
What is the difference between the comedies written by Shakespeare and by Jonson ?
Why did Romeo and Juliet's lives end tragically?
Why does Hamlet delay avenging for his father?
Who were the main protagonists of Shakespeare's sonnets ?
What are the Shakespearian sonnets important for ?

THE THEME: ENGLISH LITERATURE IN THE XVII CENTURY.

1. The literature of the 17th century.
2. John Milton and his life.
3. "Paradise Lost" is an epic poem.
4. John Dryden. His life and activity.

KEY-WORDS AND EXPRESSIONS :

1. Puritans
2. Faithful
3. Rebel – angels
4. The tree of the Knowledge of good and evil
5. To persuade
6. Tyranny

At the beginning of the 17th century the contradictions between the feudal nobility and the bourgeoisie reached their climax. The bourgeoisie, which had once supported the king turned against absolute monarchy. All through the reign of James I the commons quarreled with the king for controlling trade and raising the taxes without the consent of Parliament. The struggle between the two sides continued during the reign of Charles I, who took his father's place on the throne in 1625. Several times Charles

dissolved Parliament and then called it again in the hope of restoring his rights. To crush the opposition, he decided never to call another Parliament, and ruled, autocratically for eleven years, till 1640.

The Puritans, or the petty bourgeoisie, took the lead in resisting the king. It was easy to distinguish the Puritans from the Cavaliers, the Puritans cut their hair very close to the head, for which they were nicknamed "Roundhead", while the Cavaliers had flowing locks and wore rich clothes.

In 1640 the need of money for the war with Scotland compelled the king to call another Parliament. The commons at once began to attack him for his bad government during the previous years. The king became angry and dissolved Parliament again. This Parliament is called in history the "Short Parliament". But the Scots marched into the north of England and the king was forced to summon Parliament again to get its consent to new taxes. This Parliament is known as the "Long Parliament" because it lasted for 19 years, till 1653. The king, however, thought he could turn the course of historical events in his favour by force, and in 1642 he gathered an army and declared war on Parliament. Thus the Civil War between the Royalists and the Parliamentarians began, which lasted from 1642 till 1649.

The Parliamentary army as headed by Oliver Cromwell. It consisted of representatives of the bourgeoisie and the gentry; they also gained the support of the working people. The fact that the popular masses took the side of the Parliament against the Royalists decided the results of the war. Charles Stuard was tried and beheaded in January 1649. The House of Lords was abolished, and a commonwealth proclaimed. Later, frightened by the rising revolutionary spirit of the masses, Cromwell intensified his oppression and in 1653 imposed a military dictatorship on the country. It lasted till his death in 1658.

Charles II, the son of the executed king, ascended the throne in 1660. The years between 1660 and 1688 are called the "Restoration". But Charles was unable to restore the old state of things.

The two main parties had been formed in Parliament, one representing the interests of businessmen, the other, the interests of the landowners and clergy. The two parties hated each other so much that the insulting nicknames of "Whigs" for businessmen and "Tories" for landowners were invented.

In 1688 the Parliament worked out the Bill of Rights, according to which the royal power, the armed forces, and taxation were brought under the control of Parliament. King James fled to France, and in 1689 the crown was offered to his daughter Mary and her husband William of Holland. These events were called the "Glorious Revolution". It was not a people's revolution; it was an agreement between the bourgeoisie and the landed aristocracy. Thus constitutional monarchy was established, which marked the end of the whole revolutionary epoch of the 17th century.

JOHN MILTON (1608 – 1674)

John Milton was the greatest poet of the XVII century and he was born in London , on December 9 , 1608 .

When he was a boy , he learned to love music and books ; he read and studied so intensely that at the age of twelve he had already formed the habit of working until midnight . At first Milton attended st. Paul's school . His progress in every department of knowledge was very rapid , and at the age of sixteen he went to the University of Cambridge . On graduating , Milton retired to his father's country place , Horton , in Buckinghamshire . There he gave himself up to study and poetry . Many of Milton's poems were written at Horton . These comprise the first period in his creative work .

He had long wished to complete his education by traveling as it was the custom of the time . In 1638 he left England for a European tour . Milton succeeded in getting into the house where Galileo was kept . His meeting with the great martyr of science is mentioned in " Paradise Lost " and in an article about the freedom of the press . In 1639 he returned to England , just when the struggle between the king and the Puritans began . For some time Milton had to do educational work , and the result of it was a treatise on education .

The years between 1640 and 1660 , the second period in his literary work , were the years when he wrote militant revolutionary pamphlets . When the Republican Government under Cromwell was established in 1649 , Milton was appointed Latin Secretary to the council of state .

In his pamphlets , most of which were written in Latin , Milton made Europe understand that the Puritan Revolution was not just a great rebellion , as the Royalists insisted , but that it was the only force , which could give the people rights and freedom .

In 1652 , he lost his eyesight completely . With the restoration of the monarchy in 1660 , Milton was discharged from office . All his famous pamphlets were burnt by the hangman . But the poet's military spirit was not crushed . He and his family moved to a small house not far from London , and Milton again began to write poetry . During the third period he created works that made him one of the greatest poets of England . These were his great epic " Paradise Lost " completed by 1667 , and then , the second epic " Paradise Regained " and a tragedy , " Samson Agonister " both written by 1671 .

" Samson " is taken from the Bible . Samson , the great hero is imprisoned and blinded , but manages to destroy his enemies , although he perishes himself . In it Milton shows that he remained faithful to his ideals . It is considered his most powerful work .

John Milton died on November 8 , 1684 and was buried in London . Milton's works form a bridge between the poetry of the Renaissance and the poetry of the classicists of a later period .

“ PARADISE LOST ”

High on a throne of royal state
Sole reigning , holds the tyranny of Heaven .

“ Paradise Lost ” is an epic poem . Thee Satan and his rebel angels , God , three guardian angels – Raphael , Gabriel , Michael , and the first man and woman – Adam and Eve are the characters of poem . Satan , who revolts against God , draws his side many rebel angels and is driven out of Heaven . They fall down into the fires of Hell . But Satan is not to be overcome . Though banished from heaven , Satan is glad to have gained freedom .

Adam and Eve are allowed by God to live, in Paradise, in the Garden of Eden , as long as do not eat the apple that grows on the Tree of the Knowledge of good and evil. Satan, who has been driven from the Garden of Eden by the guardian angels , returns at night in the form of a serpent. Next morning , the serpent persuades Eve to eat the forbidden fruit from the Tree of Knowledge and to take another one for Adam . Eve tells Adam what she has done. Adam’s reply is described in the following way :

Speechless he stood and pale , till thus at length
First to himself he inward silence broke :
O , fairest of Creation , last and best
Of all God’s works , creature in whom excelled
Whatever can to sight or thought be formed ,
Holy , divine , amiable or sweet !
How art thou lost !.....
..... . Some cursed fraud
Of enemy hath beguiled thee , yet unknown ,
And me with thee hath ruined ; for with thee
Certain my resolution is to die.
How can I live without thee ? how forgo.
Thy sweet converse and love so dearly joined ,
To live again in these wild woods forlorn ?

Adam decides to eat the fruit for love of Eve. As a punishment , God banishes Adam and Eve to the newly created world , where they have to face a life of toil and woe. The angel Mechael shows Adam a vision of the tyranny and lawlessness which are to befall mankind.

Adam and Eve’s love each other and are ready to meet all hardships together . When they are driven out of Eden , Eve says to Adam :
“ but now lead on ;
In me is no delay ; with thee to go
Is to stay here ; without thee to stay

Is to go hence unwillingly ; thou to me
Art all things under Heaven , all places thou
Who for my wilful crime art banished hence ” .

JOHN DRYDEN (1631 – 1700)

John Dryden was born to a Puritan family in London and graduated from Cambridge University in 1654.

Dryden wrote odes , poetic drama , biting satires , and translations of classic authors. His “ Heroic Stanzas on the Death of Cromwell ” poem was published in 1659. A year later it was followed by “ Astraea Redux ” , which celebrated the Restoration of the Stuart line to the throne.

“ Annus Mirabilis ” published in 1667 , a poem commemorating three events of the previous year : the end of the plague , the Great Fire of London , and the Dutch War.

His venture into political satire began in 1681 , with the publication of “ Absalom and Achitophel ” , written after an unsuccessful attempt by Charles’ illegitimate son , the Duke of Monmouth , to seize the throne . In 1682 he wrote another literary satire “ Mac Flecknoe ” .

QUESTIONS :

- 1 . What do you say about the literature 17th century ?
1. What can you tell about Milton’s tragedy “ Samson Agonister ”?
2. Can you explain why the “ Paradise Lost ” is an “ epic ” poem ?
3. Speak about the characters of “ Paradise Lost ” .
4. What kinds of verse did John Dryden write ?
5. What events did Dryden’s “ Annus Mirabilis ” commemorate ?

THE THEME: THE ENLIGHTENMENT IN ENGLAND . THE XVIII CENTURY.

1. The Literature of the 18th century.
2. Alexander Pope is an English classicist .
3. Daniel Defoe . His life and work . “ Robinson Crusoe ” is the greatest novel .
4. Jonathan Swift, his life and creation.

KEY – WORDS AND EXPRESSIONS :

1. colonial expansion
2. Satire in verse
3. enlighteners
4. Lost companions
5. Despondency
6. To sympathize

In the second half of the 17th century and during all of the 18th century was marked by British colonial expansion and the struggle for the leading role in commerce. In the 18th century England achieved, politically and economically the position of a great power in Europe.

The writers and philosophers of this age reflected the ideology of the middle class. They protested against the survival of feudalism. The enlighteners wanted to bring knowledge, that is “light” to the people. To their understanding this would do away with all the evils of society, and social harmony would be achieved. This movement was called the Enlightenment. The characteristic features of this movement were:

a) A deep hatred of feudalism and its survivals; the enlighteners rejected church dogmas and caste distinctions;

b) A love of freedom, a desire for systematic education for all, a firm belief in human virtue and reason;

c) A concern for the fate of the common people and of the peasants in particular.

This period saw a remarkable rise in literature. People wrote on many subjects and made great contributions in the fields of philosophy, history, natural sciences and the new science of political economy. Writers widely accepted those literary forms, in particular, prose forms, which were understandable to the people as a whole. Contact between writers and readers was established by the famous English essayists Joseph Addison and Richard Steele.

They started and directed several magazines for which they wrote pamphlets and essays. In 1709 Steele issued a magazine, “The Tatler”. Others followed it: “The Spectator”, “The Guardian”, and “The Englishman”.

The XVIII century gave the world such brilliant English writers as Alexander Pope, Daniel Defoe, Jonathan Swift, Henry Fielding, Samuel Richardson, Tobias Smollet and the famous dramatist Richard Brinsley Sheridan.

ALEXANDER POPE (1688 – 1744)

Alexander Pope was a great name of the 18th century. The simplicity, proportion, and restrained emotion of the ancient Greek and Roman writers appealed to the English classicists. In 1715 Pope published a part of his translations of the “Iliad” and the “Odyssey” of Homer, which brought him fame.

Pope considered that one should follow the strict rules in poetry if wanted to become a real poet. In 1709 he published his “Pastorals”, written as an imitation of ancient authors. In 1711 his “An Essay on Criticism” was published. In the work the author had presented his

aesthetic principles. In his satirical works “The Rape of the Lock” , “The Dunciad” the poet ridicules the vices of the society.

His famous poem is “An Essay on Man” , in which he analyses the power and weaknesses of man. He believed that the perverse nature of man was imaginary rather than real , each thing in the world was in harmony with others. He refused to see contradictions that arose after the Revolution of 1688 and was later criticized by those writers who were not satisfied with the results of the Revolution.

Pope’s was an organizer of a society of literary men who called themselves the “Martin Scriblerus’s Club” . Pope hoped that when put together these articles would make an interesting book; but they remained isolated compositions. Yet it was the Martin Scriblerus’s club that inspired Swift to write the famous novel “Guliver’s Travels” .

DANIEL DEFOE (1661 – 1731)

Daniel Defoe was born in 1661 , in the family of James Foe , a London butcher. His father was wealthy enough to give his son a good education. Daniel was to become a priest , but when his training was completed , he decided to engage in business as a hosier. Defoe went bankrupt several times. He was always in debt.

When he was about 23 , he started writing pamphlets. In his “Essays on Projects” Defoe anticipated the greatest public improvements of modern times : higher education for women , the protection of seamen , the construction of highways , and the opening of saving – banks.

In 1701 he wrote a satire in verse , “The True – born Englishman” . In the satire Defoe proved that true – born Englishman did not exist , since the English nation consisted of Anglo – Saxon , Danes , Normans , and others.

In 1719 , he wrote the novel “The Life and Adventures of Robinson Crusoe” . After the book was published , Defoe became famous and rich. He wrote for four public magazines and received a regular sum of money from the government. Other novels which Defoe wrote were also very much talked about during his lifetime , but we do not hear much about them now. Defoe published “The Life of Captain Singleton” in 1720 , “The fortunes and Misfortunes of Moll Flanders” in 1722 , and “A History of the Lady Roxana” in 1724.

In 1729 , while at work on a book which was to be entitled “The Complete English Gentleman” , Defoe fell ill and in two years time he died.

“ROBINSON CRUSOE”

This novel about voyages and new discoveries were popular in the first quarter of the 18th century.

At the beginning of the story the hero is an unexperienced youth, a rather light minded boy. Then he develops into a strong-willed man, able to fight against all the calamities of his unusual destiny. Being cast ashore on a desert island after the shipwreck, alone and defenseless, Crusoe tried to be reasonable in order to master his despondency.

Robinson Crusoe's most characteristic trait is his optimism. Sometimes especially during earthquakes or when he was ill, panic and anxiety overtook him, but never for long. He has confidence in himself and in man, and believes it is within the power of man to overcome all difficulties and hardships. Another of Crusoe's good qualities, which saves him from despair, is his ability to put his whole heart into everything he does. He began to keep a journal of his life as soon as he got a pen and ink to write with. This too is a sign of Crusoe's courageous optimism.

But the novel "Robinson Crusoe" is an exaggeration of the possibilities of an individual man. According to Defoe, it follows that man can live by himself comfortable and make all the things he needs with no other hands to assist him. Robinson Crusoe is a representative of the 18th century and he has inherited the experience of the many generations who had lived on the earth before him.

The other central character of the book is the man Friday. Defoe makes the reader sympathize with Friday. Friday is intelligent, brave, generous, and skilful.

Friday performs all his tasks well. Crusoe teaches him to speak English and is astonished how quickly the man begins to understand the language. It is to Defoe's credit that he portrays the savage as an able, kind-hearted human being at a time when coloured people were treated very badly and were regarded only as a profitable article for trade.

Taking a common man as the key-character of his novel, Defoe uses the manner of speech of the common people.

The purpose of the author was to make his stories so life like that the reader's attention would be fixed only on the events. This is achieved by telling the story in the first person and by paying careful attention to details.

There was no writer of the age who appealed to so wide a circle of readers as Defoe, - he appealed to all, who were able to read.

Jonathan Swift (1667 – 1745)

Jonathan Swift is generally thought to be the greatest prose writer of the eighteenth century. He as a man whom many considered a misanthrope because his writings were deeply critical of humanity. It was, however, his deep love for humanity that caused him to criticize it, and his great dream was to cure the ills of his age through humor.

Jonathan Swift was born in Dublin , but he came from an English family. The writer's father , supervisor at the court building of Dublin , died at the age of 25 , leaving his wife and daughter penniless.

Jonathan Swift was born on November 30 , in 1667 , after seven month his father's death. He was named Jonathan after his late father.

The boy knew little of his mother's care : she had to go back to her native town of Leicester and Jonathan hardly ever saw her during his childhood.

At the age of six he was sent to school and at the age of fourteen he entered Trinity College in Dublin. He got his bachelor's degree in 1686. After many years he once again saw his mother in Leicester. She helped Jonathan to become a private secretary and account – keeper to sir William Temple. Sir William Temple's estate was at Moor Park , not far from London . Sir William was a retired diplomat and writer. At Moor Park Swift made friends with Hester Johnson , the daughter of the housekeeper.

His education at Moor Park by taking advantage of Sir William's library , Swift went to Oxford and took his Master of Arts degree in 1692. A year and a half he worked as a vicar at a church in Ireland and then returned to Moor Park. He continued to live and work there until sir William Temple's death in 1699.

By 1697 Swift's had written his first satires “ The Battle of Books ” and “ A Tale of a Tub ” . But both of them were published later , in 1704. In “ A Tale of a Tub ” the author ridiculed the extravagances of religion , literature , and academia. “ The Battle of Books ” is a mock debate between ancient and modern authors.

Swift kept an eye on the political events of London. He wrote political pamphlets in defense of the Whigs. His contributions to “ The Tatler ” , “ The Spectator ” and other magazines show how well he understood the spirit of the time.

In 1713 Swift was made Dean of st. Patrick's Cathedral in Dublin. In Ireland Swift came into contact with the common people and saw miserable conditions in which the population lived. In 1726 Swift's masterpiece “ Gulliver's Travels ” appeared and it made a great sensation.

Conditions in Ireland between 1700 and 1750 were disastrous. Famine had depopulated hole regions. The districts were covered with unburied corpses. Swift wrote the pamphlets : “ The Present Miserable State of Ireland ” , “ A Modest Proposal for Preventing the Children of Poor People from Being a Burden to Their Parents or the Country ” and others.

By the end of 1731 his mind was failing rapidly. In 1740 his memory and reason were gone and he became completely deaf. He died on the 19th of October , 1745 , in Dublin.

“ GULLIVER'S TRAVELS ”

In this novel Swift criticized and satirized the evils of the existing society in the form of fictitious travels. The scenes and nations described

in the book are so extraordinary and amusing, that novel is as great a favourite with children as with adults. The novel is divided into four parts, or four voyages :

1. A voyage to Lilliput.
2. A voyage to Brobdingnag.
3. A voyage to Laputa, Balnibarbi, Luggnagg, Glabdubdrib and Japan.
4. A voyage to the country of the Houyhnhnms.

Gulliver first visits to Lilliputians – tiny people whose bodies and surroundings are only 1/12 the size of normal people and things. At first the Lilliputians treat Gulliver well. Gulliver helps them, but after a time they turn against him and he escapes their land.

Gulliver's second voyage takes him to the country of Brobdingnag, where the people are 12 times larger than Gulliver and amused by his tiny size.

Gulliver's third voyage takes him to several strange kingdoms. In the academy of Logado, scholars waste all their time on useless projects such as extracting sunbeams from cucumbers.

In his last voyage, Gulliver discovers a land ruled by wise and gentle horses called Houyhnhnms. Stupid, savage animals called Yahoos also live there. The Yahoos look like human beings. The Houyhnhnms dislike and distrust Gulliver because he looks like Yahoos, and they believe he is also a Yahoo. Gulliver wishes to stay in the company of the Houyhnhnms, but they force him to leave.

