

**O‘ZBEKISTON RESPUBLIKASI OLIY TA’LIM, FAN VA
INNOVATSIYALAR VAZIRLIGI**

TOSHKENT DAVLAT SHARQSHUNOSLIK UNIVERSITETI

G‘ARB TILLARI KAFEDRASI

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**ENGLISH LITERATURE
(O‘QUV QO‘LLANMA)**

Toshkent - 2025

©.Abidova Z.X., English Literature

(English Literature for Philology students (Eastern Languages)

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This manual is intended for 2nd-year full-time and evening class students of the bachelor's degree program 60230100 - Philology students (Eastern Languages) B2 level students.

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ANNOTATION

This manual is intended for 2nd-year full-time and evening class students of the bachelor's degree program 60230100 - Philology and Language Teaching (Eastern Languages) at Tashkent State University of Oriental Studies and is a scientific and methodological tool aimed at analyzing the works of famous writers who lived and researched in the historical period of Victorian literature (1837-1901).

The manual includes 13 lesson topics, supplementary texts detailing the lives, several creative activities, and significant work of writers of that period, exercises and assignments based on these texts including QR for videos and kahoot games, Essential Literary Terms in Victorian Literature, progress tests and references.

From a methodological standpoint, the detailed development of tasks for each section and the provision of instructions for working with texts undoubtedly contribute to the effective and balanced development of all types of speech activities in students. This approach also creates an opportunity for them to prepare independently for their studies.

This manual has been compiled in accordance with the curriculum of the subject "Western Language (English)," approved by the minutes of the meeting of the Council of Tashkent State University of Oriental Studies dated "30" 08 2023. No. 60230100.

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INTRODUCTION

Literature is the highest product of human thought and is considered one of the most important sources of knowledge in human history. Historically, every nation and culture has been shaped, developed, and preserved its values through literature. Therefore, reading literature plays an important role not only in personal development but also in the formation of social consciousness and culture.

This manual is intended for 2nd-year full-time and evening students of the bachelor's degree program 60230100 - Philology and Language Teaching (Oriental Languages) at Tashkent State University of Oriental Studies. It serves as a scientific and methodological tool aimed at analyzing the historical stage of Victorian literature (1837-1901) and the works of great writers who created during this period.

This guide serves to illuminate the most famous writers of the Victorian era and their creative activities. Students become acquainted with the main literary trends of this period, the works of its authors, and their influence on society. The Victorian era played an important role in the cultural life of Great Britain, and during this period, literature was rich in such directions as realism, naturalism, and modernism. The works of writers of that time covered such topical issues as the industrial revolution, social stratification, spiritual values, and moral norms.

The manual consists of 13 topics, and each section provides detailed information about prominent writers of the Victorian era, their lives and works. Additionally, supplementary texts, exercises and assignments on the topics including QR for videos and kahoot games, Essential Literary Terms in Victorian Literature, progress tests and references, which serve to develop students' reading, writing, listening comprehension, and oral speech skills. Through these materials, students will have the opportunity to develop skills in literary analysis, critical thinking, and independent learning.

The manual also focuses on the main themes and issues of Victorian literature. The writers' works reflect pressing matters such as social changes in society, gender issues, moral norms, and personal freedom. This gives students the opportunity not only to study literature but also to analyze works deeply in the context of that period.

This manual is a scientific and methodological resource for students studying Victorian literature, helping to develop skills in literary analysis, discussion, and independent work. The book also serves to facilitate students' independent preparation process and to help them express their thoughts clearly and fluently.

UNIT 1. The Development of English Literature (Periodization).

The Victorian age.

Exercise 1. Before reading the text, answer the following questions.

1. What do you know about the main periods of English literature? Can you name any of them?
2. How do historical and social changes affect the development of literature?
3. Why is it important to study the history of literature?
4. Can you name famous English writers who lived in different literary periods?
5. How does English literature compare to the literature of other countries?
6. Why is English literature considered one of the most prestigious literatures in the world?
7. When did the Victorian era occur? Who was the reigning monarch during this period?
8. Can you name famous writers of the Victorian era and their works?

English literature is a part of world literature. Its most outstanding national traditions played a significant role in the enrichment and development of world literature. English literature includes poetry, prose, and plays written in English by writers from England, Scotland, and Wales. These lands have nurtured many outstanding writers. English literature is rich and diverse. It contains masterpieces in various forms, including novels, short stories, epics, lyrical poems, essays, literary criticism, and plays.

English literature is considered one of the oldest national literatures in the world. Masters of English literature from the end of the 14th century to the present day are among the world's greatest literary figures. Jeffrey Chaucer, William Shakespeare, Christopher Marlowe, Daniel Defoe, Jonathan Swift, George Gordon Byron, Charles Dickens, Bernard Shaw, John Galsworthy, and many others are world-renowned. Their writing style has greatly influenced many writers, poets, and playwrights in other countries. National literature reflects the history and national character of a people. Although each national literature has much in common with the development of world literature, it also has its own unique characteristics.

One of the distinctive features of English writers is that they always were deeply interested in the political and social environment of their time. They are part of it and this dramatically affects what and how they write. What happens in the writer's research is extremely important, as is what occurs in the wider world.

The world Book Encyclopedia gives the following outline of English Literature:

I. Old English literature (500-1100)

A. Old English Poetry. B. Old English Prose.

II. Middle English literature (1100-1485)

A. The development of English romances.

B. The age of Chaucer. C. Early English drama.

III. The beginning of Modern English literature (1485-1603)

A. Elizabethan poetry.

B. Elizabethan drama. C. Elizabethan fiction.

IV. The Stuarts and Puritans (1603-1660)

A. Metaphysical and Cavalier poets. C. Prose writing.

B. Jacobian drama. D. John Milton

V. Restoration literature (1660-1700).

A. John Dryden. C. Restoration prose.

B. Restoration drama.

VI. The Augustan Age (1700-1750)

A. Swift and Pope. C. The rise of the novel. B. Addison and Steele.

VII. The Age of Johnson (1750-1784)

A. Samuel Johnson. B. The Johnson circle.

VIII. Romantic literature (1784-1832)

A. The pre-romantics. C. Romantic prose.

B. Romantic poetry.

A. Early Victorian literature. B. Later Victorian literature.

X. The 1900's.

A. Literature before World War I. B. Poetry between the wars.

C. Fiction between the wars. D. Literature after World War II.

E. English literature today.¹

¹ Bakoeva, M., Muratova, E., and Ochilova, M. English Literature. Tashkent, 2006, p. 7.

THE VICTORIAN AGE (1837-1901)



Victoria became Queen of Great Britain in 1837. His reign was the longest in English history, lasting until 1901. This period became known as the Victorian Age.

The Victorian era was full of sharp contradictions. In many respects, this was a period of progress. The Victorian era is considered the peak of England's economic and military power. In the nineteenth century, England became the first modern, industrialized country. It ruled the largest empire in world history, encompassing all of Canada, Australia, New Zealand, India, Pakistan, and many smaller countries in the Asia and Caribbean Basin. However, England was not internally stable. Poverty, injustice, and the brutal exploitation of man by man were rampant.

The workers fought for their rights. Their political demands were reflected in the "People's Charter" of 1833. The Chartist movement was a revolutionary movement of English workers, which lasted until 1848. The Chartists created their own literature. Chartist writers created works in various genres. They wrote articles, stories, songs, epigrams, and poems. Chartists (for example, Ernest Jones's "Song of the Lower Classes" and Thomas Hood's "Song of the Dress") depicted the struggle of workers for their rights, the brutal exploitation of the poor, and their tragic fate.

The ideas of Chartism attracted the attention of many progressive thinkers of that time. Many famous writers realized the social injustice around them and tried to reflect it in their works. The greatest novelists of that time were Charles Dickens,

William Makepeace Thackeray, Charlotte Brontë, Elizabeth Haskell, and George Eliot. These writers used the novel as a means of expressing protest against the evils of modern social and economic life, a realistic depiction of the world. They expressed deep sympathy for the workers and described their difficult living and working conditions. The criticism in their works was so strong that some scholars called them critical realists, and the movement critical realism. Charles Dickens's "Difficult Times" and Elizabeth Gascel's "Mary Barton" are striking examples of literature depicting the Chartist movement. The contribution of writers of the realistic direction to world literature is incomparable. They created a broad picture of social life, exposed and fought against the vices of modern society, took the side of the common people in their fervent protests against intolerable exploitation, and gave hope for a bright future.

As for the poetry of that period, British and American critics consider Alfred Tennyson and Robert Browning to be two great pillars of Victorian poetry. Unlike Romantic poetry, their poetry displayed conservatism, optimism, and self-confidence characteristic of Victorian poetry.

Exercise 2. Scan QR and watch the video
then answer to the following question related to topic.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nllDcnfoH5A&t=242s>



1. Why is this period called the Victorian Age?
2. What are the characteristics of Victorian literature?
3. How did the Industrial Revolution affect the themes and themes of Victorian literary works?
4. How did Victorian literature address social problems such as class inequality and gender roles?
5. Can you name the greatest writers of the Victorian era and their major works?
6. How was the expansion of the British Empire reflected in Victorian literature?

Exercise 3. Do the test.

1. What defines the Victorian Age in English literature?

- A) It refers to the leadership of Queen Elizabeth I
- B) It was the literary era influenced by Queen Victoria's reign (1837-1901)

- C) It signifies the time of the English Renaissance
 - D) It was a brief period of literary silence in Britain
2. **What was a dominant literary trend in the Victorian period?**
- A) Exploration of mythical creatures and fantasy worlds
 - B) Realistic depictions of society, morality, and class struggles
 - C) Exclusively focusing on medieval romance stories
 - D) Writing only in poetic forms without novels
3. **How did the rise of industrialization impact Victorian-era literature?**
- A) It caused a decline in the number of books published
 - B) Writers began exploring themes of labor exploitation and urban life
 - C) Authors ignored social changes and focused on historical epics
 - D) Victorian literature promoted only agrarian lifestyles
4. **Who among the following was NOT a Victorian author?**
- A) Charles Dickens
 - B) George Eliot
 - C) Geoffrey Chaucer
 - D) Thomas Hardy
5. **What was a recurring theme in Victorian novels?**
- A) The decline of mythology in society
 - B) The personal and moral dilemmas of individuals in a changing world
 - C) The dominance of supernatural beings over human destiny
 - D) The rejection of science and technological advancements
6. **Which of the following works is a well-known novel by Charles Dickens?**
- A) *Silas Marner*
 - B) *David Copperfield*
 - C) *The Tenant of Wildfell Hall*
 - D) *Middlemarch*
7. **How did Victorian writers portray women in their works?**
- A) As individuals struggling with societal expectations and seeking independence
 - B) Only as secondary characters with little influence on the story
 - C) As rulers and warriors in fantasy lands
 - D) As completely free individuals with equal rights and no restrictions
8. **How did the expansion of the British Empire influence Victorian literature?**
- A) It introduced narratives about colonial rule and cultural conflicts
 - B) It had no effect on literature during this time

C) It resulted in a decline of British literary production

D) It discouraged writers from addressing political themes

9. Which Victorian novel explores themes of revenge, passion, and fate?

A) Wuthering Heights

B) Treasure Island

C) The Picture of Dorian Gray

D) A Christmas Carol

10. What literary movement started gaining influence towards the end of the Victorian period?

A) Symbolism

B) Modernism

C) Transcendentalism

D) Epic poetry revival

Exercise 4. Make list of vocabulary and make up sentences using them.

UNIT 2. CHARLES DICKENS



Charles Dickens

(1812-1870)

Exercise 1. Before reading about Charles Dickens, answer the following questions.

1. What do you already know about Charles Dickens?
2. Have you read any of his books or heard about any of his famous works?
3. What time period did Dickens live in, and how might that have influenced his writing?
4. Why do you think Charles Dickens is considered one of the greatest English novelists?
5. What social and historical issues do you think Dickens wrote about in his works?
6. How do you think industrialization and urbanization influenced his storytelling?
7. What themes or messages do you expect to find in his novels?
8. Why do you think Dickens often wrote about poverty and social injustice?

Charles Dickens, the first novelist of the Critical Realism movement who was born in 1812 near Portsmouth on the southern coast of England. His father was an ordinary clerk, and the family subsisted on his meager salary. They belonged to the lower middle class. His father was frequently transferred to different locations. Initially, they moved to the ancient city of Rochester, and then to London in 1822. In Rochester, Charles began attending school and continued his education in London. However, his father soon lost his job and was imprisoned for his debts. Charles was forced to work in a factory. About a year later, the Dickens family received a small inheritance after a relative's death and paid off all their debts. Charles had the opportunity to return to school. Dickens completed his schooling at the age of twelve. He had to continue his education independently. His father sent him to a law firm to study law. Although he didn't stay there long, he learned the methods and etiquette of lawyers, which is reflected in many of his books.

