Unit-4

The Age of Tennyson (1809-1892)

The Victorian Age (1837-1901)

* It is suggested to the students, to concentrate on the genre studies of the age.
* This synopsis also concentrates on as above suggested

**Literary characteristic of the Victorian Age**

* The age of Tennyson is a bride between Romanticism and Modernism
* This age witnesses the industrial and agrarian revolution in the history of England
* The major genres of this period according to critics are Poetry and Novel
* Other important thing to be considered is impact of literature on the social changes and development like Charles Dickens’ novels.
* Science plays a vital role in this age- Jules Verne’s writings gave a way to futuristic science fiction writers like H.G. Wells.

Poetry of the Age

1. Alfred Lord Tennyson

* Tennyson was born in Somersby in 1809
* He started writing in his earlier years, but mourned almost 10 years on the death of his close friend Arthur Hallam (1832-1842)
* Then since 1842, actively he published many works.
* He became poet laureate after the death of William Wordsworth in 1850 and he remained until his death
* He got a peerage and became Lord in 1884
* Died in 1892
* His major works are,
* Poems 2 volumes published in 1842
* In Memoriam, an Elegy for his death friend Arthur Hallam
* Idylls of the King (1859)
* Harold (1876)
* Queen Mary : A Drama (1875)
* In Memoriam
* In Memoriam is a mammoth work that includes 133 poems (including the prologue and epilogue).
* The poem concludes with an epilogue, an epithalamion on the occasion of the wedding of Tennyson’s sister Cecilia in 1842.

1. Robert Browning

* Robert Browning was born in 1812
* He was self-taught with the aid of his father’s library
* He started writing poetry since his 12
* He married Elizabeth Barrette Browning in 1846
* Died in 1889
* Famous works are,
* Dramatic Lyrics (1842)
* Paracelsus (1835)
* Men and Women (1855)
* Dramatic Personae (1864)
* Robert Browning is a champion of Dramatic Monologue
* His poems like ‘My Last Duchess’, ‘Porphyria’s Lover’ are the great examples of this

1. Elizabeth Barrette Browning

* Born in 1806
* Married to Robert Browning
* Famous works are,
* The Battle of marathon; A Poem (1820)
* A Drama of Exile; and the other poems (1845)
* Aurora Leigh (1856) a long blank verse novel

1. Arthur Hugh Clough (1819-1861)

* Important works,
* Mari Mango
* The Bothie of Toper-na-Vuolich
* Amours de Voyage

1. Matthew Arnold (1822-1888)

* Born in 1822
* His father Thomas Arnold was a head master in Rugby School
* Matthew Arnold also worked here as a teacher
* Died in 1888
* Works

Poems

* Rugby Chapel
* Dover Beach
* The Scholar Gypsy
* Thyrsis
* Sohrab and Rustam

Criticism

* The Study of poetry
* Culture and Anarchy

# Novel of the Age

# As far as novel writing is concerned this period is considered the unique period for novels. In th words of William J.long

# “The novel in this age fills the place which drama held in the days of Elizabeth and never before in any age of language has novel appeared in such numbers and in such perfection”

# This age has produced many first rate novelist like Charles Dickens, Thomas Hardy, Matthew Arnold, George Eliot, William M. Thackeray, Charlotte Bronte etc. who lead novel o the top of the achievements.

# (1)  Charles Dickens(1812-70)

# Charles Dickens was the most influncial novelist of this age. More ever he was a social reformer. His masterpiece are,

# ‘The pickwick papers’

# ‘Oliver Twist’

# ‘A tale of two cities’

# ‘David Copperfield’

# His popularity was exploiled in jounalism for he edited ‘ the Daily New’. In 1858 Dickens commenced his famous series of ‘Public reading’. They were also given in America with the greatest success.

# (2)  Thomas Hardy:

# Hardy was also leading novelist. His famous works are”

# ‘Tess of d’ urbervilles’

# ‘Mayer of the Casterbridge’

# (3)  William M. Thackeray(1811-63):

# William Thackeray was also representative of novel.He was groping for a men of expression, and wavered between verse prose and sketching. His famous works are:

# ‘The book of Snobs(1849)’

# ‘Vanity Fair The memoirs of Barry London (1844)

# (4)  George Eliot: (1819-80)

# George Eliot was the celebrated person for this age. Hes novel  deal with the tragedy of ordinary lives, unfolded with an intense sympathy and deep insight in to the faith truth of the character/ His famous works are:

# ‘Adam Bede(1859)’

# ‘The mill on the Floss (1860)’

# ‘Middlemarch , a study of provencial life (1871-72)’

# ‘Daniel Deronda(1876)’

# All these novels are classical novel of the Victorian age.Emily Bronte, Anne Bronte, Charles Kinsley of the period. So we can say that novel is the dominant literary form of this era.