The greatest merit of the novel is the satirical description of all the vices of the society of the time. Under the cloak of fantasy Swift satirized the politics of the time, religious prejudices, wars of ambition and the absurdity of many aspects of science.

QUESTIONS :

1. What do you say about the 18th century literature?
2. What did Pope have in common with Martin Scriblerus?
3. When Defoe began his literary career?
4. What was Defoe's satire in verse "The True – born Englishman" about?
5. What is the main theme of the novel Robinson Crusoe?
6. Do you think it is possible for a man to spend 26 years on a desert island?
7. What did Swift criticize in his pamphlets?
8. Whom did Swift mean to ridicule when describing the country of Lilliput and the Lilliputians?

THE THEME: THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ENGLISH REALISTIC NOVEL.

1. About the English novels and novelists.
2. The Age of Johnson.
3. The greatest realists of the 18th century.
4. “ The history of Tom Jones , a Foundling ”.
5. English drama in the 18th century.

KEY – WORDS AND EXPRESSIONS

1. Convicting
2. Imaginary voyages
3. Virtue
4. Censorship
5. Genius
6. Patriarchal life
7. Expropriation
8. Immorality
9. Corrupting influence
10. Sentimentalist

Realism in English literature were laid by Daniel Defoe and Jonathan Swift. Their novels were of a new type and with a new hero , but they were based on imaginary voyages and adventures supposed to take place far from England. Gradually the readers’ tastes changed. They wanted to find more and more of their own life reflected in literature. These demands were satisfied when the great novels of Samuel Richardson , Henry Fielding and Tobias Smollett appeared one after another. They marked a new stage in the development of literature. The greatest merit of these novelists is in their deep sympathy for the common man. The common man is shown in his actual surroundings , which makes him convincing , believable , and true to life.

SAMUEL JOHNSON (1709 – 1784) The second half of the eighteenth century is called the Age of Johnson. Samuel Johnson dominated English literature from about 1750 until his death in 1784. He was a critic , poet , playwright , lexicographer , essayist , and biographer.

He was born in the northern cathedral town of Litchfield , where his father ran a small bookstore. His family was poor , and his father’s lack of money forced Johnson to leave Oxford University without taking a degree. After he left Oxford , he earned living with a number of teaching and journalism jobs , non of which were a financial success and non of which could satisfy his literary ambitions. By the 1740s he began to produce works of considerable importance.

Johnson's " Dictionary of the English Language " is noted for its scholarly definitions of words and the use of excellent quotations. To illustrate the definitions. In his " The Lives of the English Poets " Johnson critically examined the work of 52 poets and did much to establish literary criticism as a form of Literature.

He also wrote articles , reviews , essays , and such poems as "London" and " The Vanity of Human Wishes ". His prose work " Rassalas " is a philosophical attack on people who seek an easy path to happiness. His friends were the most important writers of the late 1700s. They included Oliver Goldsmith; Edmund Burke; Johnson's biographer , James Boswell , and outstanding playwright of the time , Richard Brinsley Sheridan.

HENRY FIELDING (1707 – 1754) .

Henry Fielding was the greatest representative of realism in the 18th century. From 1728 till 1738 25 plays were written by Fielding. And his best comedies are " A Judge Caught in his Own Trap " , " Don Quixote in England " , and " Pasquin " he mercilessly exposed the English court of law , the parliamentary system , the corruption of state officials and religion. At the age of thirty he became a student of a University law faculty. On graduating , he became a barrister and in 1748 accepted the post of magistrate. This work enlarged his experience.

In the period from 1742 to 1752 Fielding wrote his best novels: " The History of Tom Jones , a Foundling " and " Amelia " . All these novels were excellent but they did not make him rich ; only his publishers prospered. Fielding continued to act as a judge till 1754. Then he had to leave England for Portugal to restore his health , which had begun to fail.

Fielding used to say that the three essential qualities in a novelist are genius , learning , and experience of human nature. His characters are all – round living being of flesh and blood , a combination of contradictions of good and bad. The most detestable vices for him are selfishness and hypocrisy. All these found its expression in Fielding's masterpiece " The History of Tom Jones , a Foundling " .

" The History of Tom Jones , a Foundling "

The plot of the novels is very complicated ; its construction is carefully worked out , every detail being significant. Depicting England of the 18th century , Fielding touches upon all spheres of life. He shows the courts of law , the prison , the church , and the homes of people of all classes , inns and highways , even the theatre. The charm of the book lies in the depiction of Tom's character. He is a full – blooded human being , neither idealized nor ridiculed. Tom acts on impulse sometimes well and sometimes ill , but never from interested motives. He is light minded and naive , but kind , honest and unselfish , always ready to help anyone who needs his assistance. His intentions are noble and good , but he is simple –

hearted. That's why he often falls a victim to prejudice and he is constantly accused of vices he is not guilty of.

In this novel Fielding has taken an ordinary young man. Tom's parentage is unknown and he had been left as a foundling on the doorstep of squire Allworthy. As a matter of fact, he is illegitimate child of Allworthy's sister, but this is not revealed till the end of the story.

Tom is the open – hearted type who is always falling into trouble. Blifil has hypocrite nature. He constantly tells on Tom and poisons his uncle's mind against him. Tom falls out of Squire Allworthy's favour as a result of one of his lapses, a love affair with Molly Seagrim, a gamekeeper's daughter.

Tom is discovered to be the son of Allworthy's sister, Blifil's treachery through the years comes to light. Tom is happily united to the lovely Sophia Western, daughter of a country squire. All ends happily.

The middle of the 18th century a new literary trend appeared. It was sentimentalism. The first representative of the sentimental school in English literature was Samuel Richardson. His novels "Pamela or Virtue Rewarded", "Clarissa" and "The History of Sir Charles Grandison" are works in which the inner world of the character is shown. Richardson glorifies middle – class virtues as opposed to the immorality of the aristocracy. He makes his readers sympathize with his heroes. These novels were very much admired in the 18th and 19th centuries.

French writer Rousseau the sentimentalists thought that civilization was harmful to humanity. In Oliver Goldsmith's novel "The Vicer of Wakefield" and Laurence Sterne's "Sentimental Journey", as well as in other novels of the time, the corruption of town life is contrasted to the happy patriarchal life in the country. Oliver Goldsmith was also a poet. His famous poem "The Deserted Village" shows England at the time of the expropriation of the peasants.

QUESTIONS :

1. Who was the greatest representative of realism in the 18th century?
2. Why is the second half of the eighteenth century often called the Age of Johnson?
4. What did Henry Fielding expose in his plays?
5. What is depicted in Fielding's "The History of Tom Jones, a Foundling"?
6. Who were the representatives of the sentimental school in English literature?
7. What did the sentimentalists show in their novels and why?
8. Why did sentimentalists think that civilization was harmful to humanity?

THE THEME: THE ROMANTIC AGE IN ENGLISH LITERATURE (1780 - 1830)

1. Robert Burns is the national pride of Scotland.
2. William Blake.

3. The Romantic Age in England.
4. G. G. Byron and Sir W. Scott
5. The lake poets.

KEY – WORDS AND EXPRESSIONS

1. to be mourned
2. to provide with sustenance
3. to enslave
4. to keep an eye on all political events
5. to be spoiled by the invasion of industrialism
6. Cantos
7. Criticism in verse

Robert Burns is the national pride of Scotland. He was born in the family of a small tenant farmer and grew up in poverty. Still a child, he had to do a man's work in the fields.

Burns was a self-educated poet. He began writing poetry at the age of seventeen, but he was twenty-seven when his first volume – “Poems: Chiefly in the Scottish Dialect” - was published 1786, which won him immediate success. It contained some of his celebrated popular poems and songs, and lyrical, humorous and satirical poems written in his earlier years. The same year Robert Burns received an invitation from Edinburgh scholars, who praised his verses. The poet accepted the invitation, and went to Edinburgh. A new and enlarged edition of his poems was the result. Burns returned to his native village with money enough to buy a farm and marry Jean Armour. In 1791 he went bankrupt and was obliged to sell the farm and take a position as customs officer in the town of Dumfries.

The source of Burns' poetry is the life of common toilers and Scottish folklore. His democratic sympathies always remain unalterable. A manly sense of liberty is the animating force of his genius. His sympathy for the Great French Revolution is well known. Burns is deeply aware of the dignity and equality of men. In his poetry we find rebelliousness, dream of political justice and social equality, subtle humor and biting satire. He wrote epigrams on idle noblemen and composed tender lyrical verses as well.

An essential feature in the poetry of Burns is the inborn gift of quiet mirth and gaiety which brings with it a touch of fine irony. The most popular poems by Burns are: “John Barleycorn”, “The Tree of Liberty”, “Jolly Beggars”, “My Heart's in the Highlands”, “A Man's a Man for All That”, “Auld Lang Syne”, and some others.

My Heart's in the Highlands

My Heart's in the Highlands, my heart is not here,

My Heart's in the Highlands a – chasing the deer ;
A – chasing the wild deer , and following the roe –
My Heart's in the Highlands wherever I go.

Farewell to the Highlands , farewell to the North ,
The birthplace of valour , the country of worth ;
Wherever I wander , wherever I rove ,
The hills of the Highlands for ever I love.

Farewell to the mountains high covered with snow ;
Farewell to the straths and green valleys below ;
Farewell to the forests and wild – hanging woods ;
Farewell to the torrents and loud – pouring floods .
My heart's in the Highlands , my heart is not here ,
My heart's in the Highlands a chasing the deer ;
A – chasing the wild deer , and following the roe –
My Heart's in the Highlands wherever I go.

Hard work destroyed the poet's health. In 1796 he died in poverty at 37. After his death , his widow and children were left without a shilling. But the common Scottish people collected enough money to provide the widow with the sustenance for the rest of her life and give all his children an education.

WILLIAM BLAKE (1757 – 1827) .

William Blake was born in a poor family , and Blake had no opportunity to receive education as a child. When he was ten , his father was able to send him to drawing school , and at fourteen he was apprenticed to an engraver. As an apprentice he had time to read widely and began to write the first of his poetry.

In 1789 he published a volume of lyrical poems called “ Songs of Innocence ” . It was followed by a companion volume “ Songs of Experience ” . It was to be read in conjunction with “ Songs of Innocence ” . The two works contrast with each other : one deals with good , passivity , and reason ; the other , with evil , violence , and emotion. Blake's engravings and paintings are important part of his artistic expression , for the verbal and visual work together evoke one unified impression.

He became more and more caught up in his mystical faith and his visions of a heavenly world. As a child he was fascinated by the Bible and by the ideas of the German mystic Jacob Boeme. Blake's later symbolic works , including “ The marriage of Heaven and Hell ” , “ The Gates of Paradise ” , and “ Jerusalem ” , reflections about God and man.

Even today scholars continue to puzzle over the complex philosophical symbolism of his later works , but all readers can appreciate the delicate lyricism of his “ Songs of Innocence ” and “ Songs of Experience ” .

THE SICK ROSE

Rose , thou art sick.
The invisible worm
That flies in the night
In the howling storm
Has found out thy bed
Of crimson joy ,
And his dark secret love
Does thy life destroy.

In the middle of the 18th century didn't bring happiness to the people of Great Britain. During this period England changed from an agricultural to an industrial society and from home manufacturing to factory production.

During the early 1800s the French revolution had begun in 1789 as a protest against royal despotism. In its early phases the French Revolution had seemed to offer great hope for common people.

Scientific achievements in the areas of geology , chemistry , physics , and astronomy flourished during the Romantic Age , but they also did not improve the living conditions of the common working people. The Romantic Movement sprang up towards the close of the 18th century. The Romantic Age brought a more daring , individual and imaginative approach to both literature and life. In the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries , many of the most important English writers turned away from the values and ideas characteristic of the Age of Reason. The individual , rather than society , was at the center of the Romantic vision. The Romantic writers believed in the possibility of progress and social and human reform.

The Romantic writers generally saw humanity as naturally good , but corrupted by society and its institutions of religion , education , and government.

In the period from 1786 to 1830 two generations of Romantic poets permanently affected the nature of English language and literature. Usually , William Wordsworth and Samuel Taylor Coleridge , who wrote most of their major works from 1786 to 1805 , are regarded as the first generation of the English Romantics.

George Gordon Byron , Percy Bysshe Shelley and John Keats , who produced their major works between 1810 to 1824 , are regarded as the second generation of English Romantics.

Romanticism represented an attempt to rediscover the mystery and wonder of the world. Romanticists made emotion , and not reason , the chief force of their works. This emotion found its expression chiefly in poetry.

Some poets were seized with panic and an irresistible desire to get away from the present. They wished to call back “ the good old days ” , the time long before the mines and factories came , when people worked on “

England's green and pleasant land". These poets are sometimes called the Passive Romanticists.

They idealized the patriarchal way of life during the Middle ages, a period that seemed to them harmonious and peaceful. Their motto was: "Close to Nature and from Nature to God", because they believed that religion put man at peace with the world.

Drama did not flourish during the Romantic Age. The main type of drama produced at that period was simplistic, in which all the poor are good and all the rich are evil. Some of the leading Romantic poets wrote so called **closed drama**, poetic drama written to be read rather than produced. Shelley's tragedy "The Cenci", Byron's "Manfred", and Coleridge's "Remorse" are among the better known plays of this type.

Prose in the romantic age included essays, literary criticism, journals, and novels. The two greatest novelists of the romantic period were Jane Austen and Sir Walter Scott. Their novels drastically different from each other. Jane Austen wrote during the height of the period, she remained remarkably unaffected by Romantic literary influences. Austen wrote about middle-class life in small towns and in the famous resort city Bath. The women in such Austen novels as "Pride and Prejudice" and "Emma" are known for their independence and wit. Her novels are realistic in tone.

Sir Walter Scott wrote novels of adventure. He was immensely popular during his lifetime and is now considered the father of the historical novel. Reflecting the Romantic interest in the past, he set many of his novels in old England and Scotland.

GEORGE GORDON BYRON (1788 – 182)

Byron's creative activities are connected with the Romantic movement in poetry. In aristocrat by birth, Byron broke off with the bourgeois and aristocratic society and devoted himself to political struggle. He participated in the national-liberation movement in Italy and Greece.

In 1809 – 1811, Byron travelled in Portugal, Spain, Turkey, and Greece. The earliest fruits of his travels were the first two cantos of "Childe Harold's Pilgrimage", which not only brought him immediate success but also remained among his most notable works. This poem established his reputation as a great poet of England.

Between 1813 and 1816 the "Oriental Tales" were written: "The Giaour", "The Bride of Abydos", "The Corsair", "Lara", and "The Siege of Corinth".

In 1816 Byron left England. The years until 1823 were spent in Switzerland and Italy, where he kept up with his writing and took an active interest in the revolutionary movement of the Carbonari. His chief writings after his departure from England were: the third and fourth cantos of "Childe Harold", "Manfred", "Cain", and the most

famous of the poems “ Don Juan ”, which remained unfinished. Love of political freedom, always the noblest of his passions, inspired “ The Prisoner of Chillon ” to appear. The news of the uprising of the Greeks against the Turks aroused Byron to a desire for action. In July 1823 he sailed for Greece. But in 1824 he died at Missolonghi of a fever, with only a brief illness.

The chief tenor of his creative work is revolutionary romanticism. Hence, the elegant and tuneful poetry of Byron acquires lofty spirituality and civic pathos.

SHE WALKS IN BEAUTY

She walks in beauty, like the night
Of cloudless climes and starry skies ;
And all that's best of dark and bright
Meet in her aspect and her eyes :
Thus mellow'd to that tender light
Which heaven to gaudy day denies.

One shade the more, one ray the less,
Had half impair'd the nameless grace
Which waves in every raven tress,
Or softly lightens o'er her face;
Where thoughts serenely sweet express
How pure, how dear their dwelling – place.

And one that cheek, and o'er that brow,
So soft, so calm, yet eloquent,
The smiles that win, the tints that glow,
But tell of days in goodness spent,
A mind at peace with all below,
A heart whose love is innocent !

In 1815 Byron married Miss Isabella Milbanke. She was a cold and pedantic woman. It was an unlucky match. Though Byron was fond of their only child Augusta Ada, and did not want to break up the family, separation was inevitable. The scandal around the divorce was enormous. Byron's enemies found their opportunity, and used it to the utmost against him.

SIR WALTER SCOTT (1771 - 183)

Walter Scott is the founder of the historical novel in English literature.

The writer was a faithful son of Scotland and he was interested in its history and folklore. He especially studied the past of his native land through documents, history and legends.

In 1802 the first two volumes of Scott's "Minstrelsy of the Scottish Border" were published. They were followed by the third and final one in 1803. This work immediately won him popularity among the literary men of that time. After the publication of the poem "The Lay of the Last Minstrel" Scott became the most popular poet of the day. His first novel "Waverley, or 'Tis Sixty Years Since" was published in 1814. The series were called the Waverley Novels because the writer kept his authorship a secret.

The most well-known books of his are: "Rob Roy", "Ivanhoe", "Quentin Durward". In his novels Scott used themes taken from folklore, legends and ballads. He had a sharp eye on the most significant historical events which had a great influence on social development. Many of Scott's romantic novels are widely read today. They are remarkable for their recreation of the past with vigour and great richness of colourful detail.

Scott's poetry The folk ballads Walter Scott had collected were the first poetic work he published. It was called "Minstrelsy of the Scottish Border" and consisted of three volumes. He published his own romantic poems which attracted the attention of the reading public. The best were "The Lay of the Last Minstrel", "Marmion" and "The Lady of the Lake". These poems reproduce old legends and combine them with historical material. They were written with great poetic skill and poet became very famous.

Scott's novels Scott published his first novel "Waverley, or 'Tis Sixty Years Since" anonymously in 1814. The book was a great success, and everybody wanted to know who the author was. Scott published many of his novels under the name of "The Author of Waverley", but finally the secret leaked out. During the next seventeen years (1815-1832) Scott wrote more than twenty-five novels and many stories and tales besides. In 1818 he accepted the offer of a baronetcy.

Scott's publisher was John Ballantyne, an Edinburgh bookseller on whose firm Scott was a silent partner. The firm suddenly went bankrupt in 1826, and Scott found himself, at the age of fifty-five, not only penniless but burdened with a debt of 130,000 sterlings.

QUESTIONS :

1. What poems, written by William Blake do you know?
2. What features of Burns' and Blake's poetry bring them close to the romantic trend of the 19th century?
3. What is the difference between the passive and revolutionary trends of romanticism?
4. What poets presented a bridge between Classicism and Romanticism?
5. Why do we consider Byron to be a real fighter for freedom?
6. Who was the greatest writer of historical novels in English literature?

7. What social problems did Scott try to solve in his novels ?

THE THEME: CRITICAL REALISM IN ENGLAND.

1. The Victorian poets.
2. Charles Dickens is the first novelist of Critical Realism.
3. W.M.Thackeray, literary life. “Vanity fair”.

