

Restoration and Romance – Study Guide

I. Restoration Period

- a. Beliefs and ideals of this literary period (what is being “Restored”?) – Also, what is deism?
- b. Time period – years and relevant historical events in Europe (Plague, Fire, etc.)
- c. What does Restoration-era writing look like, as opposed to earlier writing?
- d. What changes take place in theater, journalism, novels, poetry and women?
- e. The eleven major ideas of the era (rationalism, etc.)
- f. What is satire and how/why is it used?

II. Restoration Writers

- a. John Dryden and his critique of Shakespeare and Jonson
- b. Jonathan Swift
 - i. Pertinent biographical information
 - ii. “A Modest Proposal”: what was it about, what it was for... satire!
 - iii. *Gulliver’s Travels*: what was it about
- c. Samuel Johnson and his Dictionary
 - i. Pertinent biographical information
 - ii. Etymology and contents of a dictionary entry

III. Romantic Period

- a. Beliefs and ideals of this literary period
- b. Time period – years and relevant historical events in Europe and America
- c. What three political/social factors contributed to the development of the Romantic Era?
- d. What does Romantic-era writing look like, as opposed to earlier writing?
- e. Define Dark Romanticism/Gothic

IV. Romantic Poets

- a. Bridge between Restoration and Romantic
 - i. William Blake
 1. Pertinent biographical information, incl. religious stance
 2. Themes (and juxtaposition)
 3. Blake’s art – watch the slideshow if you were absent! (see website)
 4. “The Tyger” and “The Lamb”
 - b. First Generation
 - i. William Wordsworth – Pertinent biographical information, incl. collaboration w/Coleridge
 - ii. Samuel Taylor Coleridge
 1. Pertinent biographical information
 2. “Rime of the Ancient Mariner”: what was it about, style/format
 3. “Kubla Khan”: what was it about, how was it written
 - c. Second Generation
 - i. John Keats
 1. Pertinent biographical information (including his tombstone)
 2. Odes – what is an ode? To what did he write his odes?
 3. Last Letter to Charles Brown
 4. “When I Have Fears”: what did he fear/why? What kind of poem is it?
 - ii. George Gordon, Lord Byron
 1. Pertinent biographical information
 2. “She Walks in Beauty” – inspired by? Message?
 3. Byronic hero!!
 - iii. Percy Bysshe Shelley
 1. Pertinent biographical information
 2. “Ozymandias” – inspired by? Message?
 - iv. Byron and Shelley → Their relationship; poem of choice (assigned Tuesday) by either Byron or Shelley