In 1832, Dickens became a parliamentary correspondent. His first attempts in the field of writing consisted of several stories about ordinary Londoners he had observed. He signed them under the pen name Boz (a nickname given by his younger brother). At the age of 24, Dickens married Catherine Hogarth. Later, he discovered his talent as a novelist and dedicated himself to artistic creation. He

visited the USA twice. Dickens was also a master of the art of reading. He founded an acting theater. From 1858 to 1868, he held dramatic readings of his novels in England and America. The audience was like strong wine for Dickens; he reveled in the applause. Dickens knew more than he revealed. His highly emotional nature prevented him from comprehending Dostoevsky's tragedy or achieving the complete understanding of life that elevated Tolstoy to a high position among world novelists. In short, he had everything. During his second visit in 1867-1868, Dickens organized a triumphant reading tour around the USA, which greatly exhausted him and undermined his health. He died suddenly on June 9, 1870. Dickens was buried in Westminster Abbey. After Dickens's death, something irreplaceable vanished from English life - a bright light that exposed the century's futile commercialism, encouraging people to laugh and be kind again, urging them to overcome the cruelty in which they had become entangled. Like all great creators, he perceived the world as if seeing it for the first time, and he possessed an incredibly wide range of linguistic capabilities, from humorous inventiveness to great oratory. He created an unparalleled diversity of characters and situations after Shakespeare. He had such an enormous influence on his readers that the attitude towards life in his novels became ingrained in English tradition. He viewed reason and theory with distrust but elevated compassion and joyfulness of heart to the highest virtues. In his deeply contemplative moments, he realized that cheerfulness alone couldn't eradicate the Coketowns of the world. He largely kept this thought to himself, and his strong emotions helped him conceal it.

Dickens's Creative Work

Dickens was the greatest novelist of his age. He wrote a tremendous number of works. He created a new type of novel - a social novel. The great contrast between rich and poor Dickens considered abnormal in a civilized society. Dickens put all his hopes in the good qualities of human nature. To the end of his life he hoped to find means to better the world he lived in. But while painting hard reality, Dickens changed his attitude as years went by, as to the causes of poverty and exploitation. His 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 - 1836), "The Posthumous Papers of the Pickwick Club", "Oliver Twist", "Nicholas Nickleby", "Barnaby 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 honour. They prefer to live in poverty and work hard. Finally

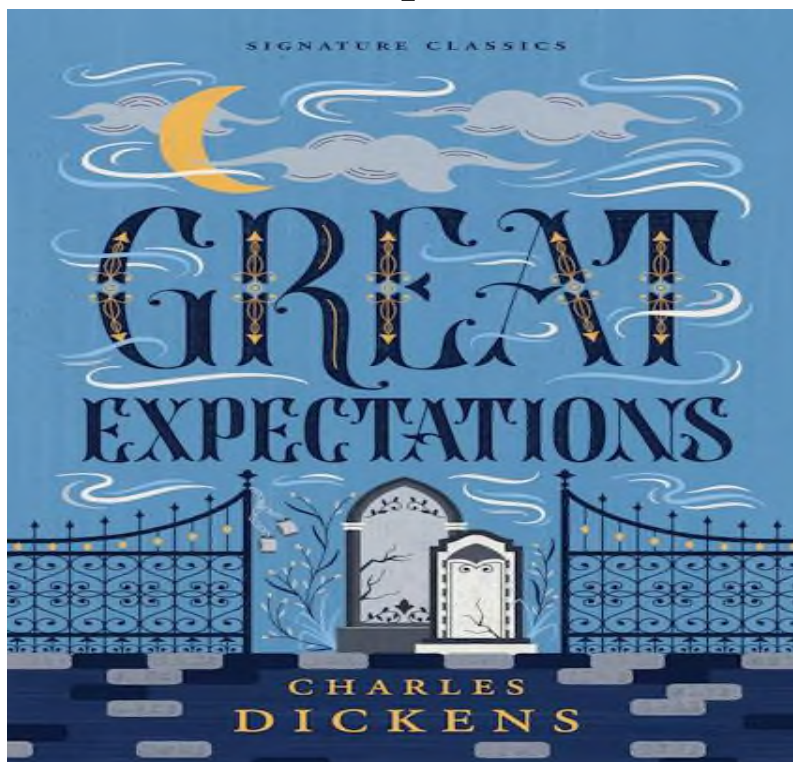
virtue conquers evil. Humour and optimism are characteristic of the first period in Dickens's writings.

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 English people life.

IV. The fourth period in Dickens's creative work was the sixties. During these years he wrote only 2 novels: "Great Expectations", and "Our Mutual Friend". These works are written in a spirit of disillusionment. Now he feels that a better future is too far off and he only allows himself, as a writer, to dream of that future. His heroes show the moral strength and patience of the common people.²

Great expectation



² Bakoeva, M., Muratova, E., and Ochilova, M. English Literature. Tashkent, 2006, p. 132.

"Great Expectations," penned by Charles Dickens, stands as a cornerstone of English literature, exploring themes of social class, ambition, and personal transformation in 19th-century England. Published serially from 1860 to 1861, it tells the story of Pip, an orphan whose life takes an unexpected turn when he receives a mysterious inheritance, leading him on a journey of self-discovery and moral reckoning.

The novel's narrative, told entirely from Pip's perspective, immerses the reader in his world, beginning with his humble upbringing in the marshes of Kent. A pivotal moment occurs when Pip encounters an escaped convict named Abel Magwitch in a churchyard, an event that sets in motion a series of life-altering circumstances. This encounter not only establishes a sense of danger but also foreshadows Pip's future entanglements with crime and class disparity.

Pip's life takes another dramatic turn when he is invited to Satis House, the home of the eccentric Miss Havisham and her adopted daughter, Estella. Miss Havisham, jilted on her wedding day, seeks revenge on all men through Estella, whom she raises to be cold and heartless. Estella's beauty and refinement captivate Pip, but her disdain for his "commonness" fuels his desire to become a gentleman, setting the stage for his great expectations.

As Pip embarks on his journey to become a gentleman, he moves to London and immerses himself in a world of wealth and privilege. He receives an education, makes new friends, and begins to distance himself from his humble origins. However, as Pip ascends the social ladder, he becomes increasingly disillusioned with the values of the upper class, realizing that wealth and status do not necessarily equate to happiness or moral worth.

A significant turning point in Pip's journey occurs when he discovers the identity of his benefactor. It is not Miss Havisham, as he had long believed, but rather the convict, Abel Magwitch, whom he had helped as a child. This revelation shatters Pip's illusions and forces him to confront the true nature of his great expectations. He learns that his wealth and status are not the result of his own merit but rather the product of a criminal's gratitude.

Throughout the novel, Dickens explores the complexities of human relationships, particularly those between Pip and the key figures in his life. His relationship with Joe Gargery, the kind and simple blacksmith who raised him, is tested as Pip becomes increasingly ashamed of his humble origins. His infatuation with Estella leads him to pursue an unattainable ideal, blinding him to the true value of genuine affection.

"Great Expectations" has been adapted into various media, including a 1998 film directed by Alfonso Cuarón. This adaptation sets the story in 1990s New York, with Pip reimagined as Finn, a painter, and Miss Havisham as Nora Dinsmoor. While the film received mixed reviews, it captures the essence of Dickens's novel, exploring themes of love, loss, and the pursuit of dreams in a modern context.

Dickens's novel delves into the theme of social class, highlighting the stark disparities between the wealthy elite and the impoverished masses in Victorian England. Pip's journey from a humble village to the bustling streets of London exposes him to the superficiality and moral decay of the upper class, leading him to question the values he once aspired to.

Ultimately, "Great Expectations" is a story of redemption and self-discovery. Pip's journey teaches him the importance of humility, compassion, and genuine human connection. He learns that true worth lies not in wealth or status but in the strength of one's character and the bonds of friendship and love. The novel's enduring popularity lies in its timeless themes and its ability to resonate with readers of all ages and backgrounds.

Exercise 2. Scan QR and watch the video then do research map .




Charles Dickens Research Map

Use the Internet to research the life and legacy of Charles Dickens. Record your research findings below.

Early Life

Later Life



The Writer

Legacy


ink s

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This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are approximately 20 lines visible. The paper has a slight shadow on the right side, suggesting it's part of a bound notebook.

Exercise 4. Multiple choice questions.

1. According to the text, what is a central theme explored in "Great Expectations"?

- A) The glorification of wealth and social status as the ultimate goals in life.
- B) The critique of social class disparities and the pursuit of personal transformation.
- C) The importance of maintaining one's social status regardless of moral implications.
- D) The celebration of the British monarchy and its influence on Victorian society.

2. Based on the text, what is the significance of Abel Magwitch in Pip's life?

- A) Magwitch represents Pip's connection to the criminal underworld and the source of his unexpected wealth.
- B) Magwitch is a minor character who has little impact on Pip's personal development.
- C) Magwitch serves as a mentor figure who guides Pip in his pursuit of social status.
- D) Magwitch is Pip's rival, who constantly challenges him throughout the novel.

3. According to the text, what does Pip realize as he ascends the social ladder in London?

- A) Wealth and status are the keys to true happiness and fulfillment.
- B) The values of the upper class are inherently superior to those of the lower class.
- C) Wealth and status do not necessarily equate to happiness or moral worth.
- D) Education and refinement are the only paths to personal success.

Exercise 5. Open Ended Questions.

1. In "Great Expectations," Pip's journey is significantly shaped by unexpected encounters and the influence of others. Reflect on a time when an unexpected encounter or the influence of someone altered your path or perspective in a significant way. How did this experience challenge or change your expectations for yourself or your future?

2. The novel explores the stark contrasts between wealth and poverty, love and rejection, and good and evil. Consider a time when you experienced or witnessed a significant contrast in your own life or community. How did this contrast impact your understanding of the world, and what did you learn from navigating this disparity?

3."Great Expectations" delves into themes of personal growth, social class, and the pursuit of dreams. Reflect on your own aspirations and dreams. How do societal expectations or your own personal background influence your pursuit of these dreams? What challenges have you faced, and how have you adapted or overcome them in your journey?

UNIT 3. George Eliot



Exercise 1. Before reading the text, answer the following questions.

- 1 Who was George Eliot, and what was her real name?
- 2 What are some of George Eliot's most famous novels?
- 3 How did George Eliot's personal life influence her writing?
- 4 Why did George Eliot use a pen name instead of her real name?
- 5 What are the main themes commonly explored in George Eliot's works?
- 6 How did George Eliot's novels contribute to the development of English literature?
- 7 What was the public's reaction to George Eliot's works during her time?
- 8 How does George Eliot's portrayal of social and moral issues resonate with modern readers?

George Eliot

(1819-1880)

George Eliot is the pen-name of Mary Ann Evans, one of the most distinguished English novelists of the Victorian period. Mary Ann Evans was born in Warwickshire in 1819. She received an excellent education in private schools and from tutors. After her father's death in 1849, she traveled in Europe and settled in London. There she wrote for important journals. British intellectuals regarded her as one of the leading thinkers of her day. Before she wrote fiction, she had translated several philosophical works from German into English.

When Mary Ann Evans began to publish fiction in 1858, she took the pen name George Eliot; this change was an emblem of the seriousness with which she addressed her new career. There were many successful women novelists in Victorian England who wrote under their own names, but there existed a general assumption that they wrote "women's novels". When Evans began to publish her novels under an assumed name she was implicitly asserting her intention to rival the greatest novelists of her day. Of all the women novelists of the nineteenth century, she was the most learned and, in her creative achievement, the most adult. Much of her fiction reflects the middle-class rural background of her childhood and youth.

George Eliot wrote with sympathy, wisdom and realism about English country people and small towns. She wrote seriously about moral and social problems. Her first novel "Adam Bede", published in 1859, is a tragic love story. Her works "The Mill on the Floss" (1860) and "Silas Marner" are set against country background. Her "Romola" is a historical novel set in Renaissance Florence. George Eliot's only

political novel is “Felix Holt, Radical” written in 1866 is considered one of her poorer works. George Eliot’s masterpiece “Middlemarch: A Study of Provincial Life” (1871-1872) is a long story of many complex characters, and their influence on and reaction to each other. Her last novel “Daniel Deronda” (1876) displays the author’s knowledge of and sensitivity to Jewish culture. Her intellect was sufficiently employed in the difficult problem of structure not to impede her imagination. She had achieved the nearest approach in English to Balzac. In George Eliot’s work, one is aware of her desire to enlarge the possibilities of the novel as a form of expression: she wishes to include new themes, to penetrate more deeply into character.³

Major Works of George Eliot

There are some novels

- 1. Adam Bede (1859)
- 2. The Mill on the Floss (1860)
- 3. Silas Marner (1861)
- 4. Romola (1863)
- Felix Holt, the Radical (1866)
- Middlemarch (1871–1872)
- "Quarry for Middlemarch", MS Lowell 13, Houghton Library, Harvard University (A digital facsimile of the manuscript of research notes)
- Daniel Deronda (1876)

Short story collection and novellas

- Scenes of Clerical Life (1857)
- The Sad Fortunes of the Rev. Amos Barton
- Mr Gilfil's Love Story
- Janet's Repentance
- The Lifted Veil (1859)
- Brother Jacob (1864)
- Impressions of Theophrastus Such (1879)

Translations

- Das Leben Jesu, kritisch bearbeitet (The Life of Jesus, Critically Examined) Volume 2 by David Strauss (1846)
- Das Wesen des Christentums (The Essence of Christianity) by Ludwig Feuerbach (1854)
- The Ethics of Benedict de Spinoza by Benedict de Spinoza (1856)

some poetry

- Knowing That I Must Shortly Put Off This Tabernacle (1840)
- In a London Drawingroom (1865)
- A Minor Prophet (1865)