KEY – WORDS AND EXPRESSIONS :

1. Indifferent story – teller
2. Reading tour
3. Vices of the society
4. a spirit of disillusionment
5. The moral strength
6. Inimitable humour
7. Abundant variety
8. Hated vice

The Victorian Age was characterized by sharp contradictions. In many ways it was an age of progress.

Victoria became queen of Great Britain in 1837. Her reign , the longest in English history , lasted until 1901. This period is called Victorian Age.

Nineteenth – century England became the first modern , industrialized nation. It ruled the most widespread empire in world history , embracing all of Canada , Australia , New Zealand , India , Pakistan , and many smaller countries in Asia , and the Caribbean.

The workers fought for their rights. Their political demands were expressed in the People’s Charter in 1833. The Chartist movement was a revolutionary movement of the English workers , which lasted till 1848. The Chartists introduced their own literature. The Chartist writers tried their hand at different genres. They wrote articles , short stories , songs , epigrams , poems. Chartists described the struggle of the workers for their rights , they showed the ruthless exploitation and the miserable fate of the poor.

Many prominent writers became aware of the social injustice around them and tried to picture them in their works. The greatest novelists of the age were Charles Dickens , William Makepeace Thackeray , Charlotte Bronte , Elizabeth Gaskell. These writers used the novel as a means to protest against the evils in contemporary social and economic life and to picture the world in a realistic way. Criticism in their works way very strong , so some scholars call them Critical Realists , and the trend to which they belonged – Critical Realism. “ Hard Times ” by Charles Dickens and “ Mary Barton ” by Elizabeth Gaskell are among the best works of 19th century Critical Realism in which the Chartists movement is described. The

contribution of the writers belonging to the trend of Critical realism to world literature is enormous.

As to English and American critics, they consider Alfred Tennyson, and Robert Browning to be the two great pillars on which Victorian poetry rested. Unlike the poetry of the Romantic Age, their poetry demonstrates the conservatism, optimism, and self-assurance that marked the poetry of the Victorian Age.

Alfred, Lord Tennyson, was born in 1809, and he was the most revered of the Victorian poets. He was one of twelve children of a country minister and grew up in the quiet village of Somersby in Lincolnshire, eastern England. He began writing poetry at a very early age. While preparing for the university Tennyson learned classical and modern languages from his gifted father. Tennyson entered Cambridge University and made a promising debut as a young poet there with the publication of "Poems, Chiefly Lyrical".

His next work, "Poems", was published in 1833. In the same year the poet lost his dearest and nearest friend Henry Hallam. Hallam's death threw Tennyson into a long depression. He was silent for nearly a decade.

He broke "ten years of silence", as he called them later, in 1842 by publishing new work that soon made him a leading poet his time. In 1850 he published his great elegy to Hallam.

The 19th century was characterized by sharp contradictions. In many ways it was an age of progress: railways and steamships were built, great scientific discoveries were made, education became more widespread; but at the same time there was too much poverty, too much injustice and fierce exploitation of man by man. In the 19th century England became a classical capitalist country.

The contribution of the writers belonging to the trend of Critical realism to world literature is enormous. They created a broad panorama of social life, exposed and attacked the vices of aristocratic and bourgeois society, sided with the common people in their passionate protest against unbearable exploitation, and expressed their hopes for a better future. They wanted to improve the existing social order by means of reforms. Some of them wanted to reconcile the antagonistic classes, to make the rich share their wealth with the poor.

CHARLES DICKENS (1812 – 1870)

Dickens's world-wide popularity is immense and enduring. More than a century has passed since the publication of his first novel – "The Posthumous Papers of the Pickwick Club". In our days this book is known all over the world as well as many others by Dickens.

In the books by Dickens we have an astonishing combination of creative vigour, inimitable humor and abundant variety. Every personality Dickens describes is full of life: Mr. Pickwick's cabman as well as Pip Pirrip in "Great Expectations".

Dickens is one of the novelists representing critical realism in English literature. He showed the life of English society of his time, but he was never an indifferent story – teller. The writer touched upon the most significant social problems, Drawing the reader's attention to work – houses, the ruling classes' hypocrisy, lack of rights of the poor, and the cruelty of state laws. He always took the side of honest and kind poor people. He struggled for virtue and hated vice. But Dickens was under a delusion thinking that social injustice could be changed in a moral way.

The reader is touched to a great extent by the humanity reflected in every page of Dickens's novels. The writer arouses kind and pure feelings imperceptibly giving the lessons of love for man.

The well – known novels by Dickens are : “ The Posthumous Papers of the Pickwick Club ”, “ The Adventures of Oliver Twist ”, “ The Life and Adventures of Martin Chuzzlewit ”, “ Dealings with the Firm of Dombey and Son. Wholesale, Retail and for Exportation ”, “ The Personal History of David Copperfield ”, “ Bleak House ”, “ Little Dorrit ”, “ Great Expectations ”, and “ Our Mutual Friend ”.

Dickens's creative work has been divided into four periods:

I. The works written between the years 1833 – 1841 belong to the first period. They are : “ Sketches by Boz ” (1833 – 1841), “ The Posthumous Papers of the Pickwick club ”, “ Oliver Twist ”, “ Nicholas Nickleby ”, “ Barnary Rudge ”, “ The Old Curiosity shop ”. Dickens's heroes and heroines of the first period are remarkable for their fortitude. They never hesitate to take the wisest way and remain true to the principles of honor. They prefer to live in poverty and work hard. Finally virtue conquers evil. Humor and optimism are characteristic of the first period in Dickens's writings.

II. The following books, written between the years 1842 – 1848, belong to the second period in the writers creative work. “ American Notes ”, “ Martin Chuzzlewit ”, “ The Christmas Books ”, “ Dombey and Son ”. In the works of the second period Dickens begins to describe the crimes that arise from the existing system itself.

III. During the third period (1850 – 1859) he wrote “ David Copperfield ”, “ Bleak house ”, “ Hard Times ”, “ Little Dorrit ”, “ A Tale of Two Cities ”. These novels are the strongest for the social criticism expressed in them. Dickens describes in detail the social institutions of the day and draws a vivid picture of the life of the English people.

IV. The fourth period in Dickens's creative work was the sixties, the years when the labour movement was going down. He wrote only two novels : “ Great Expectations ”, “ Our Mutual Friend ”. These works are written in a spirit of disillusionment. Dickens has lost all faith in those people who ruled Britain. His heroes show the moral strength and patience of the common people.

WILLIAM MAKEPEACE THACKERAY (1811 – 1863)

William Makepeace Thackeray was born in Calcutta , India , in 1811. He later remembered visions of ‘fireworks , and people dancing , and rides on elephants’ , but his happy early days ended when in 1817 he was sent to England to be educated. He suffered miserably at school , and began studying at Cambridge in 1829 , but did not get a degree. Travelling , gambling , drinking , painting , and the company of pretty women were much more to his taste. His search for pleasure took him to London , Weimar in Germany , and Paris , where he is said to have had an affair with a Mademoiselle Pauline , an ex – governess , who may have been the model for Becky Sharp.

The loss of his inheritance , through gambling and several failed investments , forced Thackeray to earn a living , and he turned to journalism , where he had considerable success. In 1836 he married an Irish girl , Isabella Shawe , and the couple returned from Paris to London the following year. They had three daughters , though the second died young , and the marriage was a happy one until Isabella became mentally ill four years later. She never recovered , and Thackeray struggled for some years to cope with this tragedy , seeking a cure for Isabella , writing for newspapers and magazines , including Punch and The Times , and taking care of his daughters.

Thackeray’s early novels , Catherine (1839) and The Luck of Barry Lyndon (1844) , were not successful. The book of Snobs (1846) brought him some popularity , but it was not until Vanity Fair appeared that Thackeray began to rival Charles Dickens , who was then at the height of his fame as a novelist. Vanity Fair began publication in monthly instalments in January 1847 , and at first it did not sell well. Then Mrs Carlyle , a famous literary hostess of the time , after reading the eighth instalment , wrote to her husband that it ‘ ... beats Dickens out of the world’ . Charlotte Bronte praised Thackeray’s ‘bright wit’ and ‘attractive humour’ , and dedicated her novel Jane Eyre to him.

The success of the novel was now assured , and Thackeray became a celebrity, which he relished. He also fell in love with Jane Brookfield , the wife of a friend , and his jealousy of her husband was to cause him much anguish. More novels followed , including Pendennis (1848 - 1850) , and The History of Henry Esmond (1852) , and Thackeray went on a successful tour of the United States , where he fell briefly in love with a young American woman. ‘I can’t live without the tenderness of some woman ,’ he wrote to Jane Brookfield , but increasingly it was his daughters who provided him with companionship and care. He stood unsuccessfully for Parliament at Oxford in 1857 , and then returned to writing , with The Virginians (1857 – 1859).

In 1860 Thackeray became the first editor of the celebrated Cornhill Magazine , and increasing ill health , the legacy of his wild youth , caused

him to resign in 1862. He spent his last days in the care of his daughter Annie, and died in London in 1863.

Thackeray has long been acknowledged as one of the greatest English novelists, and *Vanity Fair* is without doubt his greatest work. Early nineteenth-century society is dramatically brought to life, and human virtues and faults and follies are laid bare with great wit and humour. His characters are vividly drawn, and Becky Sharp must be one of the most fascinating heroines of any novel – neither beautiful nor advantaged, but resourceful, quick-thinking, and beguiling in a way that captures the reader just as it does her many admirers.

VANITY FAIR

Vanity Fair is a very vain, wicked, foolish place, full of all sorts of falseness and pretence. It is a place where you gambled and get into debt, and wait for your rich aunt to die. A place where you swear undying love to your sweetheart, and write a love letter to someone else the next day. It is a place where cunning and lies bring rewards. It is a place where men go to war, and women fall in love, a place of laughter, tears, danger, and excitement... It is 1815 in London and Brighton, Brussels and Paris.

Becky Sharp and Amelia Sedley are starting out on the great adventures of *Vanity Fair*. Each will find a husband, but how long will it last? Who will wear diamonds, who will go hungry? Will they be faithful, foolish, neglected, devoted? Who will sew banknotes into her dress and follow a victorious army to Paris? Who will go home to her mother and weep in misery? And their friends and relations... Will Joseph Sedley be a fool all his life? Will Rawdon Crawley learn the truth? Will William Dobbin get his heart's desire?

'Oh, the vanity and folly of human wishes! Which of us is happy in this world? Which of us has our heart's desire? Or, having it, is satisfied?'

When Becky Sharp and Amelia Sedley leave school, their feet are set on very different paths. Kind, foolish Amelia returns to her comfortable home and wealthy family, to await a suitable marriage, while Becky must look out for herself, earning her own living in a hard world. But Becky is neither kind nor foolish, and with her quick brain and keen eye for a chance, her fortunes soon rise, while Amelia's fall.

Greed, ambition, loyalty, betrayal, folly, wisdom...

Thackeray's famous novel gives us a witty and satirical picture of English society during the Napoleonic wars.

QUESTIONS :

1. What do you know about The Victorian Age ?
2. When Alfred , Lord Tennyson began writing his poetry ?
3. What did Charles Dickens write about ?
4. What works belong to Dickens's first period of literary work ?
5. What works by Dickens were written between the years 1842 – 1848?
6. Why he was as one of the greatest English novelist and which novels were his greatest work ?
7. Which work of the writer is considered to be a prelude to his masterpiece Vanity Fair ?
8. What is the meaning of “ Vanity Fair ” ?

THE THEME: ENGLISH LITERATURE AT THE END OF THE 19TH CENTURY .

1. The writers of the 19th century in England .
2. Thomas Hardy and his literary activity.
3. Oscar Wilde . His life and work . The Picture of Dorian Gray .
4. Rudyard Kipling. “The Jungle book”.
5. G.B.Show. “Pigmalion”
6. H.Wells and J.Galsworthy

KEY- WORDS AND EXPRESSION :

1. Contradiction
2. contemporary
3. anti – aesthetism
4. creed – desire
5. aesthetic movement
6. stonemason

The 19th century in England gave rise to a rapid growth of social contradictions. These contradictions found their reflection in literature , too. The representatives of the first trend continued the realistic traditions of their predecessors. It was represented by such writers as George Eliot , George Meredith , Samuel Butler , Thomas Hardy. These novelists gave a truthful picture of contemporary society.

The writers of the second trend by way of protest against severe reality tried to lead the reader away from life into the world of dreams and fantasy , into the realm of beauty. The decadent art , appreciated the outer form of art more than the content.

The writers saw the vices of the bourgeois world, and in some of their works we find a truthful and critical description of contemporary life, on the whole their inner world lacks depth.

The decadent writers created their own cult of beauty and proclaimed the theory of “pure art”; their motto was “art for art’s sake”.

The end of the 19th century also created writers who were interested in human society as a whole, and a new type of writer who was preoccupied with the future of mankind.

THOMAS HARDY (1840 – 1928).

Thomas Hardy was born in 1840, in southwestern England, western Dorsetshire. At the age of fifteen Hardy began to study architecture, and in 1861 he went to London to begin a career. There he tried poetry, then a career as an actor, and finally decided to write fiction.

Hardy aimed his fiction at serial publication in magazines, where it would most quickly pay the bills. Not forgetting an earlier dream, he resolved to keep his tales “as near to poetry in their subject as the conditions would allow”. His first success, “Far from thee Madding Crowd”, was followed by “The Return of the Native”, “The Mayor of Casterbridge”, and “Tess of the D’Urbervilles”.

In 1874 he married and in 1885 built a remote country home in Dorset. From 1877 on he spent three to four months a year in fashionable society, while the rest of the time he lived in the country.

In 1895 his “Jude the Obscure” was so bitterly criticized, that Hardy decided to stop writing novels altogether and returned to an earlier dream. In 1898 he published his first volume of poetry. Over the next twenty – nine years Hardy completed over 900 lyrics. His verse was utterly independent of the taste of his day. He used to say: “My poetry was revolutionary in the sense that I meant to avoid the jeweled line. ...”

Thomas Hardy has been called the last of the great Victorians. He died in 1928. His ashes are buried in Westminster Abbey, but, because of his lasting relationship with his home district, his heart is buried in Wessex.

OSCAR WILDE (1854 – 1900)

Oscar Wilde was born in Dublin, Ireland on October 16, 1854. His father was a famous Irish surgeon, his mother wrote poetry.

Wilde’s main interests in school were poetry and classics.

While at Oxford, Wilde joined the group of aesthetes. Being critical about bourgeois morals and arts, they put forward their aesthetic creed – desire for beauty, love of arts, they put forward their aesthetic creed – desire for beauty, love of art for art’s sake. Wilde was regarded as the leader of the English aesthetes movement. Some of Wilde’s literary works do not coincide with his theoretical statements. The example of it is his

novel “ The picture of Dorian Gray ” , where the moral principle overcomes the vicious idea of beauty for the sake of beauty.

Wilde’s fairy stories were published in 1888 – “ The Happy Prince and Other Tales ” , and in 1892 – “ A House of Pomegranates ” . His plays “ Lady Windermere’s Fan ” and “ A Woman of No Importance ” came out in 1892 and 1893 “ An Ideal Husband ” appeared in 1894 , and “ The Importance of Being Earnest ” in 1895.

He was accused of immorality and sentenced to two years’ imprisonment. When released from prison in 1897 he lived mainly on the Continent and later in Paris. In 1898 he published his powerful poem “ Ballad of reading Gaol ” . He died in Paris in 1900.

THE PICTURE OF DORIAN GRAY

Wilde’s novel “ The Picture of Dorian Gray ” is considered to be his masterpiece. It describes the spiritual life of a young man. The author touched upon many important problems of contemporary life : morality , art and beauty . At the beginning of the novel we see an inexperienced youth , a kind and innocent young man. Two men with sharply contrasting characters influence Dorian. Basil Hallward and Lord Henry Wotton. The attitude of these two towards the young man shows their different approach to life , art and beauty. The author shows the gradual degradation of Dorian Gray. The end of the book is a contradiction to Wilde’s decadent theory. The fact that the portrait acquired its former beauty and Dorian Gray “ Withered , wrinkled and loathsome of visage ” lay on the floor with a knife in his heart , shows the triumph of real beauty – a piece of art created by an artist , a unity of beautiful form and content.

RUDYARD KIPLING (1865 – 1936)

Rudyard Kipling was born in the family of John Lockwood Kipling , a professor of architectural sculpture , in Bombay , India , on December 30 , 1865. At the age of six he was taken to England and educated at an English College in North Devon. In 1833 he returned to India and became sub – editor of the Lahore Civil and Military Gazette. He returned to India in 1882 to work as a journalist for an India newspaper. At that time India was part of the British Empire , and thousand of British people lived and worked there. Kipling wrote poetry and short stories about the life of these British people in India , and also about the way of life of the Indian people.

At the age 21 he published his first volume , a small book of verse “ Departmental Ditties ” . A year later his “ Plain Tails from the Hills ” introduced him to the public as a story – teller. Before he was twenty – four he had already published six small collections of stories , which showed his remarkable talent.

In 1889 Kipling, now famous because of his stories, came back to England. He married an American woman and for four years they lived in Vermont in the USA, where Kipling wrote "The Jungle Book" and "The Second Jungle Book". Back in England, Kipling continued to write stories, novels, and poetry, and in 1907 he was the first English writer to receive the Nobel Prize for Literature. He died in 1936.

Today Kipling's best-known novel is "Kim", a story about a young Irishman and his adventures in India. He is also famous for his stories for children – the *Just So Stories* – and the two *Jungle books*. There is a well-known Walt Disney film of *The Jungle book*, made in 1967. The film has many fine songs, but is very different from Kipling's story of Mowgli's life and adventures in the jungle.

THE JUNGLE BOOK

In the jungle of Southern India the Seeonee Wolf-Pack has a new cub. He is not a wolf – he is Mowgli, a human child, but he knows nothing of the world of men. He lives and hunts with his brothers the wolves. Baloo the bear and Bagheera the panther are his friends and teachers. And Shere Khan, the man-eating tiger, is his enemy.

In the hills of Southern India a baby lies warm and safe in a cave. He lies among wolf-cubs, next to Mother Wolf's side, and he is not afraid. Outside the cave Shere Khan, the man-eating tiger, roars angrily, wanting to kill. 'No!' says Mother Wolf. 'The man's cub belongs to me. He will live, to run with the other wolves, to be my son. And I call him Mowgli'.

The years pass, and Mowgli the man's cub grows up with the wolves. He learns the Law of the Jungle from his teachers, Baloo the old brown bear and Bagheera the black panther. He has many adventures, and many friends among the animals of the jungle.

But he still has an enemy. Shere Khan the tiger has not forgotten. He waits for the day when he can catch the man's cub – and kill him.

Kipling's famous story of Mowgli's adventures in the jungle has been loved by young and old for more than a hundred years.