# (3)                  Prose:

# As we have noted during this age the output of the novels and poetry was remarkable on the other hand prose writing was also rich. This period has produced many outstanding prose writers and critics and social reformers like Thomas Carlyle, John Ruskin, Matthew Arnold etc.

# Thomas Carlyle- ‘The french Revolution’

# Ruskin -‘Un to the last’

# Arnold’s –‘Perfect to the poem’

# Are eminent examples of prose writing of this era.

# (for essay question add this with novels and novelists of the age as it is mentioned above and I personally recommend to the II BA A students that in this 4th unit Novels should be given more important)

# Victorian Novel as a form of Literature:

# Introduction :

# Generally Victorian era is considered the age of prose and especially of novel. In comparison to other form Novel is quite modern form. Novel sent its childhood in the second half of the 18th century. In the second half of the 19th century novel seemed to be much matured adult and young. Henry Fielding , Tobias Smollet and Laurence Sterne who gave a good move to English novel but the English novelists led this form to the peack of perfection.

# Let’s discuss how Victorian novel was artistic and more appealing.

# (1)   Perfect in Style:    English novel found its artistic and perfect many festation in Victorian era. Novel was more artistic with well-knit plots,more prosperous language and better presentation of characters. Thomas Hardy was an architect by profession and his mastery can be found in his plot construction. His novel contain a well –Knife plot. Hence Technically better novels. Charles Dickens was high giffed with imaginative poewr. In this matter , he stands among the most creative writers like shakespeare, Keats. His novel like ‘Oliver Twist’ ‘Great Exceptions’ are the great examples of such art.

# (2)   Presentation of Social life:    A novel has wider scope of presenting various aspects of society. Therefore it is rightly stated a novel is a social document.  18th century novel  was mostly picaresque novel that developed on the road like Fielding’s novel ‘Tom Jones’ or ‘Joseph Andrews’. While 19th century Victorian novels depict social life closely. In novels of Bronte Sisters the society can be observed like a character, Thackeray’s ‘Vanity Fair’ and Bronte’s ‘Jane’ highlight sophisticated society various gathering parties are described minutely by these novelists. In most of the Victorian novel there is a good presentation on social life.

# (3)   Rich creation of novel: The publication of British novel could be observed at a very large scale novel found its wider output in both quantity as well as quality. It was unique period for English novel. As William J.Long remarks:

Prose in the Age of Tennyson

As we have noted during this age the output of the novels and poetry was remarkable on the other hand prose writing was also rich. This period has produced many outstanding prose writers and critics and social reformers like Thomas Carlyle, John Ruskin, and Matthew Arnold etc.

Important works to be studied

* **Thomas Carlyle- ‘The French Revolution’**
* **Ruskin -‘Un to the last’**
* **Arnold’s –‘Perfect to the poem’**

Unit – 5

Age of Hardy

The Age of Hardy is divided by Hudson as early part of 20th century (First World War and Rise of Modernism)

and

Mid-twentieth century (Present Age)

Poetry of the Age

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| --- | --- |
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* The Edwardians of the Transitional Poets
* The Pessimists
* Georgian poets and poetry
* The Imagists and Ezra Pound
* War Poets and Poetry

**The Edwardians of transitional Poets**

* Rudyard Kipling (1865-1936)

**The Pessimists**

* Thomas Hardy (1840-1928)
* Robert Bridges (1844-1930)
* Gerard manly Hopkins (1844-89)