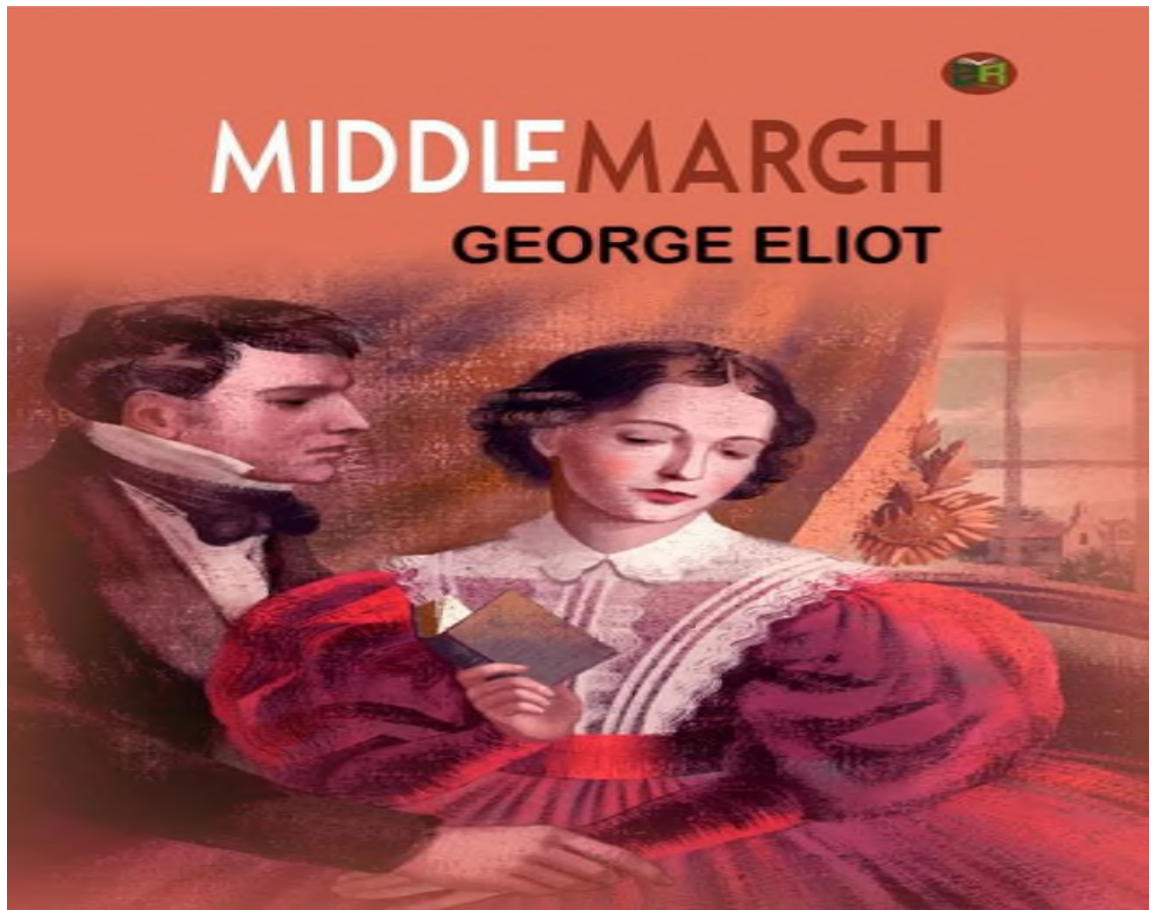
³ Bakoeva, M., Muratova, E., and Ochilova, M. English Literature. Tashkent, 2006, p. 141

- Two Lovers (1866)
- May I Join the Choir Invisible (1867)
- The Spanish Gypsy (1868)
- Agatha (1869)
- Brother and Sister (1869)
- How Lisa Loved the King (1869)
- The Legend of Jubal (1869)
- Armgart (1870)
- Stradivarius (1873)
- Arion (1873)
- I Grant You Ample Leave (1874)
- Sweet Evenings Come and Go, Love (1878)
- Self and Life (1879)
- A College Breakfast Party (1878)
- The Death of Moses (1878)

There are some non-fiction

- George Eliot's Nonfiction For digital copies of all George Eliot's nonfiction (approximately 70 essays), and all her published writings, see the GeorgeEliotArchive.org.
- "Three Months in Weimar" (1855)
- "Silly Novels by Lady Novelists" (1856)
- "The Natural History of German Life" (1856)
- Review of John Ruskin's Modern Painters in Westminster Review, April 1856
- "The Influence of Rationalism" (1865)

Middlemarch



"Middlemarch," penned by George Eliot, the pseudonym of Mary Ann Evans, is a novel that unfolds in the fictional English Midlands town of Middlemarch between 1829 and 1832. Published in eight installments during 1871 and 1872, the novel intricately weaves together distinct yet interconnected stories, populated by a diverse cast of characters. Eliot delves into profound themes such as the status of women, the complexities of marriage, the pursuit of idealism, the prevalence of self-interest, the role of religion, the presence of hypocrisy, the drive for political reform, and the significance of education.

Dorothea Brooke is a young woman of deep intellect and idealism, raised by her uncle, Mr. Brooke. Striving to find her purpose in life, she dreams of intellectual fulfillment and creating change in the world. Rejecting conventional assumptions about marriage, she becomes interested in Edward Casaubon, a much older clergyman who promises a life devoted to scholarly pursuits. Despite warnings, Dorothea marries Casaubon, believing she can assist in his grand work studying human knowledge. The marriage turns to disillusionment. Casaubon proves to be cold, emotionally distant, and possessive. His "great work" becomes a disorganized and endless project, offering Dorothea no true intellectual companionship.

Meanwhile, impressed by Dorothea's spirit and intelligence, Casaubon grows increasingly jealous of his young cousin Will Ladislaw. This triangle becomes the novel's central emotional conflict. Casaubon dies but leaves a vengeful clause in his will: if Dorothea marries Will Ladislaw, she will forfeit her inheritance. Nevertheless, Dorothea's emotional and intellectual connection with Will continues to grow.

Dr. Tertius Lydgate arrives in Middlemarch as an ambitious young doctor intending to reform medical practice and apply modern science. An idealist and progressive, Lydgate hopes to work at a new hospital funded by Mr. Bulstrode, a wealthy and solitary man. He aims to raise medical standards and free the field from unscientific traditions. However, Lydgate becomes entangled in the town's social life and marries the beautiful but superficial Rosamond Vincy. Rosamond's dreams of social status and material prosperity conflict with Lydgate's professional goals and financial constraints. Their marriage soon falters, especially as Lydgate's medical practice fails to bring the expected income. Financial difficulties mount, and Lydgate is forced to borrow money from Bulstrode - just as Bulstrode's religious hypocrisy and dubious financial past begin to come to light. Later, when Bulstrode is implicated in the suspicious death of a patient (John Raffles), Lydgate's association with him tarnishes his reputation. Discouraged and defeated, Lydgate abandons his reforms and reverts to conventional medical practice.

Rosamond's brother, Fred Vincy, is a charming and carefree young man whose parents wish to steer him towards the clergy. However, Fred lacks genuine passion and falls into debt and irresponsibility. He falls in love with Mary Garth, the principled and intelligent daughter of the respected land agent Caleb Garth. Mary refuses to accept Fred's love unless he proves himself worthy - by becoming reliable and working honestly. Inspired by Mary's influence, Fred gradually matures. He apprentices himself to Caleb Garth and learns the value of hard work and integrity. Eventually, he becomes a land agent himself and earns Mary's approval. The two build a marriage based on mutual respect and moral maturity.

Nicholas Bulstrode is a wealthy banker and philanthropist known for his strict religious principles. However, his past reveals a dark truth: he amassed wealth through morally questionable means and concealed his history by changing his identity. His past begins to unravel when John Raffles, who knows his secrets, arrives in Middlemarch. Raffles' mysterious death - while under Lydgate's care - provokes scandal and suspicion. Bulstrode is publicly disgraced, and Lydgate's name is tainted by association. Bulstrode's downfall underscores the novel's critique of religious hypocrisy and moral compromises related to power and wealth.

Dorothea's uncle, Mr. Brooke, aspires to be elected to parliament on a reform platform. But he is inept and out of touch with modern political ideas. His election campaign proves farcical and unsuccessful. Meanwhile, Dorothea's admirer Will Ladislaw actively engages in politics and journalism, promoting liberal ideas and representing the voice of a younger generation striving for change. Political events echo the characters' personal struggles, emphasizing themes of political, social, or personal development and the resistance such development faces.

After Casaubon's death, Dorothea finds herself in an emotionally and financially constrained position due to his will. Although her growing love for Will Ladislaw is hindered by social expectations and the risk of losing her wealth, Dorothea demonstrates strong will and idealism, choosing love and meaning over money. She marries Will and dedicates herself to political and moral activities alongside him.

Lydgate sinks into despair and lives a quiet, respectable life, but dies young, feeling he has failed to achieve his dreams. Fred and Mary's marriage flourishes, embodying enduring moral values.

Exercise 2. Scan QR and watch the video George Eliot Biography then do research map.

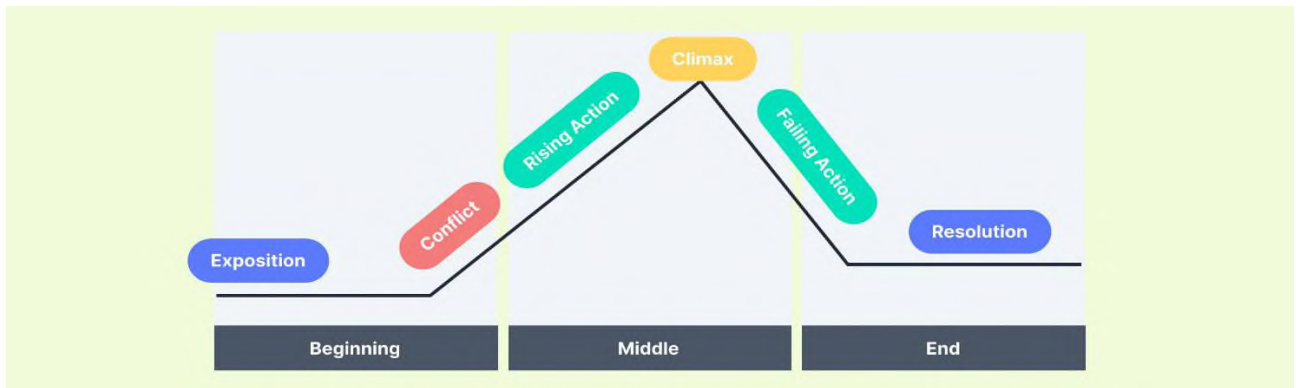


Scan me!

RESEARCH MAP

Early life	Literary development	Major work and themes	Relationships and controversies	Later years and final works

Exercise 3. Make up plot of Middlemarch including six elements given below.



Exposition: _____

Rising action: _____

Climax: _____

Falling action: _____

Resolution: _____

Exercise 3. True/False Questions.

1. Middlemarch is set in a fictional town during the years leading up to the 1832 Reform Act.
2. Dorothea Brooke marries Will Ladislaw at the beginning of the novel.
3. Tertius Lydgate is a traditional doctor who resists medical reform.
4. Casaubon's will disinherits Dorothea if she marries his cousin, Will Ladislaw.
5. Rosamond Vincy is portrayed as selfless and supportive of Lydgate's ambitions.
6. Nicholas Bulstrode is a morally upright banker with no secrets.
7. Middlemarch explores themes of political reform and societal change.
8. Fred Vincy eventually matures and marries Mary Garth.
9. The novel does not address ethical dilemmas or social responsibility.
10. Middlemarch is considered one of the greatest novels in English literature.

Exercise 4. Multiple Choice Questions.

1. What is the primary setting of Middlemarch?
 - a) London
 - b) Middlemarch, a fictional Midlands town
 - c) Paris
 - d) Rome
2. Who does Dorothea Brooke first marry?
 - a) Will Ladislaw
 - b) Fred Vincy
 - c) Edward Casaubon
 - d) Tertius Lydgate
3. What is Tertius Lydgate's profession?
 - a) Lawyer
 - b) Politician

c) Doctor

d) Banker

4. Which character exposes Nicholas Bulstrode's past?

a) Will Ladislaw

b) John Raffles

c) Fred Vincy

d) Caleb Garth

5. Who is disinherited if she marries Will Ladislaw?

a) Rosamond Vincy

b) Mary Garth

c) Dorothea Brooke

d) Celia Brooke

6. What political event serves as the novel's backdrop?

a) The Industrial Revolution

b) The Reform Act of 1832

c) The French Revolution

d) The War of Roses

7. Who does Fred Vincy eventually marry?

a) Dorothea Brooke

b) Rosamond Vincy

c) Mary Garth

d) Celia Brooke

8. Who is Lydgate's financial downfall linked to?

a) Edward Casaubon

b) Nicholas Bulstrode

c) Fred Vincy

d) Will Ladislaw

9. Which character works as a newspaper editor?

a) Fred Vincy

b) Tertius Lydgate

c) Will Ladislaw

d) Nicholas Bulstrode

10. How does Rosamond Vincy react to financial difficulties?

a) She supports Lydgate's reforms

b) She blames Lydgate and distances herself emotionally

c) She encourages him to take on more debt

d) She helps him find a solution

UNIT 4. Oscar Wilde



Exercise 1. Before reading the text, answer the following questions.