GEORGE BERNARD SHAW (1856 – 1950)

In the history of English literature Shaw is known as the creator of the social realistic drama. He called himself a disciple of Ibsen, a Norwegian dramatist, but Shaw was not an imitator. He built up his own new drama; he made a revolution in the theatre of his time by introducing the problematic play and in this way he contributed a great deal to the further development of the English theatre. Shaw's plays deal with various problems: politics, science, religion, education and economics. And in solving them he criticizes the bourgeois society severely.

Bernard Shaw gained a reputation as a man of brilliant wit, making frequent and effective use in his plays of the paradox, which can be found in dramatic structure, characters, style, etc. Shaw uses them not merely for the sake of brilliant play on words but to turn inside out moral and social truths of the bourgeois world. Shaw's first play, "Widower's Houses", was produced by the Independent Theatre Society in London in 1892. Together with "Mrs. Warren's Profession" and "The Philanderer" this play made up the cycle of "Plays Unpleasant". "Plays Pleasant" contained "Arms and the Man", "Candida", "The Man of Destiny", and "Your Never Can Tell". In 1901 "Three Plays for Puritans" were published: "Caesar and Cleopatra", "The Devil's Disciple", and "Captain Brassbound's Conversion". Among the succeeding plays the most popular are: "Pygmalion", "Heartbreak House", "The Apple Cart", "Too True to Be Good".

Bernard Shaw was a great friend of the Soviet Union. In 1931 he celebrated his 75th birthday in Moscow. He praised highly the Soviet people's achievements.

"PYGMALION" Higgins, Professor of phonetics, is convinced that it is only a manner of speaking which can distinguish a common flower-girl from a duchess. Meeting a Cockney flower-girl, Eliza Dolittle, he makes a wager with his friend, Colonel Pickering, saying that in six months he could teach her to speak like a lady.

One of Shaw's best comedies is "Pygmalion", written in 1912 and first produced in England in 1914. It was adapted into the musical "My Fair Lady" in 1956. The title "Pygmalion" comes from a Greek myth. A mythological king of Cypress named Pygmalion carved a statue out of ivory. It was the statue of a handiwork, so the goddess of love Aphrodite breathed life into the statue and transformed it into a really alive woman.

"Pygmalion" shows the author's concern for the perfection of the English Language. Shaw was passionately interested in the English language and the varieties of ways in which people spoke and misspoke it. Shaw wished to simplify and reform English. He has pointed out that the rules of spelling in English are inconsistent and confusing. The text of "Pygmalion" reflects some of his efforts at simplifying the usage of letters and sounds in English Language. The play also allowed Shaw to present ideas on other topics. For example, he touched the problems of social equality, male and female roles, and the relationship between the people.

HERBERT GEORGE WELLS (1866 – 1946)

Wells is known in the history of English literature as the author of science fiction. While a student, he studied biology, and his earliest works were elementary text-books. Wells was keen on scientific and social

problems. His great desire to participate in public life and solve the questions of the hour induced him to become a man of letters. The professional knowledge of sciences formed the genre of Wells's books – science fiction.

Herbert Wells is the founder of modern social phantasy where the fantastic element goes with the realistic revelation of individual and social psychology.

In 1895, the first book of short stories, "The Stolen Bacillus and Other Incidents" came out. In this form of literary art Wells is at his best. Then followed his novels: "The Time Machine", "The Invisible Man", "The War of the Worlds", "The first Men in the Moon", and "The War in the Air".

The result of Wells's first visit to the Soviet country, in 1920, was the book "Russia in Shadows". On returning to England after his second visit to the Soviet country in 1934. Wells made mention of the achievements in the socialist construction in the U.S.S.R. In his books written in the thirties – "The Croquet Player", "You Can't Be Too Careful" – the writer protested against fascism and wars.

THE WAR OF THE WORLDS

The novel was published in 1897. The events in the novel supposedly take place at the beginning of the 20th century in London and its suburbs. The story of the war is told by a professor. He says that he was writing an article, when the first cylinder from Mars came down like a falling star onto the southern part of Britain. The inhabitants of the place were attracted by the unusual phenomena and watched the cylinder open. They saw a Martian came out, then another and another. Their bulky bodies, the size of a bear, moved very clumsily, because the gravity of the Earth had increased their weight three times. The public did not understand the danger until the Martians used their heat-ray, killing many people and burning down houses and woods.

Eight more cylinders came down from Mars one after another. The Martians had monstrous fighting machines. The machines moved over the ground smashing everything on their way.

When the fifth cylinder landed, the people were already in a state of panic. The Martian fighting machines advanced on London, and in a few days Society, the State and Civilization disappeared. The people were frightened and became violent. Those who could not escape from the city hid like rats under the ruins of houses so as not to be killed by the Martians.

Wells ends the novel with the defeat of the Martians. They are infected by bacteria against which their constitution is helpless. The writer makes the people of the Earth win, because he loves them and wants them to be strong and better civilized. He does not portray the Martians as a better race. He believes in man and his better future.

JOHN GALSWORTHY (1867 – 1933)

Galsworthy made his name as a novelist in the first decade of our century. He kept up with the best traditions of realism in English literature and named Turgenev and Tolstoy as his literary teachers.

Galsworthy is the author of many novels “The Island Pharisees”, “Fraternity”, “End of the Chapter”, short stories “The Apple – tree”, “The Broken Boot”, “Late – 209”, and he is known as one of the prominent English playwrights of his time.

The most famous work of his is the epic trilogy “The Forsyte Saga”. It includes “The Man of Property”, “In Chancery”, “To Let”. It is a series of novels connected by the history of several generations of the upper middle – class family. The author had begun his description of the Forsytes with a good deal of direct satire as well as irony, but gradually his attitude became more and more tolerant and sympathetic. He had begun his recording with England of 1886 and followed it almost up to his last days. After “To Let” three more novels were written: “The White Monkey”, “The Silver Spoon”, and “Swan Song”. They were included into the other trilogy entitled “Modern Comedy”.

The first novel of “The Forsyte Saga” is “The Man of Property”. It vividly suggests Galsworthy’s anti – bourgeois tendencies while trying to solve the problem of beauty. The writer proves the incompatibility of property and beauty. Galsworthy whole - heartedly appreciates Beauty that arouses kindness, lofty actions and humaneness.

One of the main characters in “The Forsyte Saga”, Soames Forsyte, most fully incarnates the traits of the man of property. This quality determines his character, professional activity and private life, and causes the tragedy he has to go through. Though Galsworthy pities Soames in the long run, he remains loyal to the historical truth showing that the proprietary class is doomed to death. In the preface to “The Forsyte Saga” the author writes: “If the upper middle – class, with other classes, is destined to ‘move on’ into amorphism, here, pickled in these pages, it lies under glass for strollers in the wide and ill – arranged museum of Letters to gaze at. Here it rests, preserved in its own juice: The Sense of Property”.

His the best trilogy called “End of the Charter”, written at a later period, shows a marked decline in the author’s talent as a critical realist. The three novels are: “Maid in Waiting”, “Flowering Wilderness”, “Over the river”. In the first trilogy, which was written in the most mature period of his literary activity, Galsworthy mercilessly attacks the commercial world of the Forsytes, and in particular, the main character, Soames Forsyte, “The man of property”.

The cycle is considered to be the peak of the author’s Critical Realism. In his later works, “A Modern Comedy” and “The End of the Chapter”, written after the World War I, Galsworthy’s criticism becomes less sharp.

The old generation of the Forsytes does not seem so bad to the author as compared to the new one. During his progress through six novels and four interludes Soames becomes almost a positive character, in spite of the author's critical attitude towards him at the beginning of the Saga. Galsworthy is also known as a playwright. From 1909 he produced in turn plays and novels. His plays deal with burning problems of contemporary life. The author describes the hard life of workers, attacks the cruel regime in English prisons, expresses his indignation towards wars, rejects the colonial policy of Great Britain, and presents some other aspects of capitalists evils and injustice. Galsworthy's plays were very popular. But it is not his dramatic works, but his novels and "The Forsyte Saga" in particular, made him one of the greatest figures in world literature.

QUESTIONS :

1. Which writers were the greatest novelists at the end of the 19th century?
2. What was the main theme of Thomas Hardy's novels?
3. Why do we appreciate Oscar Wilde's works?
4. Why Wells is well-known in the history of English literature?
5. What are the chief characteristics of Galsworthy's works?
6. What is the main title of the noel "The Man of Property"?
7. What do you know of Galsworthy's epic trilogy "The Forsyte Saga"?
8. What is the difference between the novels written by Herbert Wells and John Galsworthy?
9. What was the theme of Kipling's novels?
10. What is characteristic of Bernard Shaw's dramatic works?
11. What is the meaning of the play "Pygmalion"?
12. What new form of drama did Bernard Shaw introduce?

THE THEME: MODERN ENGLISH WRITERS.

1. The English literature of the 20th century.
2. Katherine Mansfield and his literature activity.
3. William Somerset Maugham is the best-known English writer.
4. A new generation of realistic writers.
5. Modern Literature after World War II. New Problems and Trends

KEY-WORDS AND EXPRESSIONS

1. artistic approach
2. to affect
3. to regard as one's literary teacher
4. to care for fame complicated plot
5. observer of life and individuals

6. to come in touch with mature period
7. logically developed

The 20th century English literature is remarkable for a great diversity of artistic values and artistic methods. Following the rapid introduction of new modes of thought in natural science, sociology and psychology, it has naturally reacted to absorb and transform this material into literary communication.

The years between 1917 and 1930 form the first period. This was a time when the crisis of the bourgeois world reached its highest point. Among the writers of this period who used the realistic method were Katherine Mansfield and Somerset Maugham.

KATHERINE MANSFIELD (1888 – 1923)

Katherine Mansfield was the best writer. She was born in New Zealand and educated in London. Her contribution to English Literature mainly makes the form of short stories. Katherine Mansfield's first stories and sketches were published in the periodical "The New Age", to which she became a regular contributor.

She began to write at an early age. Her first story "Prelude" written in 1918 made her famous. Her second book, the collection of stories "Bliss and other stories" was published in 1921. Her third collection "The Garden Party and other stories" appeared a year later. Katherine Mansfield's style was often compared to that of Chekhov. Katherine Mansfield regarded Chekhov as her literary teacher. The stories of Katherine Mansfield are not tales of action, nor have they complicated plots. She reveals human conduct in quite ordinary situation.

WILLIAM SOMERSET MAUGHAM (1874 – 1965)

William Somerset Maugham was born in 1874. He is the best-known English writer. He is one of the most successful dramatists and short story writers. His first novel "Liza of Lambeth" came out in 1897, and he went on producing books at the rate of at least one a year.

He wrote twenty-four plays, nineteen novels and a large number of short stories, in addition to travel works and an autobiography. The most mature period of Maugham's literary career began in 1915, when he published one of his most popular novels, "Of Human Bondage". The next well-known novel written by S. Maugham is "The Moon and Sixpence" (1919). In this novel the writer makes use of some outstanding incidents in the life of the artist Paul Gauguin, (though it cannot be regarded as his biography). The hero of the novel, Charles Strickland, is a prosperous stockbroker. All those who came in touch with the Stricklands were taken by surprise and puzzled when they learned that Charles Strickland, at the age of forty, had given up his wife and children and gone to Paris to study art. Strickland's life in Paris was "a bitter struggle against every sort of difficulty", but the hardships, which

would have seemed horrible to most people, did not in the least affect him. He lived in a dream, and reality meant nothing to him. His only aim in life was to create beauty. The reader dislikes Strickland as a human being: he is selfish, cruel, pitiless and cynical. He loves no one. He ruined the life of Dirk Stroeve and his wife who had nursed him when he was dangerously ill. He did not care for his wife and children, and brought misfortune to all the people who came in touch with.

Works by Somerset Maugham are the novels: "Cakes and Ale" (1930), "Theatre" (1937) and the "Razor's Edge" (1944). His most popular stories are "Rain", "The Unconquered", "Gigolo and Gigolctte", "The Man with Scar", "The Luncheon". Maugham's short stories are usually very sincere, interesting, well constructed and logically developed.

Wilfrid Owen (1893-1918)

On August 4, 1914, the First World War broke out. The most popular poet of the prewar era, Rupert Brooke, urged, "Come and die. It'll be great fun!" Among the middle and upper classes, the war was generally regarded as a new kind of "game", which assisted to win honor and glorious name.

But after only six months of fighting, they understood, that the war was a huge killing machine, which did not spare anyone and anything. A radical transformation in the language, tone and subject matter of literature was taking place in the poetry of the young men serving in the front lines.

Wilfrid Owen went to France in December of 1916 to participate in some of the hardest fighting during the cold winter of 1917. In June of 1917 he was hospitalized and remained in England until September of 1918. The same year he volunteered to return to the front and met there his literary idol, Siegfried Sassoon and developed a supportive friendship with him.

A week before the Armistice of 1918 and two weeks after being decorated for gallantry, Wilfrid Owen was killed by machine-gun fire. He had published only four poems during his lifetime and was unknown as a poet, except to a few friends. Through the efforts of his mother and friends, eight of Owen's poems were published in periodicals in 1919. They were followed by the publication of his collected poems, in 1920, edited by Siegfried Sassoon. In his poem "Anthem for Doomed Youth", written in 1917, two stanzas of which you will read below, Wilfrid Owen describes the death of soldiers.

Anthem for Doomed Youth

What passing-bells for these who die as cattle
Only the monstrous anger of the guns.
Only the stuttering rifles' rapid rattle
Can patter out their hasty orisons.
No mockeries now for them; no prayers nor bells,
Nor any voice of mourning save the choirs, -
The shrill, demented choirs of wailing shells;

And bugles calling for them from sad shires.

What candles may be held to speed them all?
Nor in the hands of boys, but in their eyes
Shall shine the holy glimmers of good-byes.
The pallor of girls' brows shall be their pall;
Their flowers the tenderness of patient minds,
And each slow dusk a drawing-down of binds.

THE THIRTIES OF THE 20th CENTURY

RICHARD ALDINGTON (1892- 1962)

His first poems appeared in the years 1909 - 1912 and a book of verse " Images " was published in 1915. In his early poetry Aldington often opposes mythological images of Ancient Greece to unlovely pictures of life in industrial cities. The harmony and beauty of Greek art he sees as an ideal lacking in contemporary reality. The imperialist war became a major experience for the young poet. In 1919 he published a new book of poetry " Images of War " . War is shown here as a crime against life and beauty. Later, he began to write novels and short stories. The most important novels written by him are " Death of a Hero " (1929) , " The Colonel 's Daughter" (1931) and " All Men are Enemies" (1933). His collections of stories : " Road to Glory " (1930) and " Soft answers " (1932).

John Boynton Priestley (1894-1984)

John Boynton Priestley was born in Bradford , Yorkshire in the family of a schoolmaster. He was educated in his native town , and after army service in the First World War he returned to study at Trinity Hall , Cambridge. In 1922 he began to work in London as a reviewer , essayist and literary journalist. During the Second World War he won his countrymen 's affection as a patriotic broadcaster of the BBC.

Priestley's career as a novelist began in 1927 with the publication of " Be-nighted ". In 1929 he published " The Good Companions " which was awarded the James Tait Black Prize and was a popular success as well. His novels written over a period of almost fifty years include " Angel Pavement " (1930) , " The Wonder Hero " (1933) , " They Walk in the City " (1936), " Let the People Sing " (1939) , " Black - Out in Gretley " (1942), " Daylight on Saturday " (1943), " Bright Day " (1946), " Festival of Fairbridge " (1951) , " The Magicians " (1954) , " Sir Michael and Sir George " (1964), " The Lost Empires (1965) , Salt is Living (1966), " It's an Old Country " (1967) , " The Image Men" (1968-69).

In 1930s Priestley began a new career as a playwright with a dramatization of "The Good Companions" (1931) which was followed by a series of plays valuable as contributions to the social history of England. Among these plays "Dangerous Corner" (1932), "Time and Conways" (1937), "An Inspector Calls" (1946) show Priestley's detestation of the inhumanity in the existing social system and sympathy for common English people.

J.B.Priestley's list of published works also include literary history (e.g. "Figures in Modern Literature", "The English Comic Characters", "George Meredith", "Literature and Western Man", social criticism (e.g. "Man and Time", "Victoria in Heyday", "The English") and philosophical essays (e.g. "Apes and Angels", "Delight", "The Moments and Other Pieces").

ARCHIBALD JOSEPH CRONIN (1896-1981)

He was born at Cardross, Dumbartonshire, Scotland. He was educated at Dumbarton Academy and in 1914 began to study medicine at Glasgow University. In 1919 he graduated from the Glasgow University. After graduation from the University he started practice first in Scotland and later in South Wales and the West End of London. While working in South Wales, Cronin studies hard to receive higher medical degree. He was awarded his M.D. by the Glasgow University. In 1930 Cronin's health broke down. Being unable to practice medicine any longer, he decided to try his hand at literature. "Hatter's Castle", written in 1931 was his first novel. At the age of thirty he had won a gold medal in a nation-wide competition for the best historical essay of the year. "Hatter's Castle" is an extremely gloomy novel. The end of the book is tragic. The novel is talented and exciting, but it lacks a realistic interpretation of life. The events and characters are shown in the naturalistic manner. The author does not go deep into the social causes which give rise to such vicious characters as Mr. Brodie. The next novel "The Stars Look Down" (1935) marks the beginning of Cronin's most mature period.

The book deals with the burning problems of life: labour and capital, politics, economics, strikes in coalmines, education, marriage and so on. The action takes place in the North of England during World War I. The charm of "The Stars Look Down" lies in a realistic portrayal of the characters and a truthful description of the hard life of the miners. The novel is justly considered one of the best works of Critical Realism.

In "The Citadel" (1937), as in many novels of the later period, Cronin deals with the life and work of an intellectual (usually a medical man). He shows that the profession of a doctor is honourable and important, but it is often regarded only as a means of taking money. Andrew Manson, the main character of "The Citadel", has to face this alternative; "The Citadel" is a social novel. It is usually considered to be Cronin's masterpiece. The book describes different aspects of life in the first half of the 20th century.

" Modernist " Poets

Following World War I, writers such as T.S. Eliot, W.H. Auden, Dylan Thomas and their followers brought about a revolution in poetic taste and practice. "Modernist" poets developed new techniques to express their vision of the postwar world. While some of these are difficult, modern poetry as a whole employs the language of common speech to provide rich insights into the people and events of modern life. When you read these works you come across lines from foreign languages or allusions you don't recognize. For example, some of Eliot's poems, such as "The Hollow Men" have epigraphs that need to be interpreted and applied to the poem. W.H. Auden, in his elegy "In Memory of W.B. Yeats", presumes knowledge of the life of Yeats and political events of the 1930s.

In "Tern Hill", for example, Dylan Thomas, rejects cliché, and writes "once below a time" instead of "once upon a time" and "All the moon long" instead of "All the night long".