**Georgian Poets and Poetry**

* John Masefield (1878-1967)
* Walter de la Mare (1973-1956)
* James Elroy Flecker (1884-1915)
* W.H. Davis (1871-1940)
* John Drinkwater (1882-1937)
* **W.B. Yeats (1865-1939) *(5 Mark)***
* William Butler Yeats is widely considered to be one of the greatest poets of the 20th century. He belonged to the Protestant, Anglo-Irish minority that had controlled the economic, political, social, and cultural life of Ireland since at least the end of the 17th century. Most members of this minority considered themselves English people who happened to have been born in Ireland, but Yeats staunchly affirmed his Irish nationality. Although he lived in London for 14 years of his childhood (and kept a permanent home there during the first half of his adult life), Yeats maintained his cultural roots, featuring Irish legends and heroes in many of his poems and plays. He was equally firm in adhering to his self-image as an artist.
* W.B. Yeats is a most important modern symbolist. His famous poems are sailing to Byzantium, The Tower and 1916.
* Along with T.S. Eliot, he wrote many symbol poems.
* He started Irish Theatre along with his Irish friends.

**The Georgian’s Contribution to English Poetry**

* **T.S. Eliot (5 Mark)**

T.S. Eliot, the 1948 winner of the Nobel Prize in Literature, is one of the giants of modern literature, highly distinguished as a poet, literary critic, dramatist, and editor and publisher. In 1910 and 1911, while still a college student, he wrote “[The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock](https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poetrymagazine/poems/44212/the-love-song-of-j-alfred-prufrock)” and other poems that are landmarks in the history of literature. In these college poems, Eliot articulated distinctly modern themes in forms that were both a striking development of and a marked departure from those of 19th-century poetry. Within a few years he had composed another landmark poem, “[Gerontion](https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poems/47254/gerontion)” (1920), and within a decade, one of the most famous and influential poems of the century, [*The Waste Land*](https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poems/47311/the-waste-land) (1922). While the origins of The Waste Land are in part personal, the voices projected are universal. Eliot later denied that he had large cultural problems in mind, but, nevertheless, in The Waste Land he diagnosed the malaise of his generation and indeed of Western civilization in the 20th century. In 1930 he published his next major poem, Ash-Wednesday, written after his conversion to Anglo-Catholicism. Conspicuously different in style and tone from his earlier work, this confessional sequence charts his continued search for order in his personal life and in history. The culmination of this search as well as of Eliot’s poetic writing is his meditation on time and history, the works known collectively as Four Quartets (1943): Burnt Norton (1941), East Coker (1940), The Dry Salvages (1941), and Little Gidding (1942).

* Rupert Brooke, the Soldier – Poet (1887-1915)
* Edith Sitwell (1887-1964)
* W.H. Auden (1907-1973)
* Stephen Spender (1909-95)
* Dylan Thomas (1914-53)

Novels and the Novelists of The Age of Hardy (Modernism)

1. **Thomas Hardy (10 Mark)**

* Born in 1840
* Famously known for Wessex Dialect and his novels called as Wessex Novels
* Famous novels are,
* [The Poor Man and the Lady](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Poor_Man_and_the_Lady) (1867, unpublished and lost)
* [Under the Greenwood Tree](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Under_the_Greenwood_Tree): A Rural Painting of the Dutch School (1872)
* [Far from the Madding Crowd](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Far_from_the_Madding_Crowd) (1874)
* [The Return of the Native](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Return_of_the_Native) (1878)
* [The Mayor of Casterbridge](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Mayor_of_Casterbridge): The Life and Death of a Man of Character (1886)
* [The Woodlanders](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Woodlanders) (1887)
* [Wessex Tales](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wessex_Tales) (1888, a collection of short stories)
* [Tess of the d'Urbervilles](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tess_of_the_d%27Urbervilles): A Pure Woman Faithfully Presented (1891)
* [Life's Little Ironies](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Life%27s_Little_Ironies) (1894, a collection of short stories)
* [Jude the Obscure](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jude_the_Obscure) (1895)
* Died in 1928.