- 1 What do you know about Oscar Wilde? Have you read any of his works?
- 2 How can a writer's family background influence their work?
- 3 How do people's personal experiences, such as success or tragedy, affect their writing or art?
- 4 What role do you think critics and society play in determining an artist's success or failure?
- 5 According to the text, what is the significance of the double lives led by John Worthing and Algernon Moncrieff in "The Importance of Being Earnest?"
- 6 How does the character of Lady Bracknell embody the social norms and expectations of the late Victorian era?
- 7 What settings are featured in "The Importance of Being Earnest," and how do these locations contribute to the play's themes?

Oscar Wilde

Oscar Wilde, born Oscar Fingal O'Flahertie Wills Wilde on October 16, 1854, in Dublin, Ireland, was a prominent figure in late 19th century England. He excelled as a dramatist, essayist, novelist, and poet, leaving an indelible mark on the aesthetic movement. Wilde's life, both in his work and personal affairs, was marked by both brilliance and tragedy.

Wilde's family background was rich in both literature and medicine. His father, William Wilde, was a respected eye and ear surgeon in Dublin and was knighted for his work as a medical advisor. He even founded St. Mark's Ophthalmic Hospital at his own expense to treat the poor. His mother, Jane Francesca Elgee, was a poet and Irish revolutionary who wrote under the name "Speranza". She was a skilled linguist, and her translation of "Sidonia the Sorceress" deeply influenced Wilde's later writing.

From a young age, Wilde was a bright and enthusiastic student. He attended Trinity College, Dublin, where he won the Berkeley Gold Medal for Greek. Later, at Magdalen College, Oxford, he received the Newdigate Prize for his poem "Ravenna". It was at Oxford that he became involved in the aesthetic movement, championing the importance of beauty in art.

After graduating, Wilde moved to London to pursue a literary career. In 1881, he published his first collection of poetry. He married Constance Lloyd in 1884, and they had two children. His first prose work, "The Happy Prince, and Other Tales," was published in 1888. Wilde's literary output was diverse, including contributions to the 'Pall Mall Gazette' and fairy tales.

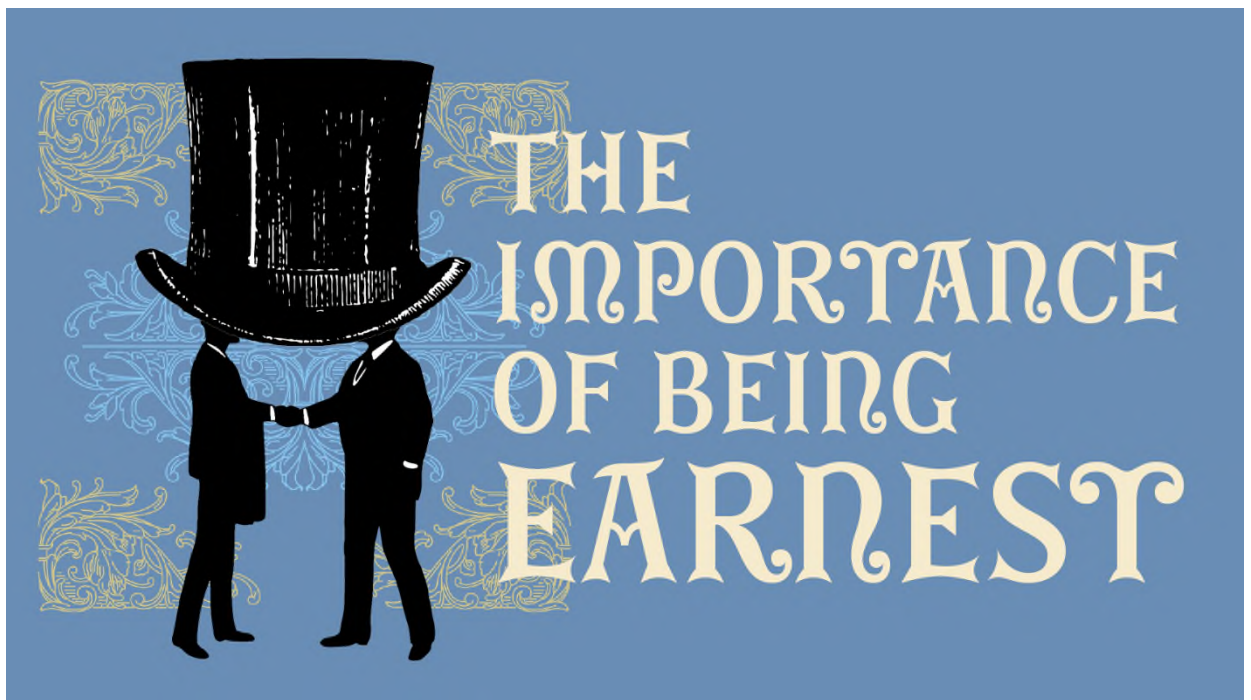
Wilde's most enduring fame rests on his plays, particularly his comedies. "The Importance of Being Earnest," first performed in 1895, is considered a classic of comic theater. Other notable plays include "Lady Windermere's Fan" and "An Ideal Husband". George Bernard Shaw considered Wilde "our only thorough playwright" because he played with everything: wit, philosophy, drama, actors, and the audience. Wilde also wrote "The Picture of Dorian Gray" (1891), his only novel, which, despite initial criticism for being immoral, is now recognized as one of his most significant works. The purpose of social comedy, according to Wilde, is not to reform the morality of his time, but to reflect it. In general, Wilde says, art is not at all connected with the truth of life; real life embodies neither social nor moral values. Elegance and beauty are created by the artist's imagination. Therefore, it is futile to demand any similarity between reality and its depiction in art. Thus, he was a proponent of the "art for art's sake" doctrine. In his works, the author mainly dealt with the lives of educated people with refined taste.

They belonged to the privileged class of society and spent their time in amusement. In "The Importance of Being Earnest," the author shows how his characters lead futile lives. Some of them are undoubtedly caricatures, but their worldview and behavior truly characterize the upper crust of London. Wilde opposes their limitations, strongly criticizes hypocrisy, but, being himself a member of the upper class, he was very closely connected with the society that he mocked; therefore, his opposition does not have effective resistance.

The author's most famous works are "The Happy Prince and Other Tales" (1888), "The Picture of Dorian Gray" (1891), and the comedies "Lady Windermere's Fan" (1892), "A Woman of No Importance" (1893), "An Ideal Husband" (1895), and "The Importance of Being Earnest" (1895). At the height of his popularity and success, a tragedy occurred. He was convicted of immorality and sentenced to two years in prison. After his release from prison in 1897, he lived mainly on the continent, and later in Paris. In 1898, he published his powerful poem "The Ballad of Reading Gaol." He died in Paris in 1900.

"The Picture of Dorian Gray" is the only novel written by Oscar Wilde. It focuses on the complex problems of the relationship between art and reality. In the novel, the writer depicts the spiritual life of a young man and touches upon many important issues of modern life: morality, art, and beauty. At the beginning of the novel, we see an inexperienced youth, a kind and innocent young man. Dorian is influenced by two people with sharply contrasting characters: Basil Hallward and Lord Henry Wotton. Their attitudes towards the young man show different approaches to life, art, and beauty. The author portrays the gradual degradation of Dorian Gray. The end of the book contradicts Wilde's theory of decadence. The return of the portrait to its former beauty and Dorian Gray lying on the floor "withered, wrinkled, and loathsome of visage," with a knife in his heart, demonstrates the triumph of true beauty - a work of art created by the artist, a beautiful unity of form and content. Moreover, it puts forward the idea that true beauty cannot accompany an immoral life⁴.

The Importance of Being Earnest



"The Importance of Being Earnest" is a comedy play by Oscar Wilde, first performed in 1895. It is known as one of the greatest English-language comedies, known for its sharp dialogues, Victorian society satire, and clever plot twists. The

⁴ Bakoeva, M., Muratova, E., and Ochilova, M. English Literature. Tashkent, 2006, p. 149-151

work focuses on the themes of identity, social obligations, love, and the absurdities of higher society.

The play begins with Algernon Moncrieff's luxurious apartment in London. Algernon is joking and idle, enjoying life's pleasures. His friend, John Worthing, better known as Jack, came from the countryside. Jack created an imaginary brother named "Ernest," who pretended to be a city visitor. Indeed, Jack uses "Ernest" as a pretext to live a different life in London, which is far from his duties in the country as a guardian of a young woman named Cecily Cardew.

Algernon also admits to using a fictional disabled friend named "Bunbury" to escape tedious social obligations and enjoy secret adventures in the countryside. Both men actually live a double life to avoid "funeral" - the Victorian-era restrictions of respect.

Jack says that Algernon's cousin wants to marry Gwendolen Fairfax. When the girl arrives as a guest, he makes her an offer to marry her, and she gladly accepts it - partly because she always dreamed of marrying a man named "Ernest." However, his mother, the terrible Lady Bracknell, disapproves of Jack when she learns that he was adopted after being found in a bag at Victoria Station. He refuses to allow the engagement.

The second scene takes place in Jack's country house, where Cecil lives under the care of his governess, Mrs. Prism. Algernon, interested in meeting Cecily, appears in the estate, pretending to be Jack's mischievous brother, "Ernest." Cecily immediately falls in love with Algernon, especially since she has long dreamed of marrying a man named Ernest.

Meanwhile, Jack arrives at the castle in mourning clothes and announces the death of his "brother Ernest." He is surprised to see Algernon alive and pretending to be his fictional brother. Two men continue to lie and argue with each other.

Soon Gwendolen will come to the estate to see Jack. He meets Cecily, and both girls quickly realize that they are engaged to a young man named Ernest. This leads to confusion, competition, and ridiculous contradiction. Eventually, the truth emerges: neither Jack nor Algernon's real name is Ernest. At first, women get angry, but love and charm begin to attract them.

The last act returns to the drawing-room of the country house. Lady Bracknell arrives and immediately objects to Algernon's interest in Cecily, until he learns that Cecily has a large inheritance. Then he gives his consent. However, Lady Bracknell

still refused to approve of the alliance between Jack and Gwendolen. At this moment, Mrs. Prism is brought into the room. It turned out that she was a woman who accidentally left her baby in a bag at the railway station many years ago. It was baby Jack. Jack learns that he is Algernon's brother and his real name is Ernest. This discovery delighted Gwendolen, who was glad to be named Ernest. After all the puzzles were solved, the two couples - Jack and Gwendolen, Algernon and Cecily - happily reunited. The play ends in a cheerful and sarcastic tone, Jack says that he now fully understands the "importance of being serious."

Oscar Wilde's play is not just a frivolous comedy, but a vivid satire of Victorian norms and hypocrisy. Through sharp dialogues, absurd situations, and ironic twists, Wilde mocks people's serious attitude towards trivial things and exposes the superficiality of society's demands. The charm of the work lies in the ingenuity of wordplay, unforgettable images, and immortal interpretations of identity and truth.

Exercise 2. Play Kahoot game about Oscar Wilde.



<https://create.kahoot.it/details/11184dc6-5629-4aa7-96f0-74c29c84d2c7>

Exercise 3. Create a visual map showing relationships between Jack, Algernon, Gwendolen, Cecily, Lady Bracknell, and Miss Prism. Show how lies and mistaken identities affect these relationships.

Exercise 4. Match these quotes to the character who said them:

- "The truth is rarely pure and never simple."
- "To lose one parent may be regarded as a misfortune; to lose both looks like carelessness."
- "I've now realized for the first time in my life the vital Importance of Being Earnest."

Exercise 5. Multiple Choice Questions.

1. What is a central theme explored in "The Importance of Being Earnest"?

- A) The dangers of political corruption in Victorian England.
- B) The superficiality and hypocrisy of Victorian society, particularly concerning identity and social expectations.
- C) The importance of maintaining strict social hierarchies and traditions.
- D) The tragic consequences of forbidden love between members of different social classes.

2. What was the initial reception of "The Importance of Being Earnest" and what factors contributed to its early closure?

- A) It was initially praised but closed due to poor ticket sales.
- B) It was immediately controversial due to its overt political commentary.
- C) It was a triumph on opening night but was forced to close early due to the scandal surrounding Oscar Wilde's personal life.
- D) It received mixed reviews and struggled to find an audience due to its complex themes.

3. How do Gwendolen Fairfax and Cecily Cardew's perceptions of the name "Ernest" contribute to the play's satirical tone?

- A) Their indifference to the name highlights the play's critique of societal apathy.
- B) Their shared admiration for the name "Ernest," believing it signifies honesty, underscores the play's satire of judging individuals based on superficial qualities.
- C) Their preference for the name "Ernest" reflects their deep understanding of Victorian values.
- D) Their dislike of the name "Ernest" emphasizes the play's rejection of traditional names.

4. What is the primary reason that 'The Importance of Being Earnest' is considered a satirical play?

- A) Because it strictly adheres to the social norms of the Victorian era.
- B) Because it presents a straightforward and serious portrayal of Victorian society.
- C) Because it uses wit and humor to mock the manners and superficial values of the late Victorian era.
- D) Because it focuses on the tragic consequences of social inequality without comedic elements.