Modern poetry is musical, sensual, and surprising. It is also highly varied in subject matter. Modern poets have exercised the freedom to write about any subject they please. To compensate for the limitations of syllabic rhyme, they have resorted to frequent use of consonantal, assonantal, and half-rhymes. Modern poets have sought above all to create poetry that will be appreciated for its form and music as well as meaning.

Poet, critic, and dramatist, T.S. Eliot, was the leading spokesman for the modernist poetry that emerged in the 1920s. This poetry is characterized by intellectual complexity, allusiveness, precise use of images, and pessimism.

Modern literature is characterized by great differences from the past in both form and content. New rhythms, especially in free verse, were invented.

The development of psychology brought psychological realism into literature: writers attempted to show not only what their characters thought but how they thought. The stream of consciousness technique, and various modifications of it, created a new attitude toward writing and reading.

Wystan Hugh Auden (1907-1973)

Auden spent the first thirty-two years of his life in England and the most of the remainder part in the United States.

W.H. Auden was born in York in the family of a distinguished physician. He was educated at Oxford where he read English specializing in Anglo-Saxon literature. After graduating from Oxford in 1928, Auden spent a year in Berlin where he was strongly influenced by contemporary German literature.

His public reputation as a poet began with the publication of "Poems" in 1930. Auden earned his living by teaching at schools in England and Scotland. In 1937 he went to Spain, where he drove an ambulance for the Republicans.

In 1939 Auden moved to the United States and gave frequent lectures at American universities. In 1946, seven years after his arrival, he became an American citizen. At that period he published his volumes of poems "For the Time Being" (1945) and "The Age of Anxiety" (1948). The postwar period

has come to be known as " The Age of Anxiety " , from the title of his volume. Beginning with 1948 , he divided his time between New York and Europe. In 1972 he was elected Professor of Poetry at Oxford. In 1972 he transferred his winter residence from New York to Oxford , where his college had provided him with a small house. He died in Vienna in 1973.

His most important volumes of poems of later period were " The Shield of Achille " (1959), " Homage to Clio " (1960), " About the House "(1966), and " City Without Walls " (1970). Auden has also written a great deal of literary criticism and opera libretti.

In the 20th century in English Literature appeared such young writers like James Aldridge and Graham Greene , who created their works in the spirit of optimism. They are mature writers with anti - imperialist and anti - colonial point of view. In the fifties there appears a very interesting trend in literature the followers of which were called " The Angry Young Men ". The post - war changes had given a chance to a large number of young people from the more democratic layers of the society to receive higher education at universities. But on graduating , these students found they had no prospects in life. Unemployment had increased after the war. No one was interested to learn what his or her ideas on life and society were. They felt deceived and became angry.

There appeared works dealing with such characters , angry young men that Were angry at everything and everybody. Outstanding writers of this trend were John Wain , Kingsley Amis , **John** Braine , Colin Wilson and the dramatist John Osborne.

A great deal of contemporary English fiction and drama is dedicated to the subject of man 's search for identity , and the stress is not so much on political or social issues as on moral problems. The problem of identity is closely linked with one of the most influential philosophical trends of the 20th century - existentialism. According to it man must live and make his choice , must come to some terms with his own existence and the true meaning of everything around him. The influence of existentialist ideas left a profound impression on the work of Iris Murdoch.

GRAHAM GREENE (1904 - 1991)

Graham Greene is one of the most outstanding novelists of modern English literature. His world outlook is characterized by sharp contradictions. Greene's novels deal with real life burning problems. The author penetrates into weak spots in the capitalist world , but does not try to find out the reasons for the evil he sees. Social conditions are shown only as a background to his novels.

Greene is known as the author of two genres: psychological detective novels or " entertainments " , and " serious novels " , as he called them. The main theme of both genres is much the same (the problem of " the dark man " , deep concern for the fate of the common people), but in the "serious novels" the inner world of the characters is more complex and the psychological analysis

becomes deeper. The novels belonging to the "serious" category are: "The Man Within" (1929), "It's a Battlefield" (1934), "England Made Me" (1935), "Brighton Rock" (1938), "The Power and the Glory" (1940), "The Heart of the Matter" (1948), "The end of the Affair" (1951), "The Quiet American" (1955), "A Burnt-Out Case" (1961), "The Comedians" (1966) and others. The novels classed as "entertainments" are: "A Gun for Sale" (1936), "The Confidential Agent" (1939), "The Ministry of Fear" (1943), "Loser Takes All" (1955), "Our Man in Havana" (1958) and others.

In "The Quiet American" the author tells the truth about the dirty war in Vietnam. The book deals with the Imperialist war waged by the French colonizers against the Vietnamese people, who were fighting for their independence. It also exposes the real nature of American diplomacy. The novel conveys the idea that every nation has the right to decide its own future.

JAMES ALDRIDGE (1918)

James Aldridge was born in Australia in 1918. He studied in England and worked on various London papers. During the years of the Second World War Aldridge visited many countries as a correspondent, among them Norway, Greece, Egypt, Libya, Iran and Russia. His war experience lies at the basis of his first novels. Signed with "Their Honour" (1942), "The Sea Eagle" (1944), and a book of sketches "Of Many Men" (1946). Aldridge's anti-colonial and anti-imperialist point of view is to be seen in the novel "The Diplomat" (1949). Aldridge's later novels are devoted entirely to problems of the Arab people in their struggle for liberation. Among them are "Heroes of the Empty View", "I Wish He Would Not Die", "The Last Exile". Aldridge's activity as a propagandist for peace and friendship among nations deserve the respect of the people of different nationalities.

IRIS MURDOCH (1919)

She was born in 1919 in Dublin. The main theme of her novels is the fate of men and women in modern society, their belief and disbelief. Her heroes are lonely and suffering people. In all her novels we find love as great and mysterious force. It is the inner world of the character that interests Iris Murdoch. Her books arise out of the varied experiences of life.

Iris Murdoch lectured in philosophy from 1948 to 1963 at Oxford University in England. Her first novel "Under the Net" appeared in 1954 and since then she published a book almost every year.

Some of Murdoch's novels expose the dangers of abstract system of behavior that cut out people off from spontaneous, loving relationships. "Under the Net" (1954) and "Fairly Honourable Defeat" (1970) are examples of it. "The Bell s" (1958) examines the relationships among the members of a religious commune. In "A Several Head" (1961). Murdoch portrays three couples whose unfaithful sexual conduct illustrates their shallow, self-centered philosophies. Her other novels include an "Accidental Man" (1971), "The Black Prince" (1973), "The Sea, The Sea" (1978), "The Good Apprentice" (1986),

and " The Book and the Brotherhood " (1988). Iris Murdoch tried to write in the spirit of realistic traditions in English literature. But her books are characterized by Romantic foundation .

Agatha Christie (1891-1976)

Agatha Christie , a prominent detective writer , was born at Torquay , Devonshire. She was educated at home and took singing lessons in Paris. Her creative work began at the end of World War 1. Her first novel, "The Mysterious Affair at Styles" appeared in 1920. Here she created Hercule Poirot, the little Belgian detective, the most popular sleuth in fiction since Sherlock Holmes.

With " Murder at the Vicarage " (1930) Agatha Christie began a series of novels featuring Miss Marple , a lady detective who won a universal appeal for her wise but unusual methods of unraveling a crime.

Beginning with 1952 Agatha Christie enjoyed another run of success with theatre adaptations of her fiction and plays. Many of her stories have been filmed including " The Secret Adversary " , " The Murder of Roger Ackroyd " (cinema title "Alibi"), " Ten Little Niggers " , " Murder on the Orient Express " and " Witness for the Prosecution".

She is the author of seventy-seven detective novels and books of stories that have been translated into every major language. Agatha Christie's success with millions of readers cannot be accounted only for the good entertainment; the explanation lies in her ability to combine clever plots with excellent character drawing, and a keen sense of humour with great power of observation.

Margaret Drabble (born in 1939)

Drabble's early novels, such as "A summer Bird-Cage (1963) and " The Garrick Year" (1964) are considered to be almost autobiographical studies of conflicts young women experience in their careers, marriages, and family lives. Her best novels contain detailed and perceptive analyses of dilemmas women face in modern world (E.G. "The Needle's Eye", written in 1972.)

Her novels " The Realms of Gold " (1975) and " The Ice Age " include a larger number of characters representing a broad section of English society.

In her novels "The Middle Ground " (1980) and " The Radiant Way " (1987) she describes how social change influences the human characters. In "Natural Curiosity (1989) and "The Gates of Ivory " (1992) the author continues the social concern and develops characters of the earlier works.

Margaret Drabble has also written historical works and literary criticism. She was the editor of the fifth edition of "The Oxford Companion to English Literature.

Susan Hill (born in 1942)

At the beginning of her career she wrote literary criticism for the Coventry Evening Telegraph for five years and reviewed fiction for several periodicals.

Since 1963 Susan Hill is known as a full time writer and the author of several novels, volumes of short stories, essays and a number of plays. Her titles include: "The Enclosure" (1961), "Do Me a Favour" (1963), "Gentleman and Ladies" (1968), "A Change for the better" (1969), "The Albatros and Other Stories" (1970), "I Am the King of the Castle" (1971), "Strange Meeting" (1971), "The Bird of Night" (1972), "In the Springtime of the Year" (1974), "The Land of Lost Content" (1976), "The Magic Apple Tree: "A Country Year" (1982) and many other works. Her works have received considerable attention and were awarded several times. In 1972 she was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature.

QUESTIONS:

1. What contribution did Katherine Mansfield make to the English literature?
2. What is Somerset Maugham's contribution to literature?
3. What themes dominated in Richard Aldington's works?
4. What was the title of the first novel written by Archibald Joseph Cronin and what do you know about it?
5. What do you know about the literary trend the followers of which were called "The Angry Young Men"?
6. What kind of novel is "Key to the Door"?
7. In what genres did Graham Greene create his works?
8. What problems are James Aldridge's works devoted to?



Tasks on Literature

Case-studies on English Literature

Case study 1

King Hrothgar of the Spear-Danes was as mighty a king as his great-grandfather Scylding.

*Lo! The Spear-Danes' glory through splendid achievements,
The folk-kings' former fame we have heard of:
How princes displayed their prowess in battle*

.....
*Till all their neighbours over sea were compelled to
Bow to his bidding and bring him their tribute.*

Hrothgar had now many treasures. He wished to share them with his liegemen, so he built a palace near the sea where he feasted with the young and old, and also rested between wars. They gave it the name Heorot (Stag-hall) for it was decorated with antlers of stags (deer). They also called it Mead-hall ("mead" was a drink composed of honey that made people very boisterous). Meanwhile in the moor close by, there lived a half-human monster, Grendel. The immense country around he thought to be his own. He wanted to subdue the Danes and was madly jealous of the festive noise.

*Bore it bitterly he who bided in darkness
That lighthearted laughter loud in the building
Greeted him daily.*

One night when the heroes had fallen asleep after supper, the monster Grendel carried off thirty men and devoured them. Night after night warriors disappeared. They had to give up enjoyments. The beautiful palace stood empty and useless. This misery went on for twelve years.

*Twelve-winters' time torture suffered
The friends of the Scyldings,
Soul-crushing sorrow. Not seldom in private
Sat the King in his council; conference held they.*

The news of the horrible deeds of the monster spread to other countries and reached Beowulf. He was liegeman to Higelac, his uncle, king of the Geats.

..... *So Higelac's liegeman,
Good among Geatmen, of Grendel's achievements
Heard in his home: of heroes then living
He was stoutest and strongest, sturdy and noble.*

Beowulf then chose fourteen companions and made up his mind to rid the Danes of the sea-monster. They sailed across the strait. Their well-equipped bark flew lightly over the waves. Here it is called "floater".

*The foamy-necked floater fanned by the breeze
Likest a bird glided the waters
Till twenty and four hours thereafter
The twist-stemmed vessel had travelled such distance,
That the sailing-men saw the sloping embankments,
The sea-cliffs gleaming, precipitous mountains.*

They were met by the coast-guard and taken to Heorot. The Danish guard was amazed at their valour and said:

*“..... nowise as outlaws,
But from greatness of soul ye sought for King Hrothgar.”*

They were introduced to Hrothgar. Beowulf was reported to have the strength of thirty men.

*.....that he thirty men’s grapple
Has in his hand, the hero-in-battle.*

Beowulf learnt that Grendel used no weapons. So Beowulf wanted to fight a fair fight and meet the monster alone and unarmed.

*“..... alone now with Grendel
I shall manage the matter, with the monster of evil,
That I may unaided, my earlmen assisting me, purify Heorot.
..... Only with hand-grip
The foe I must grapple, fight for my life then
As foeman with foeman.”*

At nightfall all went to sleep save one. It was Beowulf who remained on watch holding his breath. Suddenly Grendel broke into the hall. He seized and devoured one of the sleeping warriors, then he approached Beowulf. A desperate hand-to-hand struggle began. The very building rattled. The monster thought he had never met with such strength.

*B’neath the whole of the heavens, no hand-grapple greater
In any man else had he ever encountered;...*

Beowulf managed to tear off the monster’s arm and the beast crawled away to die. In the morning Beowulf hung the arm and shoulder in the hall and the Danes all wondered how he could have done it. The hand was so large it filled almost all the room.

*When the hero-in-battle the hand suspended,
The arm and the shoulder, there was all of the claw
Of Grendel together, b’neath great-stretching hall-roof.
Folk-princes fared then from far and from near
Through long-stretching journeys to look at the wonder.*

Relieved of fear and care they all rejoiced. A banquet was given in honor of Beowulf. Hrothgar shared out jewels and gold in plenty. He gave Beowulf armour of precious metals. The queen honoured him with a famous necklace. Pretty maidens attended the warriors. The bards made up a song of Beowulf’s prowess. The rejoicing was mutual, no one was jealous of Beowulf’s victory.

In the small hours of the night the banquet ended. They all went to sleep. Beowulf went to rest in another part of the palace. Grendel’s mother, however, came to avenge her son’s death. She was wild with woe and anger.

*..... the mother of Grendel,
Devil-shaped woman, her woe ever minded,
.....
A mighty crime-worker, her kinsman avenging.*

She killed one of Hrothgar's true-hearted counselors. The old king was broken-hearted; why could he not be spared this last blow? But Beowulf stood by him and comforted him.

*“Beowulf answered: “Grieve not, oh wise one!
For each it is better his friend to avenge
Than to cry, Oh King, quick let us hasten
To look at the footprint of the mother of Grendel.
I promise thee this now: to her place she'll escape not.”*

Then they all followed the trail through the woods. Stiff cliffs blocked their way. The green waters were just beyond. Upon the cliffs they sat gazing at the current.
In bloody billows bubbled the currents; ...

It was a cut to the heart to see the head of their late comrade on the waves. Beowulf then went down to look for the she-monster. After travelling for many hours through the depths, he met the monster at the sea-bottom. She dragged him down to her den. There he saw Grendel lying dead. It was difficult for Beowulf to wield his weapon under water. The she-monster was as strong as her son Grendel had been and she attacked Beowulf fiercely.

*He shrank not from battle, seized by the shoulder
The mother of Grendel; then mighty in struggle
Swung he his enemy, since his anger was kindled,
That she fell to the floor.*

But she suddenly sprang up and sat upon him. He might have come to a sad end, but just in time, he saw a magic sword on the wall. He slew her and swam to the surface in triumph, taking with him Grendel's head. The grateful Danes looked up to the hero as to a double-conqueror. Heorot was freed once and for ever. There was no end to the merry-making.

At last the day came for Beowulf to sail home. Everybody grieved at his departure. When Beowulf and his companions arrived in Jutland, he gave all the treasures he had brought to Higelac. His people were as fond of Beowulf as ever.

After the death of Higelac, Beowulf became king of the Jutes, and for fifty years he ruled wisely and well. His was a prosperous country. But someone came every night to destroy the villages and the crops in his realm (kingdom). It was a fire-spewing dragon who had occupied a cave where warriors in long-forgotten times had put away their treasures. A passing traveller carried away a jeweled cup. The burning of the crops was the fire-dragon's revenge. Remembering his glorious youth Beowulf determined to fight the beast, but of all his earls only Wiglaf, a brave warrior, had the courage to stand by him.

In a fierce battle the dragon was killed, but its flames had done their worst and Beowulf died. With his last breath he asked Wiglaf, the ideal liegeman, to be king, for Beowulf had no son.

Before burning the body of his liege-lord, Wiglaf put the blame for his death upon the earls, the cowards. Here they are called “the tardy-at-battle” (“tardy” means “late”, thus: “the late-for-the battle”).

*The tardy-at-battle turned from the thicket,
And Wiglaf says:*

“..... *Too few of protectors*
Came round the King at the critical moment;
..... *Death is more pleasant*
To every earlman than infamous life is.”

The memory of Beowulf is honoured by a memorial, a high mound visible from a great distance so that passing sailors may be constantly reminded of his prowess.

Tasks

I. Show the lines which describe the strength and braveness of Beowulf. And compare these descriptions with modern fictional characters' features.

II. What are the symbolic features of Beowulf's death in the epic?

III. I. Find these metaphors in the extracts of the poem given above and explain them.

- 1) Lighthearted laughter
- 2) Twelve-winters' time
- 3) Soul-crushing sorrow
- 4) Foamy-necked floater
- 5) Twist-stemmed vessel
- 6) Hero-in-battle
- 7) Hand-grapple
- 8) Hand-grip
- 9) Great-stretching hall-roof
- 10) Folk-princes
- 11) Long-stretching journeys
- 12) Devil-shaped woman
- 13) Crime-worker
- 14) Tardy-at-battle
- 15) Infamous life

Questions:

1. What can you tell about Britons and their language?
2. When was Britain conquered by Rome and what was its result?
3. Why did Angles, Saxons and Jutes fight with one another?
4. What can you tell about “scribes”?
5. Why is the Anglo-Saxon poem “Beowulf” called the foundation-stone of all British poetry?
6. Name the main heroes of the poem “Beowulf”.
7. Characterize Beowulf.
8. Why did Wiglaf put the blame for Beowulf's death on cowardly earls? What is the merit of the poem?
9. Does the poem “Beowulf” remind you of any Russian or Uzbek epic poems?

Case- study 2

Chaucer's "The Legend of Cleopatra" in adapted version

After the death of the king Ptolemy, who had all Egypt under his rule, Cleopatra his queen reigned; until a certain time when a certain situation arose that out of Rome there was sent a senator to win kingdoms and honors for the town of Rome, as was their custom, and to have the world under their obedience; and in truth his name was Antony. As Fortune owed him a disgrace after he had met with prosperity, it so happened that he became a rebel to the town of Rome; and moreover he falsely deserted the sister of Caesar, before she was aware, and at any cost wished to have another wife. For these reasons he fell at odds with Caesar and with Rome. Nevertheless this same senator was a worthy, noble warrior, in truth, and his death was a great pity.