1. H.G.Wells (5 Mark)

* **H.G. Wells**, in full **Herbert George Wells**, (born September 21, 1866, Bromley, [Kent](https://www.britannica.com/place/Kent-county-England), England—died [August](https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/August) 13, 1946, London), English novelist, journalist, sociologist, and historian best known for such [science fiction](https://www.britannica.com/art/science-fiction) novels as The Time Machine and The War of the Worlds and such comic novels as Tono-Bungay and The History of Mr. Polly.
* No other writer has caught so vividly the energy of this period, its adventurousness, its feeling of release from the conventions of Victorian thought and propriety. Wells’s influence was enormous, both on his own generation and on that which immediately followed it. None of his contemporaries did more to encourage revolt against Christian tenets and accepted codes of behaviour, especially as regards sex, in which, both in his books and in his personal life, he was a persistent advocate of an almost complete freedom. Though in many ways hasty, ill-tempered, and contradictory, Wells was undeviating and fearless in his efforts for social equality, world peace, and what he considered to be the future good of humanity.
* As a creative writer his reputation rests on the early [science fiction](https://www.britannica.com/art/science-fiction) books and on the comic novels. In his science fiction, he took the ideas and fears that haunted the mind of his age and gave them symbolic expression as brilliantly conceived [fantasy](https://www.britannica.com/art/fantasy-narrative-genre) made credible by the quiet realism of its setting. In the comic novels, though his psychology lacks subtlety and the construction of his plots is often awkward, he shows a fund of humour and a deep sympathy for ordinary people. Wells’s prose style is always careless and lacks grace, yet he has his own gift of phrase and a true ear for [vernacular](https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/vernacular) speech, especially that of the lower middle class of [London](https://www.britannica.com/place/London) and southeastern [England](https://www.britannica.com/place/England). His best work has a vigour, vitality, and exuberance unsurpassed, in its way, by that of any other British writer of the early 20th century.

1. D. H. Lawrence (10 Mark)

* **D.H. Lawrence**, in full **David Herbert Lawrence**, (born September 11, 1885, Eastwood, [Nottinghamshire](https://www.britannica.com/place/Nottinghamshire), England—died March 2, 1930, Vence, France), English author of novels, short stories, poems, plays, essays, travel books, and letters. His novels Sons and Lovers (1913), The Rainbow (1915), and Women in Love (1920) made him one of the most influential English writers of the 20th century.
* Lawrence was ultimately a religious writer who did not so much reject Christianity as try to create a new religious and [moral](https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/moral) basis for modern life by continual resurrections and transformations of the self. These changes are never limited to the social self, nor are they ever fully under the eye of consciousness. Lawrence called for a new openness to what he called the “dark gods” of nature, feeling, instinct, and sexuality; a renewed contact with these forces was, for him, the beginning of wisdom.

### Novels

* [The White Peacock](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_White_Peacock) (1911)
* [The Trespasser](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Trespasser_(novel)) (1912)
* [Sons and Lovers](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sons_and_Lovers) (1913)
* [The Rainbow](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Rainbow) (1915)
* [Women in Love](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Women_in_Love) (1920)
* [The Lost Girl](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Lost_Girl) (1920)
* [Aaron's Rod](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aaron%27s_Rod_(novel)) (1922)
* [Kangaroo](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kangaroo_(novel)) (1923)
* [The Boy in the Bush](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Boy_in_the_Bush) (1924)
* [The Plumed Serpent](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Plumed_Serpent) (1926)
* [Lady Chatterley's Lover](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lady_Chatterley%27s_Lover) (1928)
* [The Escaped Cock](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Escaped_Cock) (1929), later re-published as The Man Who Died

1. Virginia Woolf (5 marks)

* **Adeline Virginia Woolf** (25 January 1882 – 28 March 1941) was an English writer, considered one of the most important [modernist](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Modernist_literature) 20th-century authors and also a pioneer in the use of [stream of consciousness](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stream_of_consciousness_(narrative_mode)) as a [narrative device](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Narration).

**Novels**

* Mrs. Dalloway (1925)
* Orlando: A Biography (1928)
* To the Lighthouse (1927)
* A Room of One’s Own (1929)
* The Waves (1931)
* Between the Acts (1941)

Drama of the Age

To be remembered

1. George Bernard Shaw

* George Bernard Shaw (26 July 1856 – 2 November 1950), known at his insistence simply as Bernard Shaw, was an Irish playwright, critic, [polemicist](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Polemic) and political activist. His influence on Western theatre, culture and politics extended from the 1880s to his death and beyond. He wrote more than sixty plays, including major works such as [Man and Superman](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Man_and_Superman) (1902), [Pygmalion](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pygmalion_(play)) (1912) and [Saint Joan](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Saint_Joan_(play)) (1923). With a range incorporating both contemporary satire and historical allegory, Shaw became the leading dramatist of his generation, and in 1925 was awarded the [Nobel Prize in Literature](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nobel_Prize_in_Literature).
* Important plays
* Candida
* Arms and the Man
* Major Barbara
* The Apple Cart

1. Theatre of Absurd