5. What event directly led to the early closing of "The Importance of Being Earnest" after its successful opening night?

- A) A fire that damaged the St James's Theatre, making it impossible to continue performances.

- B) A dispute between Oscar Wilde and the lead actors, causing them to abandon the production.
- C) The Marquess of Queensberry's public accusation and the subsequent legal proceedings against Oscar Wilde, leading to his conviction and imprisonment.
- D) Negative reviews from critics who deemed the play too scandalous for Victorian audiences.

6. What is the effect of the trials and imprisonment of Oscar Wilde on 'The Importance of Being Earnest'?

- A) The play continued to run successfully, solidifying Wilde's reputation as a playwright.
- B) The play was adapted into a film, increasing its popularity and Wilde's recognition.
- C) The play was forced to close early due to the scandal, and Wilde never wrote another comic or dramatic work.
- D) The play was rewritten to remove controversial elements, ensuring its continued performance.

7. How does the play 'The Importance of Being Earnest' satirize Victorian society's values?

- A) By glorifying the rigid social structures and expectations of the era.
- B) By presenting a straightforward and serious portrayal of Victorian life.
- C) By ridiculing the obsession with superficial qualities such as the name 'Ernest,' and highlighting the hypocrisy within the upper class.
- D) By advocating for radical social reforms and challenging the monarchy.

8. What is the ultimate message of 'The Importance of Being Earnest'?

- A) The importance of maintaining strict social hierarchies.
- B) The necessity of conforming to societal expectations to achieve happiness.
- C) The celebration of being true to oneself and challenging the conventions of society.
- D) The dangers of pursuing romantic relationships outside of one's social class.

UNIT 5. Thomas Hardy



Exercise 1. Before reading the text, answer the following questions.

- 1 Who was Thomas Hardy, and what literary period is he associated with?
- 2 What themes are common in Hardy's novels?
- 3 How might these themes appear in *Tess of the d'Urbervilles*?
- 4 What social and moral issues did Hardy challenge in his writing?
- 5 Why were some of his novels, including *Tess*, considered controversial?
- 6 What does the title *Tess of the d'Urbervilles* suggest about the main character and her background?
- 7 Why might Hardy choose a tragic structure for many of his novels?
- 8 What effect does tragedy have on a reader?

Thomas Hardy

Thomas Hardy was born in southwestern England, west of Dorsetshire. His father was a skilled stone-mason who taught his son to play the violin and sent him to a day school in the village.

Hardy began studying architecture and went to London in 1861 to begin his career. There he tried poetry, then began acting, and finally decided to write fiction. Hardy's home and surrounding districts played an important role in his literary career.

The region specialized in agriculture, where there were monuments of the past, namely the ruins of Saxony and Rome, and the giant rocks of Stonehenge, reminiscent of prehistoric times.

Prior to the Norman invasion of 1066, Hardy for the first time focused his science fiction on serial publication in magazines, where he quickly paid the fees. Not forgetting his earlier dream, he decided to keep his stories "as close to poetry on their subject as circumstances allow." The emotional power of Hardy's fiction troubled readers from the very beginning. His first success was *Away from the Mad Crowd* (1874), followed by *The Return of a Native Man* (1878), *The Mayor of Casterbridge* (1885), and *Tess of D'Urberville* (1891). Hardy wrote about the village of Dorset, which he knew well, and called it Wessex (the name of the Anglo-Saxon royal residence that once stood there). He wrote about agricultural workers, milkmaids, stonemasons, and shepherds. Hardy's rejection of middle-class moral values bothered and amazed some readers, but over time his novels gained popularity and prestige. Architect by profession, he gave architectural design to his novels, using each situation in the story for a single concentrated effect. The last impression left a bad impression.

Fate operates in men's lives, destroying their chances of achieving happiness and leading them to tragedy. Although he considered life cruel and aimless, he didn't remain an idle spectator. He feels pity for the Puppets of Destiny, and this pity is transferred from man to the earthworm and the diseased leaves of the tree. Such a concept gave his novels a high degree of seriousness, which few contemporaries possessed. No theory can make a writer a novelist alone, and Hardy's novels, great or not, have attracted subsequent generations of readers. In 1874 he married and in 1885 built a country house in Dorset. From 1877, she spent three to four months a year in a fashion society, and the rest of the time lived in the countryside.

In 1895, his work "Jude the Obscure" was so harshly criticized that Hardy decided to stop writing the novel altogether and returned to his former dream. In 1898, he published his first collection of poems.

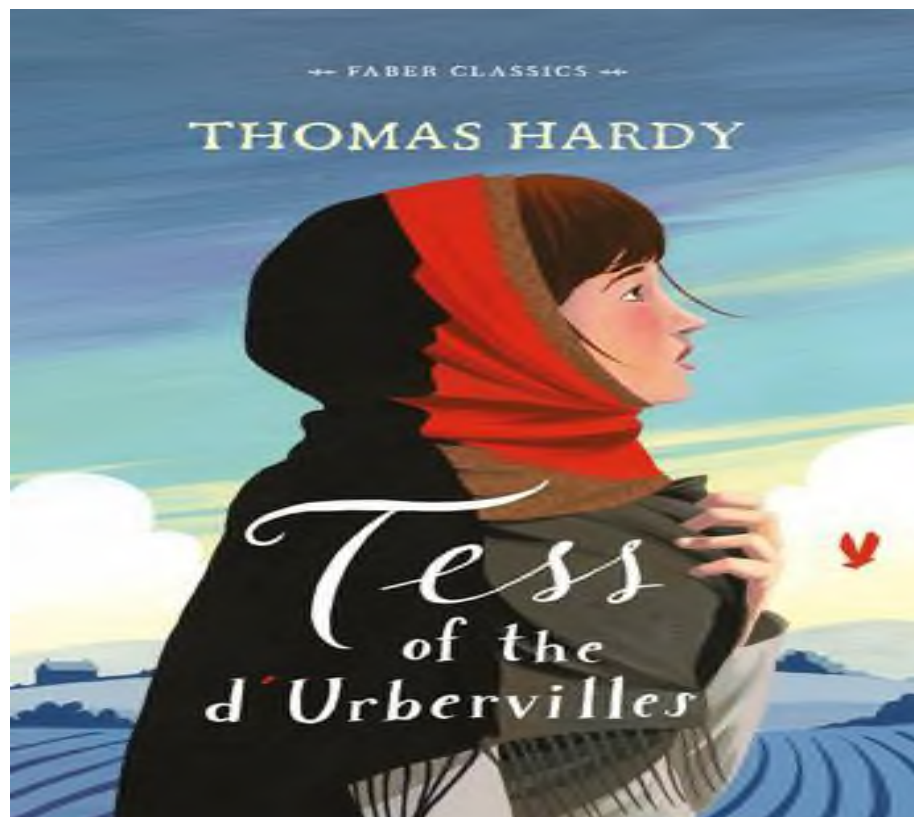
In the next twenty-nine years, Hardy wrote more than 900 poems. His poetry was completely independent of the tastes of his time. He said: "My poetry was revolutionary in the sense that I wanted to run away from the precious line...." Instead, he tried to express clear, detailed impressions of life with a rough, natural voice, rural diction, and uneven measurements.

Thomas Hardy was called the last of the great Victorians. Died in 1928. His ashes are buried in Westminster Abbey, but his heart is buried in Wessex due to his constant contact with his native district. It is difficult to accurately assess his position as a novelist. At first, he was condemned as a "second-rate romantic," and in the year of his death, he was elevated to the rank of one of the greatest representatives of English literature. The first view does not have good information, and the second

Perhaps this is superfluous, but the sincerity, courage, and successful patience of his art leave him as a great figure in English fiction. During the World War 1914-18, he dared to depict life with the darkness that existed within him, and in depicting it, if he did not lose compassion, he was read with delight. Often during stress, Hardy's art works similarly, thus becoming an eternal tradition of English literature⁵.

⁵ Bakoeva, M., Muratova, E., and Ochilova, M. English Literature. Tashkent, 2006, p. 147

The Tess of Urberville



Thomas Hardy's "The Tess of Urberville" is a touching Victorian novel that tells the story of a young woman's tragic struggle against class, gender, and moral expectations. First published in 1891, the novel sparked public controversy for boldly addressing women's right, social injustice, and hypocrisy. Under the subtitles "A Pure Woman, Devotedly Presented," the book invites readers to look beyond traditional moral judgment and into the soul of their protagonist Tess Darbyfield.

The story begins in the village of Marlot, where John Durbeyfield learns from a local pastor that he is a descendant of a noble but extinct d'Urberville family. This discovery fills him with false pride, and he sends his daughter Tess to contact the Stock-d'Urbervilles, who bear this name but have no real family ties. There Tess meets Alec d'Urberville, a wealthy, manipulative young man who seduces her and eventually attacks her.

Tess returns home in disgrace and gives birth to a child named Grief, who dies shortly after birth. Isolated from society and burdened by guilt, Tess seeks salvation through hard work and emotional distancing from men.

Later, Tess finds a job at Talbothays Dairy, where she meets Angela Claire, an idealist young man from a religious family. Unlike Alec, Angel is gentle and smart,

and he falls in love with Tess. She also falls in love with him, but hesitates to accept his proposal due to her past.

Despite repeated attempts to tell Angel the truth, Tess refuses to admit it before the wedding night. The Angel, who admitted his previous romantic mistake, cannot forgive Tess for his past. His ideals are shattered, and he abandons her and goes to Brazil.

Once again alone, Tess returns home and eventually finds a job at a harsh farm called Flintcomb-Ash. Her life is becoming increasingly complex, both physically and emotionally. In her despair and isolation, Alec reappears - now claiming to be a reformed man. When he learns that Angel has left her, he pressures Tess to live with him. Between survival and dignity, Tess finally yields to Alec, despite not loving him.

Finally, Angel returns from Brazil, repenting and striving for reconciliation. When he finds Tess and Alex, his heart breaks. In desperate action, Tess kills Alec, believing that only his death will free her from the presence of the Angel. The couple flee to the village for a short time and enjoy a few days of peace. However, Tess was soon arrested and sentenced to death.

The novel ends with Tess's execution in Stonehenge, symbolizing ancient justice and inevitable fate. The angel, accompanied by Tess's sister Lisa-Lou, remains grieving and perhaps seeking atonement through caring for her.

Hardy's novel explores profound themes such as fate, purity, morality, and the harshness of social judgment. Tess is presented not as a fallen woman, but as a pure soul who has fallen into unjust circumstances. Hardy criticizes the dual standards of Victorian morality, particularly how women were punished for sexual crimes much more severely than men.

Fate plays a powerful role throughout the novel. From the moment Tess's family learns about their supposedly noble origins, events begin to unfold tragically. Hardy uses natural imagery, such as changing seasons and rural landscapes, to reflect Tess's inner turmoil and the stages of her life.

Both Alec and Angel represent different, but equally erroneous views on women. Alec is a predator and uses power to control Tess, while Angel idolizes her and cannot accept her real experiences. None of the men truly understood her. Through this, Hardy criticizes women for limiting unrealistic ideals and harshly judging men.

Hardy's works are lyrical and full of rich natural imagery. The village is vividly depicted and serves as a backdrop for Tess's emotions and fate. Symbolism is widely used: red color, d'Urberville's tombs, the death of the prince's horse, and finally, Stonehenge indicate inevitability and sacrifice.

The subtitle "A Pure Woman, Devotedly Presented" was controversial, but key to Hardy's message. He insists that Tess's purity lies not in social definitions, but in her sincerity, honesty, and emotional truthfulness.

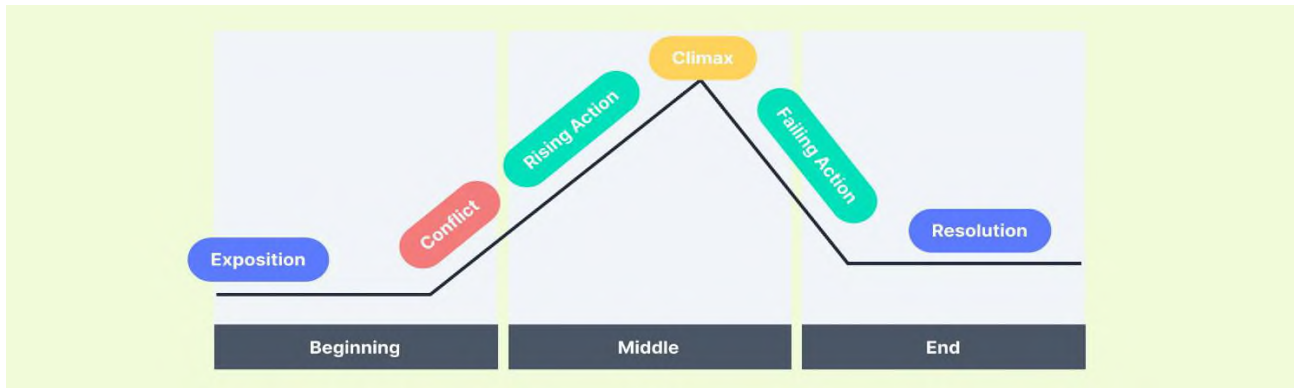
Tess from D'Urberville remains a powerful and emotionally resonant novel. Tess's story is both a personal tragedy and a broader accusation of social norms that condemn rather than protect the vulnerable. Hardy's portrayal evokes sympathy and encourages readers to reconsider the ideas of guilt, virtue, and justice.