But Love had brought this man into such a madness and so tightly bound him in his snare, all for love of Cleopatra, that he set all the world at no value. Nothing seemed to him so necessary as to love and serve Cleopatra. He cared not to die in arms in defense of her and of her right. And this noble queen in like fashion loved this knight, for his merit and his knighthood; and certainly, unless the books lie, he was in his person, nobility, discretion, and hardiness as worthy as any person alive. And she was as fair as the rose in May. And, as it is best to write briefly, she became his wife and had him as she desired.

To describe the wedding and the festival would take too long for me, who have undertaken such an enterprise as to put in verses so many stories, lest I should neglect things of greater weight and importance. For men may overload a ship or a barge. Therefore I will skip lightly to the conclusion, and let the remains slip. Octavian, maddened by this deed, raised a host of stout Romans, cruel as lions, to lead against Antony for his utter destruction. They went to their ship, and I leave them sailing thus. Antony was wary and would not avoid encountering these Romans if he could; he laid his plans, and on a day both he and his wife and his entire host went forth without delay to their ship; they delayed no longer. Out at sea it happened that the foes met; the trumpet sounds on high, they shout and shoot and with the sun at their back make a fierce onset. With a grisly sound out flies the huge shot, and furiously they hurtle together, and from the fore-tops down come the great stones. Among the ropes go shearing-hooks and grapnels full of claws. This man and that presses on with poleaxes; one flees behind the mast, and out again, and drives the other over board. One pierces another upon his spear-point; one cuts the sail with hooks like scythes; another brings the wine-cup and bids them be glad; one pours peas upon the hatches to make them slippery; they rush together with pots full of quicklime. And thus they pass the long day in battle, until at last (as every: thing has an end) Antony is defeated and put to flight, and all his people scatter as best they can. The queen with all her purple sails fled likewise from the blows that went thick as hail-stones; no wonder she could not endure it. And when Antony saw that chance he said, "Alas the day that I was born! So on this day I have lost all my honor!"; and in despair he started out of his wits, and

stabbed himself to the heart at once, before he went further from the place. His wife, who could get no mercy from Caesar, fled to Egypt in dread and anguish. But listen, all you who speak of devotion, you men who falsely swear by many oaths that you will die if your beloved should be so much as angered, behold what womanly faithfulness you may here see.

This woeful Cleopatra made such lament that no tongue can describe it; but in the morning she would delay no longer and commanded her skillful workmen to make a shrine out of all the rubies and fine gems that she could uncover in all Egypt, and she filled the shrine with spices, had the body embalmed, and called for this dead corpse and enclosed it in the shrine. And next to the shrine she had a pit dug, and put in it all the serpents she could find, and thus she spoke: "Now, beloved, whom my sorrowful heart so far obeyed that, from that blissful hour when I swore to be entirely and freely yours--I mean you, Antony, my knight--you were never out of my heart's remembrance as long as I was awake, day or night, in happiness or woe, in the carol or the dance.

And then I made this covenant with myself, that, whatever it was you felt, happiness or woe, the same would I feel, life or death, if it lay in my power for the honor of my wifehood. And I will fulfill that covenant while breath remains in me; and men shall see well that never was a queen truer to her love." And at that word with a resolute heart she leapt naked into the pit among the serpents, and there she chose to be buried. Immediately the serpents began to sting her, and she received her death cheerfully, for the love of Antony who was so dear to her. And this is truth of history; it is no fable. Now, until I find a man this faithful and steadfast, who will so willingly die for love, I pray to God, may our heads never ache! Amen.

Questions

1. The first few tales — dedicated to Cleopatra, Thisbe, and Dido — depict loyal, loving, “good” women as those willing to commit the ultimate sacrifice to prove their love: suicide. Is this the most positive way Chaucer could have portrayed good women?
2. Chaucer writes in the very beginning of the prologue to *The Legend of Good Women* that a man should not think that something is not true simply because he has not seen it. But at the same time, he also says that a man should not believe more than he has seen with his own eyes. What is your perception on Chaucer’s opinion? Is it right a man should believe something that he has not seen it?
3. Can woman be a better leader than man? What do you think about it?
4. Can woman be much slier than man?
5. What do you think is it right that a woman is the head of the family? Why?

Case-study 3

This case study describes how students go about preparing an edition of a Renaissance play entirely from scratch for a core module in English Studies

(Renaissance Literature). In the process, they learn about principles of editing, associated theoretical and practical problems, and the protocols and pitfalls of preparing a text.

Background / Context

Only a tiny fraction of the extant corpus of Renaissance plays is widely available in reliable and user-friendly editions. However, almost all can now be read through Literature Online or Early English Books Online or, in most cases, both. Many of the plays which are not widely known may indeed be of poor artistic quality or suffer from textual difficulties or continuity glitches (sometimes arising from multiple authorship): in Peele's *Edward I*, for instance, a character who has previously been beheaded is referred to as plotting a further rebellion, while in Field, Fletcher and Massinger's *Knight of Malta*, one character is referred to, without explanation, by two entirely different names. In Richard Brome's *The Queen's Exchange*, which a student has edited for this module, two characters who are separately named, Alberto and the hermit, appear to be the same character - the hermit and his servant carry the banished and wounded Segebert off in Act II Scene iii (in Northumbria) only for Segebert to reappear in the West Saxon court in Act V Scene ii, accompanied by the original banished lord, Alberto. There is no intervening scene that explains the connection between the hermit and Alberto, but the implication is clear, which provided something of a headache for the student who edited it.

Nevertheless, the nitty-gritty, hands-on engagement with these texts which producing an edition of them demands is something which students, in my experience, find both enormously informative and, in most cases, enormously enjoyable.

Even though we do not collate manuscript variants or press-variants for this exercise and confine ourselves to plays which exist in only one text, the preparation of an edition demands an extraordinary number of skills. At the most basic level, the module requirement that editions should be modern-spelling makes it imperative to be able to spell, punctuate, and parse an English sentence correctly. The typically frequent references to classical deities and other mythological motifs all require to be glossed, which generally constitutes a useful refresher course in itself. Students need to remind themselves of (or grasp for the first time) the fundamental principles of iambic pentameter, so that they can spot if (as so often) any lines of verse have been mislineated during the printing process. They soon learn that errors can, and usually will, creep in anywhere, and that they matter. Many of the students have chosen Roman plays – that is, seventeenth- or late sixteenth-century plays dealing with subjects from Roman history – and have been on a very steep learning curve about the Caesars, Latin phrases, Roman customs, and the cultural meanings of classical texts in the Renaissance. It has been hard work, but they have been glad to do it, and have all benefited enormously. Finally, having wrestled with all this, they are required to supply a 4000 word introduction setting the text in its historical and critical context.

Activities / Practice

The initial allocation of texts takes place well in advance, at the point when students choose the module. I ask students whether they would prefer comedy, tragedy, or history, whether would like a play with a local setting or one based on a true story, and so on, and together we arrive at something which stands a reasonable chance of being interesting to them. The module runs for one semester, and is supported by weekly seminars of two hours each. After an initial introductory meeting, the first week is devoted to a session called ‘Lineation: establishing a text – verse or prose?’. The second looks at the structure of a critical edition, with case studies of the contents pages of the Arden and Oxford editions of *The Tempest*, on which I invite students to do a compare-and-contrast exercise. A later week covers the ‘band of terror’, the textual notes often to be found at the foot of the page in a scholarly edition. We usually focus specifically on a passage from the Arden 2 *Hamlet*, where, underneath the page on which the Player King breaks off his speech in tears, there appears the following set of notes: 515. *whē’erCapell* (whe’r); *where Q2, F.* 516. *Prithee] Q2; Pray you F.* 517. *of this] Q2; not in F.* 519. *you] Q2; ye F.* 520. *abstract] Q2; Abstracts F, QI.* 522. *live] Q2, QI;liuedF.* 524. *bodkin] Q2;bodykins F. much] Q2; not in F; farreQI.* 525. *shall] Q2; should F, QI.* 531. *To First Player] As they follow Polonius, Hamlet detains and steps aside with I Player. White.*

CASE-STUDY 4

Extract from Shakespeare’s “The Taming of the shrew” in adapted version

There was also another newly married pair at the ceremony. Lucentio, Bianca's husband, and Hortensio, the other newly married man, could not stop themselves from making fun of Petruchio's shrewish wife. These men seemed very pleased with the gentle natures of the ladies they had chosen, and laughed at Petruchio for his less fortunate choice. Petruchio took little notice of their amusement until the ladies had left the room after dinner, and then he saw that Baptista himself had joined in the laughter against him.

When Petruchio declared that his wife would prove more obedient than theirs, Katharine's father said, 'Now, in all sadness, son Petruchio, I fear you have got the worst shrew of all.' 'Well,' said Petruchio, 'I say I have not. So, to prove that I speak the truth, let us each one send for his wife, and he whose wife is most obedient and comes most quickly when she is sent for, shall win a bet which we will agree on.' The other two husbands were quite ready to do this, for they were sure that their gentle wives would prove more obedient than the difficult Katharine. They suggested a bet of twenty crowns, but Petruchio said that he would bet as much as that on one of his dogs, and twenty times as much on his wife.

Lucentio and Hortensio raised the bet to a hundred crowns, and Lucentio sent his servant to ask Bianca to come to him. Soon the servant returned, and said, 'Sir, my lady sends you word that she is busy and cannot come.' 'What!' said Petruchio.

'Does she say that she is busy and cannot come? Is that an answer for a wife?' Then they laughed at him and said he would be lucky if Katharine did not send a worse answer. Now it was Hortensio's turn to send for his wife, and he said to his servant, 'Go, and beg my wife to come to me.' 'Oh, beg her!' said Petruchio. 'Then she must come.' 'I am afraid, sir,' said Hortensio, 'your wife will not even come if you beg her to do so.' But soon this loving husband looked a little unhappy, when the servant returned without his wife. 'Sir,' said the servant, 'my lady says that you are only having fun, and so she will not come. You can go to her instead.' 'Worse and worse!' said Petruchio. Then he sent his servant, saying, 'Go to my wife and tell her that I command her to come.' The company had hardly had time to think that she would not obey this order, when Baptista said in surprise, 'By heavens, here comes Katharine!' She entered, saying quietly to Petruchio, 'What is your wish, sir? Why have you sent for me?' 'Where are your sister and Hortensio's wife?' he asked. 'They are talking by the sitting-room fire,' Katharine replied. 'Go, bring them here!' said Petruchio. Katharine went away without answering to perform her husband's command. 'This is a most surprising thing,' said Lucentio. 'And so it is,' said Hortensio, 'I cannot imagine what it means.' 'It means peace,' said Petruchio, 'and love, and a quiet life, and that I am the master. And, in short, everything that is sweet and happy.' Katharine's father was filled with joy to see the change in his daughter, and said, 'Now, may fortune go with you, son Petruchio!

You have won the bet, and I will add another twenty thousand crowns to what I gave her before, as if she were another daughter, because she is so changed that I hardly know her.' 'No,' said Petruchio, 'I will win the bet even more surely, and show more signs of her new goodness and obedience.' Katharine now entered with the two ladies, and he continued, 'See how she brings the wives who disobey you as prisoners to her womanly persuasion. Katharine, that cap of yours does not suit you. Take it off, and throw it on the floor.' Katharine immediately took off her cap and threw it down. 'Lord!' said Hortensio's wife. 'I hope I may never be made to do anything so silly!' And Bianca said, 'What foolish duty do you call this?' At this, Bianca's husband said to her, 'I wish your duty were as foolish too! The wisdom of your duty, fair Bianca, has cost me a hundred crowns since dinnertime.' 'Then you are foolish, too,' said Bianca, 'for betting on my duty.' Katharine, said Petruchio, 'tell these women what duty they owe their lords and husbands.

Then, to the surprise of all those present, Katharine spoke of the importance of obeying your husband. And Katharine once more became famous in Padua — not as before, as Katharine the Shrew, but as Katharine, the most obedient wife in Padua.

QUESTIONS:

1. What was the main idea of this comedy?
2. What was the Petruchio's condition in this context?
3. How they define the winner of this condition?
4. Why did Lucentio and Hortensio laugh at Petruchio?
5. What was the first word of Katharine when she came to Petruchio?

Case-study 5

Extract from “Romeo and Juliet”

Juliet. Shall I speak ill of him that is my husband.
Ah! poor my lord, what tongue shall smooth thy name,
When I, thy three hours wife, have mangled it?
But, wherefore, villain, didst thou kill my cousin?
That villain cousin would have kill'd my husband:
Back, foolish tears, back to your native spring;
Your tributary drops belong to woe,
Which you, mistaking, offer up to joy.
My husband lives, that Tybalt would have slain;
And Tybalt's dead that would have slain my husband:
All this comfort; wherefore weep I then?
Some word there was, worsers than Tybalt's death,
That murder'd me: I would forget it fain;
But O! it presses to my memory,
Like damned guilty deeds to sinners' minds.
Tybalt is dead, and Romeo banished!
That banished, that one word banished,
Hath slain ten thousand Tybalts. Tybalt's death
Was woe enough, if it had ended there:
Or, if sour woe delights in fellowship,
And needly will be rank'd with other griefs,
Why follow'd not, when she said Tybalt's dead,
Thy father, or thy mother, nay, or both,
Which modern lamentation might have mov'd?
But with a rearward following Tybalt's death,
Romeo is banished! to speak that word
Is father, mother, Tybalt, Romeo, Juliet,
All slain, all dead: Romeo is banished!

Questions:

1. Why does Juliet consider herself as a three-hour-wife of Romeo?
2. Why is Romeo banished?
3. Why does Juliet blame herself for murdering his cousin by Romeo?
4. What does Juliet compare the banishment of Romeo with?
5. Why does she order her lifeless eyes not to tear?

Case study 6

Extract from “Gulliver’s Travels” by Jonathan Swift in an adapted version

I was received very kind by the warden, and went for many days to the academy. Every room has in it one or more projectors; and I believe I could not be in fewer than five hundred rooms.

The first man I saw on a meager aspect, with sooty hands and face, his hair and bread long, ragged, and signed in in several places. His clothes, shirt and skin, were all of the same colour. He has been eight years upon a project for extracting sunbeams out of cucumbers, which were to be put in phials hermetically sealed, and let out to warm the air in raw inclement summers. He told me, he did not doubt that, in eight years more, he should be able to supply the governor’s garden with sunshine, at a reasonable rate: but he complained that his stock was low, and entreated me “to give him something as an encouragement to ingenuity, especially since this had been a very dear season for cucumber”. I made him a small present, for my lord had furnished me with money on purpose, because he knew their practice of begging from all who go to see them.

I went into another chamber, but was ready to hasten back, being almost overcome with a horrible stink. My conductor pressed me forward, conjuring me in a whisper “to give no offence, which would be highly resented;” and therefore I durst not so much as stop my nose. The projector of this cell was the most ancient student of the academy; his face and bread were of a pale yellow; his hands and clothes daubed over with filth. When I was presented to him, he gave me a close embrace, a compliment I could well have excused. His employment, from his first coming into the academy, as an operation to reduce human excrement to its original food, by separating the several parts, removing the tincture which it receives from the gall, making the ordure exhale, and scumming off the saliva. He had a weekly allowance, from the society, of a vessel filled with human ordure, about the bigness of a Bristol barrel.

I saw another at work to calcine ice into gunpowder; who likewise showed me treatise he had written concerning the malleability of fire, which he intended to publish.

There was a most ingenious architect, who had contrived a new method for building houses, by beginning at the roof, and working downward to the foundation; which he justified to me, by the like practice of those two prudent insects, the bee and the spider.

There was a man born blind, who had several apprentices in his own condition: their employment was to mix colour for painters, which their taught them distinguish by feeling and smelling. It was indeed my misfortune to find them at that time not very perfect in their lesson, and the professor himself happened to be generally mistaken. This artist is much encouraged and esteemed by the whole fraternity.

In the another apartment I was highly pleased with a projector who had found a device of ploughing the ground with hogs, to save the charges of ploughs, cattle and labour. The method is this: in an acre of ground you bury, at six inches distance and eight deep, a quantity of acorns, dates, chestnuts, and other mast or vegetables, where of these animals are fondest; then you drive six hundred or more of them into the field, where, in a few days, they will root up the whole ground in search of their food, and make it fit for sowing, at the same time manuring it with their dung: it is true, upon experiment, they found the charge and trouble very great, and they had little or no crop. However it is not doubted, that this invention may be capable of great improvement.

Questions

1. Can you imagine yourself instead of Gulliver?
2. What do you think can we begin to build our house from the roof?
3. What do you think is it good to spend 8 years on one invention?
4. Can you imagine a man who was born as a blind?
5. What do you think these scientists, which Gulliver met at the academy, they give some benefits to people or they make something easier people`s life?
1. These scientists spent their life for invent something. But their inventions do not help people. They spent their life unnecessary things. It is very awful. Their invention do not give some benefits to people and they do not make something easier people`s

Case Study 7

My Heart's in the Highlands (by Robert Burns)

My heart's in the Highlands, my heart is not here,
My heart's in the Highlands, a-chasing the deer,
A-chasing the wild deer, and following the roe-
My heart's in the Highlands whenever I go!

Farewell to the Highlands, farewell to the North,
The birth place of valour, the country of worth!
Whenever I wander, whenever I rove,
The hills in the Highlands forever I love.

Farewell to the mountains high cover'd with snow,
Farewell to the straths and green valleys bellow,
Farewell to the forests and wild – hanging woods,
Farewell to the torrents and loud-pouring floods!

My heart's in the Highlands, my heart is not here,
My heart's in the Highlands, a-chasing the deer,
A-chasing the wild deer, and following the roe

My heart's in the Highlands whenever I go!

This poem is written by Robert Burns. He is a great lover of nature.

He looks on back and remember the time there he had enjoying with the nature. Probably he is in the city. He misses how he used to chase a deer and followed the roe. He also says that where ever he goes, any part or any corner of the world but his heart will always be in the highlands and he will love always.

He narrates that mountains are always covered with snow and with green valleys below. He is so fed up with the city and the noise and the rush that he yens for the forest so much that he doesn't mind a calamity such as a flood.

Every second he has this words on his tongue that "My Heart's in the Highlands, whenever I go".

Burns choice of words is important. The alliteration of 'H' in the chorus emphasizes this persons Heart belonging to his homeland. There is also an alliteration of "s" in My heart'(s) in the highland(s) my heart i(s) not here. Also a-cha(s)ing .This"(s)" is almost like a sigh and the chasing suggests the chasing at dream which cannot be fulfilled. The first verse uses vowel "v" in valour, rove and love to emphasise each of these words.

In the second verse note that this person is remembering his homeland and the order of the lines is important.

Firstly the soft snow. Secondly the fertility of the valleys. Thirdly the wild hanging woods are mentioned and then we move on to the torrents and the loud-pouring floods. This is symbolic of this persons heart and mind when thinking of his homeland.

We start with soft images and move through the stages to his mind being tormented with torrents ond floods almost as if this person is deeply moved to crying over the fact that he will never return. We don't know this person has left his beloved Highlands but it does not seem to be through choice. Does valour and worth lead you to think that he could be abroad on regimented and military duty. Farewell is a "forever" word. This person will never return Hence the anguish in his soul.

It is often pointed out that the rhymns are either weak or are "eye" rhymes. North and worth, Rove and love, woods and floods. However in dialect and especially when sung these are not noticeable. It is of interest that Burns used the rhymes woods and floods in Tam o' Shanter, Before him Doon pours all his floods. The doubling storm roars thro' the woods. If it is acceptable in Tam (which it is) then like wise it must be acceptable in this poem.

This is a beautiful poem and every one can understand that how we all love nature.

This is all God created.

Questions

1. When was "My heart's in the Highlands created?"
2. What is the main idea of the poem "My heart's in the Highlands" ?
3. What do you think, which poet's work in Uzbek literature look like the poem that "My heart's in the Highlands" by Robert Burns?
4. Which poem did Robert Burns use again the rhym of "woods" and "floods"?

5. Which vowel did Robert Burns use in the first verse of “My heart’s in the Highlands”?

Case- study 8

Extract from “Ivanhoe” by Walter Scott

*At length, as the Saracenic music of the challengers concluded one of those long and high flourishes with which they had broken the silence of the lists, it was answered by a solitary trumpet, which breathed a note of defiance from the northern extremity. All eyes were turned to see the new champion which these sounds announced, and no sooner were the barriers opened than he paced into the lists. As far as could be judged of a man sheathed in armour, the new adventurer did not greatly exceed the middle size, and seemed to be rather slender than strongly made. His suit of armour was formed of steel, richly inlaid with gold, and the device on his shield was a young oak-tree pulled up by the roots, with the Spanish word *Desdichado*, signifying *Disinherited*. He was mounted on a gallant black horse, and as he passed through the lists he gracefully saluted the Prince and the ladies by lowering his lance. The dexterity with which he managed his steed, and something of youthful grace which he displayed in his manner, won him the favour of the multitude, which some of the lower classes expressed by calling out, “Youch Ralph de Vipont’s shield ---touch the Hospitallers shield: he has the least sure seat, he is your cheapest bargain”.*

The champion, moving onward amid these well-meant hints, accended the platform by the sloping alley which led to it from the lists, and, to the astonishment of all present, riding straight up to the central pavilion, struck with the sharp end of his spear the shield of Brian de Bois-Guilbert until it rung again. All stood astonished at his presumption, but none more than the redoubted Knight whom he had thus defied to mortal combat, and, who, little expecting so rude a challenge, was standing carelessly at the door of the pavilion.

“Have you confessed yourself, brother”, said the Tamplar, “and have you heard mass this morning, that you peril your life so frankly?”

“I am fitter to meet death than thou art” answered the Disinherited Knight; for by this name the stranger had recorded himself in the books of the tourney.

“Then take your place in the lists”, said Bois-Guilbert, “and look your last upon the sun; for this night thou shalt sleep in paradise”.

“Gramercy for thy courtesy”, replied the Disinherited Knight, “and to requite it, I advice thee to take a fresh horse and a new lance, for by my honour you will need both”.

Questions:

- 1. When Ivenhoe entered to the tourney, he mounted on a black gallant horse. What did the black horse mean?*
- 2. Which of the side of the knight with black horse attracted the spectators’s attention and why?*

3. *The competitors had the rule that before entering to the tournament they should salute the prince and beautiful ladies. Why did they need to salute beautiful ladies too?*
4. *When Ivenhoe came to compete, the device on his shield was Spanish word "Desdichado". Why it was written like this?*
5. *"I am fitter to meet death than thou art". Utilising this sentence what did the Disenherited Knight want to indicate?*

Case- study 9

Extract from "Vanity Fair" By W. M. Thackeray

The Colonel, of course, did not desire to see that lady, or even think proper to notify his arrival at Brussels, except privately to Jos by a message through his valet. Jos begged the Colonel to come and see him that night, when Mrs. Crawley would be at a soiree, and when they could meet alone. He found his brother-in-law in a condition of pitiable infirmity — and dreadfully afraid of Rebecca, though eager in his praises of her. She tended him through a series of unheard-of illnesses with a fidelity most admirable. She had been a daughter to him. "But — but — oh, for God's sake, do come and live near me, and — and — see me sometimes," whimpered out the unfortunate man.

The Colonel's brow darkened at this. "We can't, Jos," he said. "Considering the circumstances, Amelia can't visit you."

"I swear to you — I swear to you on the Bible," gasped out Joseph, wanting to kiss the book, "that she is as innocent as a child, as spotless as your own wife."

"It may be so," said the Colonel gloomily, "but Emmy can't come to you. Be a man, Jos: break off this disreputable connection. Come home to your family. We hear your affairs are involved."

"Involved!" cried Jos. "Who has told such calumnies? All my money is placed out most advantageously. Mrs. Crawley — that is — I mean — it is laid out to the best interest."

"You are not in debt, then? Why did you insure your life?"

"I thought — a little present to her — in case anything happened; and you know my health is so delicate — common gratitude you know — and I intend to leave all my money to you — and I can spare it out of my income, indeed I can," cried out William's weak brother-in-law.

The Colonel besought Jos to fly at once — to go back to India, whither Mrs. Crawley could not follow him; to do anything to break off a connection which might have the most fatal consequences to him.

Jos clasped his hands and cried, "He would go back to India. He would do anything, only he must have time: they mustn't say anything to Mrs. Crawley — she'd — she'd kill me if she knew it. You don't know what a terrible woman she is," the poor wretch said.

"Then, why not come away with me?" said Dobbin in reply; but Jos had not the courage. "He would see Dobbin again in the morning; he must on no account say

that he had been there. He must go now. Becky might come in." And Dobbin quitted him, full of forebodings.

He never saw Jos more. Three months afterwards Joseph Sedley died at Aix-la-Chapelle. It was found that all his property had been muddled away in speculations, and was represented by valueless shares in different bubble companies. All his available assets were the two thousand pounds for which his life was insured, and which were left equally between his beloved "sister Amelia, wife of, &c., and his friend and invaluable attendant during sickness, Rebecca, wife of Lieutenant-Colonel Rawdon Crawley, C.B.," who was appointed administratrix.

The solicitor of the insurance company swore it was the blackest case that ever had come before him, talked of sending a commission to Aix to examine into the death, and the Company refused payment of the policy. But Mrs., or Lady Crawley, as she styled herself, came to town at once (attended with her solicitors, Messrs. Burke, Thurtell, and Hayes, of Thavies Inn) and dared the Company to refuse the payment. They invited examination, they declared that she was the object of an infamous conspiracy, which had been pursuing her all through life, and triumphed finally. The money was paid, and her character established, but Colonel Dobbin sent back his share of the legacy to the insurance office and rigidly declined to hold any communication with Rebecca.

She never was Lady Crawley, though she continued so to call herself. His Excellency Colonel Rawdon Crawley died of yellow fever at Coventry Island, most deeply beloved and deplored, and six weeks before the demise of his brother, Sir Pitt. The estate consequently devolved upon the present Sir Rawdon Crawley, Bart.

He, too, has declined to see his mother, to whom he makes a liberal allowance, and who, besides, appears to be very wealthy. The Baronet lives entirely at Queen's Crawley, with Lady Jane and her daughter, whilst Rebecca, Lady Crawley, chiefly hangs about Bath and Cheltenham, where a very strong party of excellent people consider her to be a most injured woman. She has her enemies. Who has not? Her life is her answer to them. She busies herself in works of piety. She goes to church, and never without a footman. Her name is in all the Charity Lists. The destitute orange-girl, the neglected washerwoman, the distressed muffin-man find in her a fast and generous friend. She is always having stalls at Fancy Fairs for the benefit of these hapless beings. Emmy, her children, and the Colonel, coming to London some time back, found themselves suddenly before her at one of these fairs. She cast down her eyes demurely and smiled as they started away from her; Emmy scurrying off on the arm of George (now grown a dashing young gentleman) and the Colonel seizing up his little Janey, of whom he is fonder than of anything in the world — fonder even than of his History of the Punjaub.

"Fonder than he is of me," Emmy thinks with a sigh But he never said a word to Amelia that was not kind and gentle, or thought of a want of hers that he did not try to gratify.

Ah! Vanitas Vanitatum! which of us is happy in this world? Which of us has his desire? or, having it, is satisfied? — come, children, let us shut up the box and the puppets, for our play is played out.

Questions

1. Why is Joseph at such a vulnerable position at the end of the novel?
2. Why is Joseph so afraid of Mrs Crawley?
3. What happened to Joseph's wealth after his demise?
4. Why do high social people consider Rebecca to be a most injured woman after Joseph's death?
5. If you had had a chance to end the novel, how would have finished it?

Case-study 10

GEORGE ELIOTY

DANIEL DERONDA.

BOOK I. THE SPOILED CHILD.

CHAPTER I.

Men can do nothing without the make-believe of a beginning. Even science, the strict measurer, is obliged to start with a make-believe unit, and must fix on a point in the stars' unceasing journey when his sidereal clock shall pretend that time is at Nought. His less accurate grandmother Poetry has always been understood to start in the middle; but on reflection it appears that her proceeding is not very different from his; since Science, too, reckons backward as well as forward, divides his unit into billions, and with his clock-finger at Nought really sets off in medias res. No retrospect will take us to the true beginning; and whether our prologue be in heaven or on earth, it is but a fraction of that all-presupposing fact with which our story sets out.

Was she beautiful or not beautiful? and what was the secret of form or expression which gave the dynamic quality to her glance? Was the good or the evil genius dominant in those beams? Probably the evil; else why was the effect that of unrest rather than of undisturbed charm? Why was the wish to look again felt as coercion and not as a longing in which the whole being consents?

She who raised these questions in Daniel Deronda's mind was occupied in gambling: not in the open air under a southern sky, tossing coppers on a ruined wall, with rags about her limbs; but in one of those splendid resorts which the enlightenment of ages has prepared for the same species of pleasure at a heavy cost of gilt mouldings, dark-toned color and chubby nudities, all correspondingly heavy—forming a suitable condenser for human breath belonging, in great part, to the highest fashion, and not easily procurable to be breathed in elsewhere in the like proportion, at least by persons of little fashion.

It was near four o'clock on a September day, so that the atmosphere was well-brewed to a visible haze. There was deep stillness, broken only by a light rattle, a

light chink, a small sweeping sound, and an occasional monotone in French, such as might be expected to issue from an ingeniously constructed automaton. Round two long tables were gathered two serried crowds of human beings, all save one having their faces and attention bent on the tables. The one exception was a melancholy little boy, with his knees and calves simply in their natural clothing of epidermis, but for the rest of his person in a fancy dress. He alone had his face turned toward the doorway, and fixing on it the blank gaze of a bedizened child stationed as a masquerading advertisement on the platform of an itinerant show, stood close behind a lady deeply engaged at the roulette-table.

About this table fifty or sixty persons were assembled, many in the outer rows, where there was occasionally a deposit of new-comers, being mere spectators, only that one of them, usually a woman, might now and then be observed putting down a five-franc with a simpering air, just to see what the passion of gambling really was. Those who were taking their pleasure at a higher strength, and were absorbed in play, showed very distant varieties of European type: Livonian and Spanish, Graeco-Italian and miscellaneous German, English aristocratic and English plebeian. Here certainly was a striking admission of human equality. The white bejewelled fingers of an English countess were very near touching a bony, yellow, crab-like hand stretching a bared wrist to clutch a heap of coin—a hand easy to sort with the square, gaunt face, deep-set eyes, grizzled eyebrows, and ill-combed scanty hair which seemed a slight metamorphosis of the vulture. And where else would her ladyship have graciously consented to sit by that dry-lipped feminine figure prematurely old, withered after short bloom like her artificial flowers, holding a shabby velvet reticule before her, and occasionally putting in her mouth the point with which she pricked her card? There too, very near the fair countess, was a respectable London tradesman, blonde and soft-handed, his sleek hair scrupulously parted behind and before, conscious of circulars addressed to the nobility and gentry, whose distinguished patronage enabled him to take his holidays fashionably, and to a certain extent in their distinguished company. Not his gambler's passion that nullifies appetite, but a well-fed leisure, which, in the intervals of winning money in business and spending it showily, sees no better resource than winning money in play and spending it yet more showily—reflecting always that Providence had never manifested any disapprobation of his amusement, and dispassionate enough to leave off if the sweetness of winning much and seeing others lose had turned to the sourness of losing much and seeing others win. For the vice of gambling lay in losing money at it. In his bearing there might be something of the tradesman, but in his pleasures he was fit to rank with the owners of the oldest titles. Standing close to his chair was a handsome Italian, calm, statuesque, reaching across him to place the first pile of napoleons from a new bagful just brought him by an envoy with a scrolled mustache. The pile was in half a minute pushed over to an old bewigged woman with eye-glasses pinching her nose. There was a slight gleam, a faint mumbling smile about the lips of the old woman; but the statuesque Italian remained impassive, and—probably secure in an infallible system which placed his foot on the neck of chance—immediately prepared a new pile. So did a man with

the air of an emaciated beau or worn-out libertine, who looked at life through one eye-glass, and held out his hand tremulously when he asked for change. It could surely be no severity of system, but rather some dream of white crows, or the induction that the eighth of the month was lucky, which inspired the fierce yet tottering impulsiveness of his play. But, while every single player differed markedly from every other, there was a certain uniform negativeness of expression which had the effect of a mask—as if they had all eaten of some root that for the time compelled the brains of each to the same narrow monotony of action.

Deronda's first thought when his eyes fell on this scene of dull, gas-poisoned absorption, was that the gambling of Spanish shepherd-boys had seemed to him more enviable:—so far Rousseau might be justified in maintaining that art and science had done a poor service to mankind. But suddenly he felt the moment become dramatic. His attention was arrested by a young lady who, standing at an angle not far from him, was the last to whom his eyes traveled. She was bending and speaking English to a middle-aged lady seated at play beside her: but the next instant she returned to her play, and showed the full height of a graceful figure, with a face which might possibly be looked at without admiration, but could hardly be passed with indifference. The inward debate which she raised in Deronda gave to his eyes a growing expression of scrutiny, tending farther and farther away from the glow of mingled undefined sensibilities forming admiration. At one moment they followed the movements of the figure, of the arms and hands, as this problematic sylph bent forward to deposit her stake with an air of firm choice; and the next they returned to the face which, at present unaffected by beholders, was directed steadily toward the game. The sylph was a winner; and as her taper fingers, delicately gloved in pale-gray, were adjusting the coins which had been pushed toward her in order to pass them back again to the winning point, she looked round her with a survey too markedly cold and neutral not to have in it a little of that nature which we call art concealing an inward exultation.

QUESTIONS ABOUT “DANIEL DERONDA”

1. Who do you think is the real protagonist of the novel, Daniel or Gwendolen? Why?
2. What effect do you think the names of the eight separate "books" of the novel have on the way we read and think about Daniel Deronda? For example, the first book is called "The Spoiled Child." How does this affect the way you look at Gwendolen?
3. What was Deronda's first thought when his eyes fell on this scene of dull?
4. What do you think what will happen at the end of the novel? Will Deronda marry to Gwendolen or not?
5. While every single player differed markedly from every other, what was a certain uniform of expression?

“Dorian Gray” case study.

1. Show difference of attitudes toward Dorian Gray of Basil Hallward and Lord Henry Wotton through what they say:

Basil (about Dorian): “It is not merely that I painted from him, draw from him, sketch from him. Of course I have done all that. But he is much more to me than a model or a sitter. . . . his personality has suggested to me an entirely new manner in art, an entirely new mode of style. I see things differently, I think of them differently. I can now recreate life in a way that was hidden from me before. . . . Unconsciously he defines for me the lines of a fresh school, a school that is to have in it all the passion of the romantic spirit, all the perfection of the spirit that is Greek. The harmony of soul and body – how much that is!”

Lord Henry: “Yes, Mr. Gray, the gods have been good to you. But what the gods give they quickly take away. . . . When your youth goes, your beauty will go with it, and then you will suddenly discover that there are no triumphs left for you. . . . Live! Live the wonderful life that is in you! Let nothing be lost upon you. Be always searching for new sensations. Be afraid of nothing . . .”

2. Try to find out these heroes’ through the descriptions and, afterwards, give your own view on them:

- “He played with the idea, and grew wilful; tossed it into the air and transformed it; let it escape and recaptured it; . . . He was brilliant, fantastic, irresponsible. He charmed his listeners out of themselves, and they followed his pipe laughing.”
- “. . . I have done too many dreadful things in my life. I am not going to do any more. . . . I want to be better, I am going to be better.”

3. “There if no one with whom I would not change places, Harry.”- Dorian says at the end of the novel. Discuss.

“H.G.Wells” case study 12

“War of Worlds”

1. Give your point of view on the famous opening line :

“No one would have believed in the last years of the 19th century that this world was being watched keenly and closely by intelligence greater than man’s and yet as mortal as his own that as men busied themselves about their various concerns they were scuirized and studied, perhaps almost as narrowly as a man with a microscope might scrutinize the transient creatures that swarm and multiply in a drop of water”?

2. Discuss. Does the story make you proud to be human as the narrator describes humans as dangerous and little shortsighted?

3. Find out these heroes’ through their actions and give your view on them:

- A) The narrator is very impressed by his plan and wants to subscribe to the's newsletter. However, he talks the talk but doesn't walk the walk
- B) Big and greyish, oily brown skin, the size, perhaps, of a bear with two dark colored eyes and were surrounded by gorgon groups of tentacles.

4. Discuss what 3 things could humanity understand from invasion of Martians.

5. How can you explain narrator's knocking Curate unconscious?

Case Study 13

George Bernard Show (Pigmalion)

Analyse:

1. Why below mentioned description was used towards Bernard Show?

.....he was treated as an outcast in his adopted country, and there was even talk of his being tried for treason. His dramatic out-put ground to a halt, and he succeeded in writing only one major play during the war years....

2. Try to find out this hero through description and give your opinion about below mentioned.

.....does not agree with the way her son and Pickering are playing with Eliz 's life and tell then she doesn't think it is a good idea to treat Eliza this way.

3. Higgins:

Oh, Lord knows! I suppose the woman wants to live his; and each tries to drag the other on to the wrong track. One wants to go north and the other south; and the result is that both have to go east, though they both hate the east wind.

This extract is derived from Mr. Higgins and Pickering's conversation.

Case Study 14

1. Discuss Aldridge's anti-colonial and anti-imperialist point of view in his novel *The Diplomat*.

2. As we know the description of the explosion is characteristic of Greene's style. What impressions does it produce on you? Analyze through the following extract from *The Quiet American*.