Exercise 2. Scan QR and watch the video Thomas Hardy Biography then write summary with 150 words.

[illegible]

Exercise 3. Create a character web showing the relationships between Tess, Alec, Angel, her family, and others and explain how each character influences Tess's fate.

Exercise 4. Make up plot of The Tess of Urberville including six elements given below.



Exposition: _____

Rising action: _____

Climax: _____

Falling action: _____

Resolution: _____

UNIT 6. Lewis Carroll



Exercise 1. Before reading the text, answer the following questions.

- 1 What is the name of the author known as Lewis Carroll, and where was he born?
- 2 What are the titles and years of publication of Lewis Carroll's most famous literary works?
- 3 Besides writing children's books, what other professions and activities did Carroll pursue?

- 4 What role did Carroll's family origins play in shaping his early life and education?
- 5 How did Carroll demonstrate creativity in childhood
- 6 Where did Carroll receive his higher education and in which subject did he excel?
- 7 What is the significance of Alice Liddell in Carroll's life and work
- 8 What literary style and themes is Lewis Carroll known for?

Lewis Carroll

Charles Lutwidge Dodgson, the man we know as Lewis Carroll, was born on January 27, 1832, in Daresbury, Cheshire, England. Best known for his timeless classics, "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland" (1865) and "Through the Looking-Glass" (1871), Carroll was more than just a children's author. He was a multifaceted individual: a writer, poet, mathematician, photographer, and even a reluctant Anglican deacon. He passed away on January 14, 1898, in Guildford, Surrey.

Carroll's family was deeply rooted in the northern English, conservative, and high-church Anglican tradition. Most of his male relatives had careers as army officers or Anglican clergymen. He was the third of eleven children. Growing up, Carroll's early life was secluded and quiet, a stark contrast to the significant impact he would later have on children's literature. His nephew, Stuart Dodgson Collingwood, wrote that Carroll "invented the strangest diversions for himself...made pets of the most odd and unlikely animals, and numbered certain snails and toads among his intimate friends".

Even at a young age, Carroll showed a creative spark. He entertained his family with magic tricks, marionette shows, and by writing poetry for his homemade newspapers. In 1845, while at Richmond School, he created "Useful and Instructive Poetry," a family magazine for his younger siblings. One of his instructors noted that Carroll had a tendency to get creative with grammar, though he was expected to outgrow it.

Carroll's academic journey led him to Rugby School in 1846 and later to Christ Church College, Oxford, where he excelled in mathematics and writing, graduating in 1854. He remained at Christ Church as a teacher. His mathematical works include "An Elementary Treatise on Determinants" (1867), "Euclid and His Modern Rivals" (1879), and "Curiosa Mathematica" (1888). While teaching, he was ordained as a deacon but never actually preached.

Beyond his academic pursuits, Carroll explored photography, often photographing children. Alice Liddell, the daughter of the Dean at Christ Church, was one of his favorite subjects and later became the inspiration for Alice in "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland". However, Carroll himself always denied that Alice Liddell was the sole inspiration for his character.

Carroll's writing is characterized by wordplay, logic, and fantasy. His poems, such as "Jabberwocky" (1871) and "The Hunting of the Snark" (1876), are prime examples of literary nonsense. His interest in logic stemmed from its playful nature, which is reflected in some of the nonsensical logic found in "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland". In 1879, Carroll invented the word ladder puzzle, which he called "Doublets," and published it in his weekly column for *Vanity Fair* magazine.

Interestingly, Carroll had a stutter, a trait shared by many of his siblings. Some believe his imaginative world was a refuge where his stutter disappeared. Biographer John Pudney suggested that Carroll's "childlike fantasies" allowed him to enter a world where he didn't stutter, becoming "one of them" when he spoke to children. In 1859, he sought speech therapy from James Hunt, a leading speech correctionist.

Today, Lewis Carroll's legacy lives on through numerous societies dedicated to promoting and celebrating his life and works. The Lewis Carroll Society and the Lewis Carroll Society of North America, for example, host conferences, publish research, and share Carroll's contributions to society and culture. These societies bring together collectors, scholars, actors, and enthusiasts from all walks of life who appreciate the magic of "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland" and the brilliance of Lewis Carroll.

Lewis Carroll's unique blend of logic, mathematics, and imagination continues to captivate readers of all ages. His works have been adapted into various forms, including radio, television, and motion pictures, ensuring that his stories and characters remain beloved for generations to come.

Alice's Adventure in Wonderland



In a quiet afternoon, young Alice sits on the riverbank with her sister, bored with a book without pictures. Suddenly he sees a white rabbit, dressed in a coat, and says: "What a pity! "I'm late!" he said and grabbed his pocket watch. Interest awakens, and Alice follows her, rolling down the seemingly endless rabbit nest, filled with floating objects and corridor shelves.

He descends into a huge hall full of locked doors. On the table lay a small golden key, which opened a small door and showed him the wonderful garden he dreamed of entering. But it's too big.

Alice finds a bottle with the inscription "Drink Me," which reduces it to the ideal size for a garden door - but it is still too high to take the key. Then he comes across a cake with the inscription "EAT ME." After tasting it, he becomes a giant and wept mountains of tears. He shrinks again, passes through his tears, and encounters a mouse and various animals. He tried to engage them in conversation, but no one understood him. Soon, Alice and the animals are saved from the flood, which they unknowingly created.

Alice swims ashore and encounters the emotionally variable Duck, Lori, Eagle, and other creatures. They get into the "Kokus-race," where all winners receive a prize equally - this is a ridiculous parody of political elections.

Later, Alice again finds Rabbit's house. There he drinks another infusion, which makes him so big that he stays at home. Bill the Lizard is lowered through a chimney to investigate and immediately shot with an explosion.

Alice sits on a mushroom and encounters a mysterious worm smoking a hookah. He questions the woman's identity and tells her that one side of the mushroom makes her smaller, while the other side makes her grow.

Soon she meets the Cheshire Cat, who appears and disappears as she pleases, only her smile remains. The cat mysteriously explains that all the people in Wonderland have gone mad... including herself.

Following the instructions of the Cheshire Cat, Alice arrives at a strange tea party organized by the Mad Hat and the Mart Bunny. Their endless drinking is punishment for "killing time." The sleepy "Bed Mouse" presents an absurd story about sick

Angered by senseless politeness and unanswered endless riddles, Alice sets off to explore the rest of Wonderland.

Alice follows the Cheshire Cat to the Queen of Hearts territory. Encountering card gardeners painting roses red to hide their mistakes, Alice witnesses a unique croquet game: flamingos act as clubs, hedgehogs act as cannons, and soldiers bow down. The Queen cries out "Take off their heads!," even if it is a slight insult, but in reality, very few people are executed thanks to the pardon of her meek King.

The Cheshire cat reappears, but the queen orders its execution. The bewildered King retreats, and the Cat simply disappears, leaving behind a smile.

Alice meets the Duchess, whose baby turns into a pig and is sent by the Queen. Then he encounters a Cheshire cat again. The Queen orders Alice to bring the fake turtle and the Griffon. Two strange creatures make Alice happy with senseless nostalgia. The false turtle describes its gloomy underwater school. The Griffon Lobster performs a terrifying dance called Quadrille

All the characters gather again for the trial, in which Hearts Knave is accused of stealing a cake. The words of the Mad Hatter and the Cook are meaningless. Alice is called as a witness and calmly contradicts the court's logic, growing bolder with each passing minute.

Alice, becoming increasingly stubborn, declares that the entire court and the Wonderland are just a stack of cards. The Queen demands his execution. Thus, Alice wakes up by the river next to her sister - she realizes that all this is a bright dream.

Exercise 2. Scan QR and watch the video Lewis Carroll Biography then write summary with 150 words.



Exercise 3. Play Kahoot game on topic Alice's Adventure in Wonderland



(43 questions)

<https://create.kahoot.it/details/4a0eacb7-8d8b-4483-bfcc-b97ea9b8b03a>

Exercise 4. Answer to the following questions.

1. Lewis Carroll's life was marked by a blend of creativity, academic pursuits, and personal challenges, such as his stutter. How do you think these different facets of his life influenced his work and legacy, and can you identify similar complexities or apparent contradictions within yourself that have shaped your own perspectives and creative endeavors?

2. Carroll's works often explore themes of logic, nonsense, and the blurring of reality and fantasy. Reflect on a time when you experienced a similar sense of disorientation or questioning of reality, and how did you navigate that experience? How might Carroll's approach to these themes offer insights or strategies for understanding and coping with uncertainty or absurdity in your own life?

3. The text mentions the existence of societies dedicated to preserving and celebrating Lewis Carroll's life and works. What aspects of Carroll's life or creations do you find most compelling or relevant, and why? Are there any figures, ideas, or works that you feel similarly passionate about preserving or promoting, and what steps might you take to contribute to their continued appreciation and understanding?

4. Lewis Carroll's stories often feature characters undergoing transformative experiences in fantastical settings. Reflect on a time in your life when you underwent a significant personal transformation or experienced a shift in perspective. How did this experience alter your understanding of yourself and the world around you, and what parallels can you draw between your journey and the transformative journeys of Carroll's characters?

5. Carroll's works have been adapted into various forms, including radio, television, and motion pictures. If you were tasked with adapting one of Carroll's works into a different medium, what would you choose and why? What creative choices would you make to capture the essence of Carroll's story while also appealing to a contemporary audience, and what challenges might you anticipate in bringing your vision to life?



Exercise 1. Before reading the text, answer the following questions.

- 1 Who was Charlotte Brontë and what is she famous for?
- 2 What were the main influences on Charlotte Brontë's work?
- 3 What is known about the literary activities of the Brontë family?
- 4 How did Charlotte Brontë's life experiences shape her portrayal of female characters?
- 5 What is the basic plot of Jane Eyre?
- 6 What makes Jane Eyre a unique heroine for her time?
- 7 How does the novel explore the theme of social class?
- 8 How is the relationship between Jane and Mr. Rochester portrayed?

Charlotte Brontë

Charlotte Brontë, born on April 21, 1816, in Thornton, Yorkshire, England, was a prominent English novelist and poet. She was the eldest of the three Brontë sisters who lived into adulthood and whose novels became classics of English literature. Brontë is best known for her novel **Jane Eyre**, which she published under the male pseudonym Currer Bell.

Her father, Patrick Brontë, was the son of an Irish farmer. He became a school teacher and tutor, and eventually, a priest in the Church of England. He also published his own poetry. Charlotte's mother, Maria Branwell Brontë, died when Charlotte was only five years old. Maria had six children in seven years: Maria, Elizabeth, Charlotte, Patrick Branwell, Emily, and Anne.

In 1824, Charlotte and three of her sisters were sent to the Clergy Daughters' School in Lancashire. Her two older sisters, Maria and Elizabeth, died of tuberculosis there. Soon after, Charlotte and her sister Emily returned to Haworth. This experience inspired the dire conditions depicted in Lowood School in **Jane Eyre**.

Back at Haworth, Patrick Brontë took over the education of his four surviving children, giving them access to his library. During this time, Charlotte, Emily, Anne,

and their brother Branwell produced a family magazine featuring their poems and stories. Charlotte's most prolific period as a poet was from 1829 to 1831.

In 1831, Charlotte enrolled as a student at Roe Head School. She later worked there as a governess. In 1839, she worked as a governess for the Sidgwick family but left after a few months. In 1846, the Brontë sisters self-published a collection of their poetry under the pseudonyms Currer, Ellis, and Acton Bell. Charlotte's first novel, **The Professor**, was rejected, but **Jane Eyre** was published in 1847 and became an immediate success.

Jane Eyre was noted for its first-person female perspective. Charlotte went on to publish three more novels, including **Villette** and the posthumous **The Professor**. After the success of **Jane Eyre**, Charlotte revealed herself as Currer Bell in 1848 and began to move in London's literary circles.

Charlotte was the driving force behind the literary success of her sisters. The three sisters mainly wrote their famous novels as they sat around the dining table together, and they read out bits to each other as they went along. They submitted their novels together to a publisher, and they published their poems together in a single volume.

Charlotte Brontë experimented with poetic forms, like the long narrative poem and the dramatic monologue. However, she gave up writing poetry after the success of **Jane Eyre**. This shift reflected the changing literary tastes of the time, from poetry to prose fiction.

Brontë became pregnant shortly after her wedding in June 1854 but died on March 31, 1855, almost certainly from hyperemesis gravidarum, a complication of pregnancy. She left behind a literary legacy that continues to be appreciated around the world.

Jane Eyre



Jane Eyre is a classic bildungsroman set in 19th-century England that depicts the journey of an orphan girl, Jane Eyre, as she becomes a strong, independent woman. The novel explores themes of love, morality, social class, gender roles, and personal integrity.

The story begins with ten-year-old orphan Jane living at Gateshead Hall with her cruel aunt, Mrs. Reed, and her three pampered cousins. Jane endures cruelty and psychological abuse. After an incident with her cousin John, she is sent to Lowood Institution, a strictly disciplined boarding school for poor girls.

At Lowood, Jane suffers under the school's harsh conditions and the oppression of the tyrannical headmaster, Mr. Brocklehurst. She befriends Helen Burns, a devout and kind girl, but Helen dies of tuberculosis. Jane grows up at Lowood and eventually becomes a teacher there. After eight years, she leaves in search of a new life and work.