"We were among a congregation of mourners. The police could prevent others entering the square; they were powerless to clear the square of the survivors and the first-comers. The doctors were too busy to attend to the dead, and so the dead were left to their owners, for one can own the dead as one owns a chair. A woman sat on the ground with what was left of her baby in her lap; with a kind of modesty she had covered it with her straw peasant hat. She was still and silent, and what struck me most in the square was the silence. It was like a church I had once visited during Mass – the only sound came from those who served, except where here and there the Europeans wept and implored and fell silent again as though shamed by the modesty,

patience and propriety of the East. The legless torso at the edge of the garden still twitched, like a chicken which had lost its head, from the man's shirt, he had probably been a trishaw-driver."

case study 16

John Galsworthy "Forsyte Saga"

1. Show main features of heroes in "Forsyte Saga" through the way they made speeches.

SoamesForsyte: And it doesn't worry you?

Irene Forsyte née Heron: Please, go.

SoamesForsyte: Adulteress! That term fits, does it not?

Irene Forsyte née Heron: Yes.

SoamesForsyte: You have...?

Irene Forsyte née Heron: Yes.

SoamesForsyte: You're a devil. And you, an imbeseler of trust property, a thief stealing his cousin's wife!

Jolyon: Go!

SoamesForsyte: You'll pay for it.

Jolyon: I shall be very happy.

SoamesForsyte: I hope you treat him as you treated me.

Irene Forsyte née Heron: If I were to marry you, Mr. Forsyte, would you promise me one thing

Irene Forsyte née Heron: If our marriage is not a success, then I shall be as free as if I had never married you?

SoamesForsyte: If we were to marry, then it would be a success.

Irene Forsyte née Heron: You would not hold me in a marriage that was not happy?

SoamesForsyte: Miss Heron, Irene, I promise I would make you happy.

Irene Forsyte née Heron: You must promise I would be free.

SoamesForsyte: Then I do.

Irene Forsyte née Heron: You swear it?

: I do solemnly swear it.

2. Try to find out these heroes' through the descriptions and, afterwards, give your own view on them:

..... is a solicitor and "a man of property." This refers to his physical possessions as well as his relationships with other characters in the book. His journey throughout the book is complicated; he struggles with the concept that he cannot "own" other people.

..... is a beautiful woman, but she is also quite aloof and distant; we learn early on that her relationship with Soames is strained, to say the least. She is a character we never fully understand or know, and she remains somewhat of an enigma right to the end.

.....an impoverished artist who has been long estranged from the rest of the Forsyte clan. His attitude to possession is the complete opposite to Soames', his cousin; he appreciates beauty and people, and is not interested in materialistic possessions. He made his own share of mistakes; he was the most realistic of the characters.

3. Discuss it within your group.

He held himself extremely upright and his shrewd, steady eyes had lost none of their clear shining, thus he gave an impression of superiority to the doubts and dislikes of smaller men. Having had his own way for innumerable years, he had earned a prescriptive right to it. It would never have occurred to old Jolyon that it was necessary to wear a look of doubt or defiance. Discuss within a group and share your opinions. Through the varying features and expression of those five faces could be marked a certain steadfastness of chin, underlying surface distinctions, marking a racial stamp, too prehistoric to trace, too remote and permanent to discuss – the very hallmark and guarantee of the family fortunes. Among the younger generations, in the tall, bull-like George, in pallid, strenuous Archibald, in young Nicholas with his sweet and tentative obstinacy, in the grave and foppishly-determined Eustace, there was this same stamp – less meaningful perhaps, but unmistakable – a sign of something ineradicable in the family soul.

Case Study 17

“I’ve spent twenty years in middle management. I’ve seen young men go on, in my own company or elsewhere, to higher things. Nobody notices me, I don’t expect it, I don’t attract attention by making mistakes, everybody takes it for granted that my work is perfect.”

This extract is taken from “Top Girls” (1982) written by Caryl Churchill. Speak about the woman status shown in it and give a brief historical information about its development in literature.



TEST

1.is the first masterpiece or foundation stone in all British literature.
 - a. Beowulf
 - b. Canterbury Tales
 - c. Childe Harolds Pilgrimage
 - d. Hamlet
 - e. The Fire Dragon

2. Who was the author of “Ecclesiastical History of the English People”?
 - a. Venerable Bede
 - b. Edmund Spenser
 - c. Jonathan Swift
 - d. William Shakespeare.
 - e. Walter Scott

3. Whom is the following sentence written by and what work?
 “Read not to contradict and confute nor to believe and take for granted nor to find talk and discourse but to weigh and consider”
 - a. Sir Philip Sidney, in “Arcadia”.
 - b. Sir Francis Bacon, in “Of Studies”.
 - c. Alexander Pope, in “Moral Essays”.
 - d. Samuel Johnson, in “The Idler”.
 - e. Charles Dickens, in “The Pickwick Papers”.

4. Complete the sentence.
 Edmund Spenser’s “The Faerie Queene” is...
 - a. a long allegorical poem dedicated to Queen Elizabeth.
 - b. An epic poem about King Arthur.
 - c. A sonnet dedicated to Henry VIII.
 - d. A poem of twelve lines on science.
 - e. A novel without a hero.

5. Which work is usually considered the most outstanding work of Elizabethan literary theory and criticism?
 - a. “Of Studies” by Sir Francis Bacon.
 - b. “An Apology for Poetry” by Sir Sidney.
 - c. “Arcadia” by Sir Philip Sidney.
 - d. “Every Man in His Humor” by Ben Jonson.
 - e. “Even such Is Time” by Philip Sidney.

6. John Miltons most famous works are:
 - a. “Paradise Lost”, “Paradise Regained”, “Samson Agonists”.
 - b. “Paradise Lost”, “Samson Agonists”, “An Essay on Man”.
 - c. “Paradise Lost”, “Paradise Regained”, “The Rape of the Lock”.
 - d. “Songs of Innocence”, “Don Juan”, “Manfred”.
 - e. “Paradise Lost”, “Moll Flanders”, “Iliad”.

7. From whose point of view is the novel “David Copperfield” told?
 - a. David’s.
 - b. Mudstones’

- c. The author's.
 - d. Peggotty's.
 - e. David's schoolmates.
8. The main characters of the play 'Pygmalion' are:
- a. Eliza Doolittle, Oliver Twist, Dorian Gray.
 - b. Higgins, Eliza Doolittle, Pickering.
 - c. Higgins, Pamela, George.
 - d. Eliza, Robin, Eliot.
 - e. Pickering, Eliza Doolittle, Grendel.
9. Which writer (poet)is characterized by the following:
He is sometimes called "the prince of poets" because many later English poets learned the art of versification from his works. He created a sonnet form of his own. He is the author of the sonnet cycle "Amoretti" (1594).
- a. Edmund Spenser.
 - b. Robert Burns.
 - c. Christopher Marlowe.
 - d. Thomas Hood.
 - e. John Milton.
10. Which writer (poet) is characterized by the following:
He, an Irish poet and dramatist, was born and educated in Dublin. Beginning as an art student, he soon gave up art for literature. At twenty-one, he published his first work "Mosada", a drama written in verse.
- a. Alfred Tennison.
 - b. Charles Lamb.
 - c. William Butler Yeats.
 - d. Hohn Keats.
 - e. Thomas Stearns Eliot.
11. Find the synonym to "The Age of Reason".
- a. The Age of Renaissance.
 - b. The Age of Brightening.
 - c. The Age of Enlightenment.
 - d. The Age of Romanticism.
 - e. The Age of Sentimentalism.
12. How many lines does a sonnet consist of?.
- a. twelve lines
 - b. thirteen lines
 - c. eleven lines
 - d. fourteen lines
 - e. ten lines
13. What poet does the following stanza belong to?
And we will sit upon the rocks,
Seeing the shepherds feed their flocks,
By shallow rivers to whose falls
Melodious birds sing madrigals.

- a. Sir Walter Raleigh.
- b. Christopher Marlowe.
- c. George Gordon Byron.
- d. Ted Hughes.
- e. William Shakespeare

14. What poetry do the following lines belong to?

Come live with me and be my love,
 And we will all the pleasures prove,
 That hills and valleys, dales and fields,
 Or wood, or steepy mountain yields.

(Christopher Marlowe. The Passionate Shepherd to his Love.)

- a. Romantic poetry.
- b. Religious poetry.
- c. Puritan poetry.
- d. Carpe diem poetry.
- e. Metaphysical poetry.

15. Christopher Marlowe's three greatest tragedies are:

- a. "Paradise Lost", "Samson Agonistes", "Doctor Faustus"
- b. "Manfred", "Macbeth", "The Jew of Malta"
- c. "The Rape of the lock", "An Essay on Man", "Tamburlaine the Great"
- d. "Tamburlaine the Great", "Doctor Faustus", "The Jew of Malta"
- e. "Volpone", "The Alchemist", "Still to Be Neet"

16. When did English poets begin to write on Carpe Diem theme?

- a. In the Age of Reason.
- b. In the Age of Enlightenment.
- c. In the Renaissance period.
- d. In the 17th century.
- e. In the 19th century.

17. Why was John Milton regarded as a dangerous enemy after the restoration of the Stuart line of kings?

- a. Because he supported the King
- b. Because he had been a strong supporter of the working people and fought for their independence.
- c. Because he had been a strong supporter of the Puritans and of the execution of Charles I.
- d. Because he was a religious poet.
- e. Because he had killed one of the members of the royal family.

18. Who taught Gulliver the language of the Brobdingnag people?

- a. The Qween
- b. A ten-year-old girl Guendolen.
- c. A nine-year-old girl Glumdalclitch
- d. Glumdalclitchs mother.
- e. A nine-year-old boy Glundenlitch

19. Who was the founder of the Martin Scribblers' Club?
- Jonathan Swift.
 - Henry Fielding.
 - Alexander Pope.
 - Joseph Addison.
 - Richard Steele.
20. Who is the author of the poems "An Essay on Man" and "An Essay on Criticism"?
- Jonathan Swift
 - Alexander Pope
 - Robinson Crusoe.
 - Daniel Defoe
 - Tobias Smollett.
21. Where and when did George Byron die?
- In Missolonghi, on April 19, 1824.
 - In Paris, on April 17, 1823.
 - In London, on January 22, 1888.
 - In Athens, on April 19, 1824.
 - In Rome, on January 19, 1945.
22. Which writer's pen name was George Eliot?
- Robert Browning's
 - Mary Ann Evans`
 - Joseph Conrad`s
 - Katherine Mansfield`s.
 - Vera Brittain`s.
23. What play is the following passage taken from?
- Liza: (with averted face): And you may through me out to-morrow if I don't do everything you want me to?
- Higgins: Yes: and you may walk out tomorrow if I don't do everything you want me to?
- Liza: And live with my stepmother?
- Higgins: Yes, or sell flowers.
- Liza: Oh, if I only could go back to my flower basket! I should be independent of both you and all the world! Why did you take my independence from me? Why did I give it up? I'm a slave now, for all my fine clothes.
- "Manfred" by George Byron.
 - "Volpone" by Ben Jonson.
 - "Mac Flecknoe" by John Dryden.
 - "The Pickwick Papers" by Charles Dickens.
 - "Pygmalion" by Bernard Shaw.
24. What century was the poem "Beowulf" written in, and who was the author?
- the 14th century: J. Chaucer
 - the 10th century, an unknown author.

- c. The 15th century, an unknown author.
 - d. The 14th century, Sir Thomas Malory.
 - e. The 18th century, Bede.
25. In what form did Satan return at night in order to persuade Eve to eat the forbidden fruit? (“Paradise Lost”)
- a. Swallow
 - b. Serpent
 - c. Cat
 - d. Fox
 - e. Monkey
26. Which writer is characterized by the following:
He is one of the most outstanding realistic writers of the 20th century English literature. His novels, plays and short stories give the most complete and critical picture of British society in the first part of the 20th century. He was not young when he started writing. His first notable work was “The Island Pharisees” (1904) in which he criticized the stagnation in the English privileged classes.
- a. Conan Doyle.
 - b. Dylan Thomas.
 - c. John Galsworthy.
 - d. Oscar Wilde.
 - e. George Eliot.
27. What was the first literary work (collection of poems) written by G.G.Byron.
- a. Hours of Idleness.
 - b. Child Harold’s Pilgrimage.
 - c. Manfred.
 - d. English Bards and Scotch Reviewers.
 - e. The Age of Bronze.
28. Which novels by Walter Scott were devoted to Scottish history?
- a. “The Monastery”, “The Abbot”, “The Pirate”, “Woodstock”.
 - b. “Waverly, or This Sixty Years Since”, “The Astrologer”, “Rob Roy”.
 - c. “Ivanhoe” (1820), “The Monastery”, (1820), “The Abbot”.
 - d. “The Talisman”, “Anne of Geierstein”, “Castle Dangerous”.
 - e. “The Fortunes of Nigel”, “Peveril of the Peak”, “Woodstock”.
29. Who was the founder of the early realistic novel in English literature?
- a. Alexander Pope
 - b. Daniel Defoe
 - c. Robert Burns
 - d. Oscar Wilde
 - e. Robert Browning
30. Which of the following is “the novel without a hero”?
- a. The Virginians

- b. The Newcomes
 - c. Denis Duval
 - d. Vanity Fair
 - e. Under Western Eyes
31. What is the novel “The Quiet American” about?
- a. Revolutionary struggle of workers.
 - b. Hard life of peasants.
 - c. The Chartist movement
 - d. The war in Vietnam.
 - e. The doctor-patient relations.
32. Who was the founder of English literature?
- a. Edmund Spenser.
 - b. William Shakespeare.
 - c. Geoffrey Chaucer.
 - d. G.G.Byron.
 - e. John Milton.
33. Whom was founded and conducted the first English newspaper “The Review” by?
- a. Walter Scott.
 - b. Daniel Defoe
 - c. Jonathan Swift.
 - d. Henry Fielding
 - e. Alexander Pope
34. Which English writer wrote a literary work about Amir Temur “Tamburlaine the Great”?
- a. Ben Jonson
 - b. Sir Thomas More
 - c. Walter Scott
 - d. Christopher Marlowe
 - e. John Milton
35. What character’s description is the following:
 <..Here was a man, who could not spell, and did not care to read-who had the habits and the cunning of a boor: whose aim in life was pettifogging: who never had a taste, or emotion or enjoyment, but what was sordid and foul: and yet he had rank, and honours, and power, somehow: and was a dignitary of the land, and pillar of the state.?
- a. Henry Higgins from “Pygmalion” by G.B.Shaw.
 - b. Soams Forsyte from “Forsyte Saga” by G.Galsworthy.
 - c. Sir Pitt Crawley from “Vanity Fair” by W.M.Thackeray
 - d. Charles Strickland from “The Moon and Sixpence” by W.S.Maugham
 - e. David from “David Copperfield” by Charles Dickens
36. Who is the author of the best English Satirical comedies?
- a. William Shakespeare

- b. Ben Jonson
 - c. R.I.Stevenson
 - d. Christopher Marlowe
 - e. Geoffrey Chaucer
37. Which list from the following characters is from the epic “Beowulf”?
- a. Beowulf, Surpent, Higgins, Harry
 - b. Higelac, Beowulf, Hrothgar, Grendel
 - c. Howard, Beowulf, Crawley
 - d. Hrothgar, Adam, Pamela, George
 - e. Beowulf, Faustus, Lear, Higelac.
38. What is expressed in the tragedy “Sejanus His Fall” by Ben Jonson?
- a. His love to his Motherland
 - b. The hostility to tyrants
 - c. The problems of art
 - d. His indignation with the living conditions of the workers
 - e. Happiness
 - f.
39. Complete the sentence/
The writers of Enlightenment thought that...
- a. the theory of “Art for Art’s Sake” was most suitable for writing
 - b. feelings are the most important for literature
 - c. society should be changed by revolution
 - d. vice was due to ignorance
 - e. women should not study
 - f.
40. Complete the sentence.
Alexander Pope is...
- a. an English classicist
 - b. a writer who belonged to the Romantic trend
 - c. the founder of the English literature
 - d. the author of the best satirical comedies
 - e. an English poet of the Middle Ages
 - f.
41. Who was the first great writer of historical novels in English literature?
- a. Charles Dickens
 - b. Daniel Defoe
 - c. Henry Fielding
 - d. Richard Aldington
 - e. Sir Walter Scott
42. Henry Fielding used to say that the three essential qualities in a novelist are:
- a. genius, learning and experience
 - b. learning, generosity, and knowledge
 - c. honesty, knowledge and experience
 - d. genius, politeness and kindness
 - e. kindness, strong will and honesty

43. In the novel "The history of Tom Jones, a Foundling" Henry Fielding depicts England of...
- the XV century
 - the Renaissance period
 - the XVIII century
 - the Middle Ages
 - the XIX century
44. Oriental Tales written by Byron include the following poems:
- "When We Two Parted", "Marino Faliero", "Manfred", "Cain"
 - "Childe Harold's Pilgrimage", "The Corsair", "Cain", "The Dream",
 - "Deformed Transformed", "Lara", "Don Juan", "Beppo".
 - "The Lamb", "The Tyger", "Holy Thursday", "The Divine Image".
 - "The Giaour", "The Corsair", "Lara", "Parisina"
45. "The Prisoner of Chillon" written by Byron describes ...
- the tragic fate of the Swiss revolutionary Bonivard.
 - English prisons and prisoners.
 - the life of the English workers in the XVIII century
 - the struggle of the Greek people against Turkey
 - English prisoner in Chillon
46. The novel "St. Ronan's Well" by Walter Scott is ...
- a historical novel
 - the only novel about future life
 - the only novel about the author's own time
 - about the Scottish history
 - about the European history
47. Tick the plays written by "Henry Fielding"
- "A Judge Caught in His Own Trap", "Don Quixote in England", "Pasquin"
 - "Gosolph Andrews", "The History of Tom Jones, a Foundling", "Amelia"
 - "The Rivals", "The Duenna", "The School For Scandal"
 - "Manfred", "Cain", "Marino Faliero"
 - "The Colonel's Daughter", "All Men are Enemies", "Death of a Hero"
48. When did Byron compose his "Oriental Tales".
- Between 1825-1828
 - Between 1810-1813
 - Between 1813-1816
 - in 1826
 - in 1821
49. Tick the work written by G.G. Byron when he was in Italy
- "Songs for the Luddites", "Lara", "Manfred", "The Prisoner of Chillon"
 - "Hour of Idleness", "Song for Luddites", "The Corsair"
 - "The Lay of the Last Minstrel", "Marmion", "The Lady of the Lake", "Castle Dangerous"
 - "The Talisman", "Marino Faliero", "Woodstock"

e. “ Beppo”, “Don Juan”, “the prophesy of dante”, “maino faliero”

50. Which work created by W.M. Thackeray can be called the peak of Critical Realism in England?

- a. “The historyof pendennis”
- b. “henry esmond”
- c. “Newcomes”
- d. “Vanity”
- e. “The book of Snobs”

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