Jane takes a position as governess at Thornfield Hall, where she teaches Adèle, the ward of the mysterious and melancholic Mr. Rochester. Despite differences in age and social status, Jane and Rochester develop a strong emotional bond and fall in love with each other.

When Jane and Rochester are about to marry, a terrible truth is revealed: Rochester is already married. His wife, Bertha Mason, is mentally ill and secretly imprisoned in Thornfield's attic. Devastated by the betrayal, Jane refuses to become his mistress and flees penniless and alone.

Jane is taken in by the kind but reserved St. John Rivers and his sisters. Jane learns that they are actually her cousins. St. John, a clergyman, proposes marriage not for love, but as a missionary partner. Jane refuses this because she feels it would betray her true identity. St. John is proposing marriage not for love, but for her to serve as a missionary.

Jane supernaturally hears Rochester's voice and returns to Thornfield, only to find it burned down. Bertha had set fire to the house and perished in the flames. Rochester lost his eyesight and a hand while trying to save her.

Jane reunites with Rochester at his new home, Ferndean Manor. Now equals in suffering and understanding, they marry. Rochester gradually regains sight in one eye, and they live a happy, love-filled life together.

Now fully independent, Jane narrates her story with calm reflection and moral clarity. The novel concludes by emphasizing that a woman's self-respect and emotional intelligence are as valuable as her capacity for love.

Exercise 2. Before reading the text, answer the following questions.

1. According to the text, what was the significance of Charlotte Brontë's novel **Jane Eyre upon its publication?**

A) It was immediately criticized for its controversial themes and unconventional narrative style.

B) It was recognized for its innovative use of multiple perspectives, influencing later novelists.

C) It was initially rejected by publishers due to its complex plot and unlikeable characters.

D) It achieved instant popularity due to its first-person female perspective, marking a shift in literary trends.

2. Based on the provided text, what role did Patrick Brontë play in the education and upbringing of Charlotte and her siblings?

A) He sent them to various boarding schools and had little involvement in their day-to-day learning.

B) He provided them with access to his library and took over their education after they returned to Haworth.

C) He hired private tutors to educate them in classical languages and mathematics.

D) He encouraged them to pursue careers outside of literature, focusing on practical skills.

3. According to the text, how did the Brontë sisters initially present their literary works to the public?

A) They published anonymously to avoid gender bias in the literary world.

B) They self-published a collection of poetry under male pseudonyms.

C) They sought the advice and endorsement of established male authors before publishing.

D) They serialized their novels in popular magazines to gain a wider audience.

4. According to the text, what motivated Charlotte Brontë and her sisters to adopt male pseudonyms when publishing their literary works?

A) To honor their father, Patrick Brontë, by using variations of his name.

B) To gain recognition within London's literary circles, which were predominantly male-dominated.

C) To ensure their works were judged on merit, free from gender bias prevalent in the literary world.

D) To conceal their identities from their employer at Roe Head School, where such activities were discouraged.

5. Based on the information provided in the text, what can be inferred about the financial and social circumstances of the Brontë family?

A) They were independently wealthy, allowing Charlotte and her sisters to pursue their literary interests without financial constraints.

B) They belonged to the upper class, granting them access to influential literary figures and publishing opportunities.

C) They faced financial hardships, as suggested by Charlotte's work as a governess and the sisters' need to self-publish their works.

D) They were part of a well-established literary network, ensuring their works were readily accepted by publishers and critics.

6. According to the text, how did Charlotte Brontë's personal experiences influence her writing, specifically in **Jane Eyre?**

A) Her experiences as a student and teacher at Roe Head School inspired the positive and nurturing environment depicted in Lowood School.

B) Her travels throughout Europe provided the backdrop for the exotic settings and cosmopolitan characters in the novel.

C) Her early exposure to London's literary circles shaped the sophisticated and satirical tone of the narrative.

D) Her experiences at the Clergy Daughters' School, where her sisters died, inspired the depiction of the harsh conditions at Lowood School.

Exercise 3. Short answer questions.

1. What event in Charlotte Brontë's childhood significantly influenced the setting and themes of her novel **Jane Eyre**?

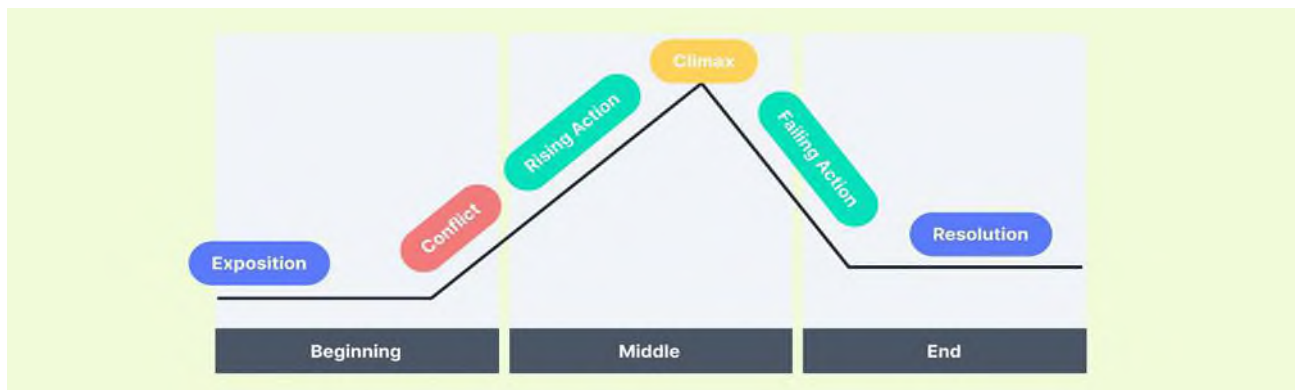
2. How did Charlotte Brontë's literary career evolve after the success of "*Jane Eyre*", and what factors contributed to her shift away from poetry?

3. In what ways did Charlotte Brontë collaborate with her sisters Emily and Anne in their literary pursuits, and what was Charlotte's role in their collective success?

4. What were some of the significant life events and experiences that shaped Charlotte Brontë's early life before she gained recognition as a novelist?

5. What is known about the circumstances surrounding Charlotte Brontë's death?

Exercise 4. Make up plot of Jane Eyre including six elements given below.



Exposition: _____

Rising action: _____

Climax: _____

Falling action: _____

Resolution: _____

UNIT 8. Emily Brontë



Exercise 1. Before reading the text, answer the following questions.

- 1 Who was Emily Brontë, and what is her connection to other prominent literary figures?
- 2 How did Emily Brontë's personality and lifestyle differ from other writers of her time?
- 3 Under what pseudonym did Emily Brontë publish her work, and why?
- 4 What difficulties did Emily face as a female writer in the 19th century?
- 5 How was *Wuthering Heights* received by critics during Emily's lifetime?
- 6 How does "*Wuthering Heights*" explore the topic of destructive love?
- 7 What role do nature and the swamp environment play in the novel's setting?
- 8 Why is *Wuthering Heights* often described as both a Gothic novel and a romantic novel?

Emily Brontë

Emily Jane Brontë, born on July 30, 1818, was a prominent English novelist and poet, celebrated mainly for her novel, "Wuthering Heights". She also co-authored a collection of poetry with her sisters Charlotte and Anne, known as "Poems by Currer, Ellis and Acton Bell". Emily was the fifth of six Brontë siblings, but only four lived to adulthood. She originally published her work under the pen name Ellis Bell. Sadly, she passed away at the young age of 30, just a year after her novel was published.

Born in Thornton, Yorkshire, England, Emily's parents were Maria Branwell, a merchant's daughter, and Patrick Brontë, an Irish curate. The family resided in a house on Market Street, now recognized as the Brontë Birthplace. Emily had four older siblings: Maria, Elizabeth, Charlotte, and Branwell, and a younger sister, Anne. In 1820, the family relocated to Haworth, where Patrick Brontë became the perpetual curate.

Tragedy struck when Maria Branwell died of cancer in 1821, leaving Emily, who was only three years old, and her siblings in the care of their aunt, Elizabeth Branwell. Emily's older sisters, Maria, Elizabeth, and Charlotte, were sent to the Clergy Daughters' School at Cowan Bridge, and Emily joined them in 1824 at the age of six.

Emily Brontë's life was marked by isolation and a deep connection to her family and the Yorkshire moors. She was known to be extremely unsocial and reserved, preferring the company of animals over people. Unlike her siblings, Emily rarely attended church services and never taught in Sunday School, suggesting unconventional religious beliefs.

Despite her reserved nature, Emily was highly intelligent and resourceful. She taught herself German while working in the kitchen and was skilled enough at playing the piano to teach it in Brussels. A well-known anecdote illustrates her strong will: after being bitten by a dog, she calmly cauterized the wound herself with a hot iron.

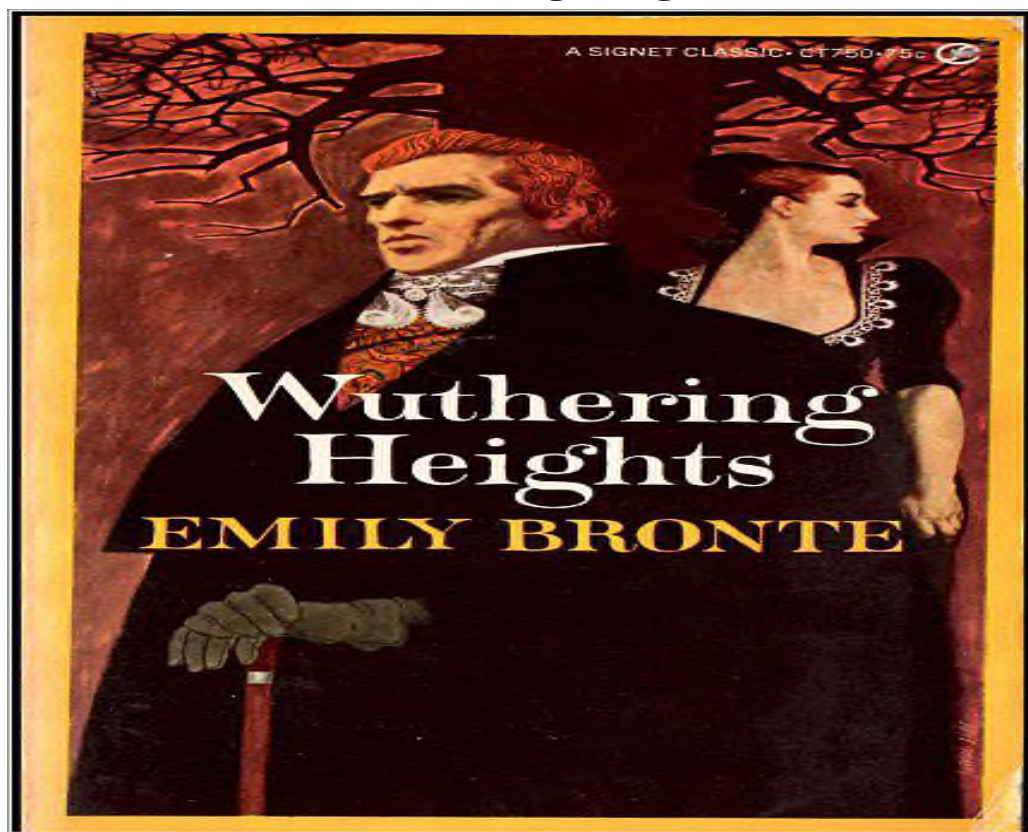
The only poems by Emily Brontë that saw publication during her lifetime were those included in the "Poems by Currer, Ellis, and Acton Bell" (1846), a collaborative effort with her sisters Charlotte and Anne. Despite selling only a couple of copies, the reviews were positive, especially praising Ellis Bell (Emily

Brontë) for her "fine quaint spirit" and potential. This early recognition hinted at the literary heights she would later achieve.

Emily's novel, "Wuthering Heights," published in 1847, is now considered a masterpiece of English literature. However, her life was cut short when she died of tuberculosis on December 19, 1848. Her sister, Charlotte, described Emily's rapid decline, noting that she "made haste to leave us," which has been interpreted as a possible acceptance of her fate.

A recent analysis challenges the notion that Emily's refusal of medical aid was stubborn or irrational. Dr. Claire O'Callaghan suggests that Emily's understanding of tuberculosis, possibly gained from medical materials in her father's library and her own writing in "Wuthering Heights," led her to believe that her condition was beyond medical intervention. This perspective offers a more compassionate view of Emily's final months, suggesting she understood her prognosis better than anyone else. After Emily's death, Charlotte Brontë turned to writing to cope with her grief. In a letter to W. S. Williams, Charlotte wrote of Emily's suffering and the family's reliance on God for support. Despite the personal loss, Emily Brontë's literary legacy continues to inspire and captivate readers worldwide.

Wuthering Heights



Emily Brontë's "Wuthering Heights", a cornerstone of English literature, transcends the conventional boundaries of a romance novel, delving into the darker recesses of human passion and the destructive power of obsession. Set against the bleak and unforgiving Yorkshire moors, the novel unfolds a multi-generational saga of love, revenge, and social ambition, primarily centered around the Earnshaw and Linton families, whose lives are irrevocably intertwined by the enigmatic and volatile Heathcliff. The narrative structure itself is complex, employing a frame story told through the perspectives of Mr. Lockwood, a tenant at Thrushcross Grange, and Nelly Dean, the housekeeper, adding layers of interpretation and distancing the reader from the raw emotions that drive the characters.

The arrival of Heathcliff, a foundling taken in by Mr. Earnshaw, sets in motion a chain of events that reverberate throughout the novel. His immediate connection with Catherine Earnshaw, a wild and untamed spirit akin to the moors themselves, forms the core of the story. Their bond is one of profound understanding and shared identity, a connection that transcends social barriers and societal expectations. However, Catherine's ambition and desire for social advancement lead her to choose Edgar Linton, the refined and wealthy heir to Thrushcross Grange, over Heathcliff, a decision that shatters their connection and unleashes Heathcliff's consuming desire for revenge.

Catherine's choice represents a crucial turning point, highlighting the conflict between passion and practicality, nature and culture. She believes she can elevate Heathcliff through her marriage to Edgar, but ultimately, she underestimates the depth of his pride and the destructive potential of his unrequited love. Her internal conflict, torn between her passionate love for Heathcliff and her desire for social status, ultimately leads to her demise, leaving a void that fuels Heathcliff's relentless pursuit of vengeance.

Heathcliff's subsequent actions are driven by a desire to punish those who he believes wronged him, particularly the Linton and Earnshaw families. He systematically manipulates and destroys their lives, acquiring their properties and subjecting them to emotional and physical abuse. His actions are not merely acts of spite; they are a manifestation of his deep-seated pain and a desperate attempt to reclaim what he believes was rightfully his – Catherine's love and a place within society.

The second generation of characters, including Catherine Linton (daughter of Catherine and Edgar) and Linton Heathcliff (son of Heathcliff and Isabella Linton),

become pawns in Heathcliff's game of revenge. He forces Catherine to marry his sickly and weak son, Linton, solely to gain control of Thrushcross Grange. This act of cruelty highlights the cyclical nature of violence and the devastating impact of past traumas on future generations.

However, even in the midst of Heathcliff's vengeful actions, glimpses of his enduring love for Catherine persist. He visits her grave, longing for reunion and expressing his unwavering devotion. This duality – his capacity for both profound love and ruthless cruelty – makes him a complex and compelling character, defying easy categorization as a simple villain.

The arrival of Hareton Earnshaw, the neglected and abused son of Hindley Earnshaw, offers a glimmer of hope for redemption. Heathcliff initially uses Hareton as a tool for revenge against the Earnshaw family, but Hareton's inherent goodness and resilience gradually begin to soften Heathcliff's hardened heart.

Ultimately, the cycle of violence and revenge begins to break down with the burgeoning love between Catherine Linton and Hareton Earnshaw. Their relationship mirrors the earlier connection between Catherine Earnshaw and Heathcliff, but with a crucial difference: they are able to overcome the obstacles of social class and past grievances to forge a genuine and lasting bond.

In the end, Heathcliff's obsession with Catherine consumes him entirely. He loses his desire for revenge and becomes increasingly detached from the world, longing only to be reunited with her in death. The novel concludes with the suggestion that Heathcliff and Catherine's spirits are finally at peace, roaming the moors together, suggesting a transcendence of earthly constraints and a resolution to their tumultuous love story. “Wuthering Heights” remains a powerful exploration of the destructive nature of passion, the complexities of human relationships, and the enduring power of love and forgiveness.

Exercise 2. Multiple Choice Questions

1. Based on the text, which of the following statements best describes Emily Brontë's attitude towards social interaction and religious practices?

A) She was actively involved in church services and taught Sunday School, indicating a strong commitment to religious activities and community engagement.

B) She was known for her sociable nature and preferred interacting with people, often participating in local social events and gatherings.

C) She was extremely unsocial and reserved, preferring the company of animals over people, and rarely attended church services, suggesting unconventional religious beliefs.

D) She balanced her time between social engagements and solitary activities, maintaining a moderate level of involvement in religious practices and community events.

2. According to the text, what was the initial reception of the poetry collection 'Poems by Currer, Ellis, and Acton Bell,' co-authored by Emily Brontë and her sisters?

A) The collection received widespread critical acclaim and sold thousands of copies, establishing the Brontë sisters as literary sensations.

B) The collection was largely ignored by critics and the public, leading the Brontë sisters to abandon their literary pursuits.

C) Despite selling only a couple of copies, the reviews were positive, especially praising Ellis Bell (Emily Brontë) for her 'fine quaint spirit' and potential.

D) The collection was met with harsh criticism and negative reviews, discouraging the Brontë sisters from publishing their work under pseudonyms in the future.

3. According to the text, how did Charlotte Brontë respond to the death of her sister Emily?

A) Charlotte distanced herself from the rest of her family and ceased writing altogether.

B) Charlotte turned to writing to cope with her grief, expressing the family's reliance on God for support in a letter to W. S. Williams.

C) Charlotte publicly denounced Emily's unconventional beliefs and refused to acknowledge her literary achievements.

D) Charlotte remarried shortly after Emily's death and moved away from Haworth, severing ties with her remaining family members.

4. According to the text, what was Emily Brontë's attitude toward medical intervention in her final months, and how did Dr. Claire O'Callaghan interpret this?

A) Emily eagerly sought medical assistance, hoping for a cure, which Dr. O'Callaghan interpreted as a sign of her strong will to live.

B) Emily refused medical aid, which Dr. O'Callaghan interpreted as a possible understanding of her condition, believing it was beyond medical intervention, based on her knowledge of tuberculosis.

C) Emily followed all medical advice, but her condition worsened due to the limited medical knowledge of the time, a fact Dr. O'Callaghan attributes to the primitive state of healthcare.

D) Emily remained indifferent to medical treatment, neither seeking nor refusing it, which Dr. O'Callaghan saw as a reflection of her generally apathetic nature.

5. Based on the text, what evidence suggests that Emily Brontë's literary talent was recognized, at least to some extent, during her lifetime?

A) The complete lack of critical attention to 'Poems by Currer, Ellis, and Acton Bell' indicates that her talent was not recognized at all during her lifetime.

B) The positive reviews of 'Poems by Currer, Ellis, and Acton Bell,' particularly praising Ellis Bell's 'fine quaint spirit' and potential, suggest early recognition of her literary talent.

C) The immediate success and widespread acclaim of 'Wuthering Heights' upon its publication in 1847 clearly demonstrate that Emily's literary talent was fully recognized during her lifetime.

D) The fact that Emily Brontë never published any work under her own name during her lifetime proves that her literary talent remained unrecognized until after her death.

Exercise 3. Scan QR and watch the video Wuthering Heights then write plot of it.



Exposition: _____

Rising action: _____

Climax: _____

Falling action: _____

Resolution: _____

Exercise 4. Short Answer Questions

1. Emily Brontë was known for her reserved nature and deep connection to the Yorkshire moors, preferring the company of animals over people. Reflect on a time when you felt a stronger connection to nature or animals than to people. What drew you to that connection, and what did you learn about yourself from that experience?

2. Emily Brontë's novel, 'Wuthering Heights,' was published a year before her death and is now considered a masterpiece. Think about a personal goal or creative project you are currently pursuing. How do you balance the urgency of completing it with the desire to create something of lasting value, knowing that life is finite?

3. Emily Brontë's refusal of medical aid has been reinterpreted as a possible understanding of her condition rather than stubbornness. Describe a situation where you or someone you know made a decision that was initially misunderstood by others. What factors influenced that decision, and how did you/they navigate the judgment or lack of understanding from others?



Exercise 1. Before reading the text, answer the following questions.

- 1 Who was Anna Brontë and how is she related to Charlotte and Emily Brontë?
- 2 What were the main factors that influenced Anna Brontë's writing style and themes?
- 3 What pseudonym did Anna Brontë use in publishing her novels, and why?
- 4 How did Anna's personal experiences as a governess shape her novels?
- 5 How did Anna Brontë's approach to morality and realism differ from her sisters' approach?

- 6 What is the main plot of the novel "The Tenant of Wildfell Hall"?
- 7 Why was "The Tenant of Wildfell Hall" considered a controversial work when it was first published in 1848?
- 8 How is the issue of alcoholism and women's rights addressed in the novel?

Anne Brontë

Anne Brontë, born on January 17, 1820, in Thornton, West Riding of Yorkshire, England, was the youngest member of the renowned Brontë literary family, making her mark as an English novelist and poet. Despite her talent, Anne has often been overshadowed by her more famous sisters, Charlotte and Emily. Yet, her works are now recognized as important contributions to English literature.

Anne's family life significantly shaped her writing. Her parents were Maria (née Branwell) and Patrick Brontë, an Irish clergyman serving in the Church of England. The family primarily resided in Haworth, located in the Yorkshire Dales. Between 1836 and 1837, Anne attended a boarding school in Mirfield, and from 1839 to 1845, she worked as a governess. These experiences profoundly influenced her perspectives and provided material for her novels.

Like her sisters, Anne initially published her works under a pen name, Acton Bell. In 1846, the Brontë sisters released a collection of poems. Anne's debut novel, *Agnes Grey*, appeared in 1847, coinciding with the publication of Emily Brontë's *Wuthering Heights*. *Agnes Grey* drew heavily from Anne's experiences as a governess, mirroring the struggles and humiliations she faced while working for the Robinson family.

Her second novel, *The Tenant of Wildfell Hall*, published in 1848, is considered a groundbreaking work and one of the first feminist novels. The novel fearlessly tackles difficult subjects such as alcoholism and domestic abuse, portraying the protagonist's fight for independence and a new life. Anne's realistic writing style set her apart from her sisters, who were known for their gothic and romantic themes.

Tragedy struck when Anne died at the young age of 29, likely from pulmonary tuberculosis. After her death, Charlotte edited *Agnes Grey* to address issues in its first edition but prevented the republication of *The Tenant of Wildfell Hall*. This decision contributed to Anne's relative obscurity compared to her sisters.

Despite the challenges and overshadowing, Anne Brontë's literary contributions have gained recognition over time. Her novels are now considered classics,

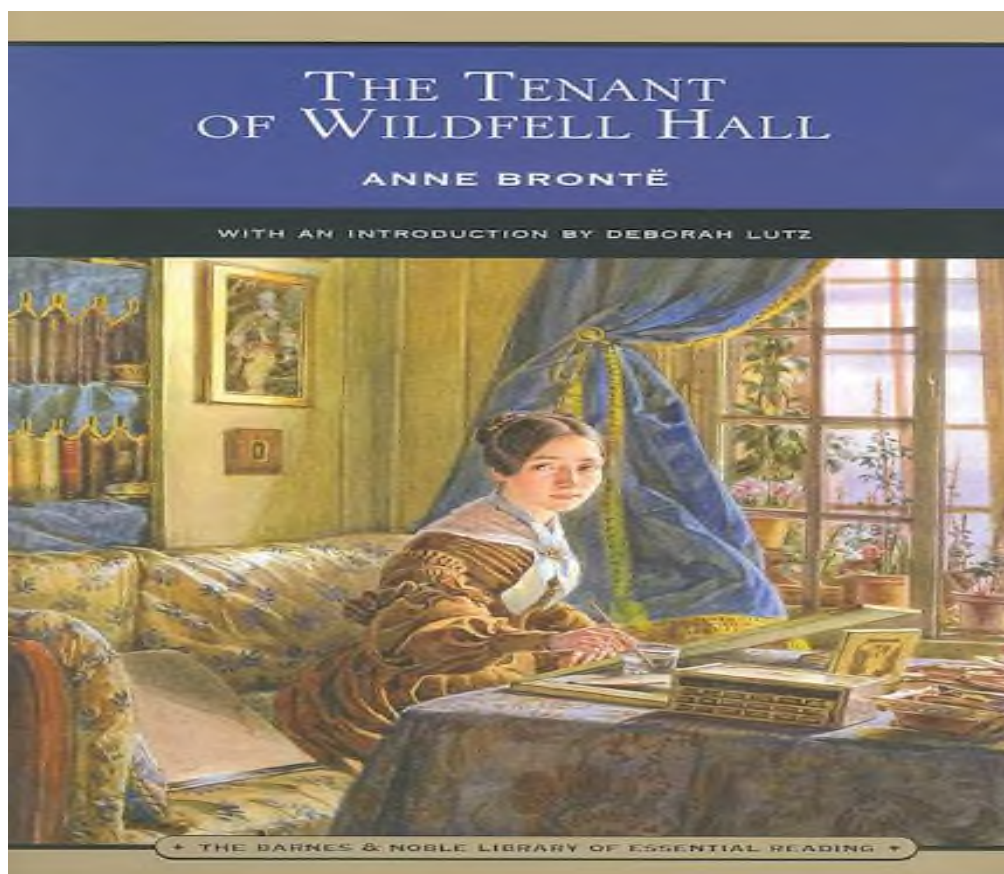
celebrated for their realism and exploration of social issues. "The Tenant of Wildfell Hall," in particular, stands out for its unflinching portrayal of domestic abuse and its strong feminist message.

Anne's writing style, characterized by realism, set her apart from her sisters' more romantic and gothic approaches. She aimed to depict the truth in her works, believing that truth carries its own moral weight. This commitment to realism made her novels both compelling and instructive, offering readers a glimpse into the harsh realities of Victorian society.

Anne Brontë's life, though brief, was marked by both triumph and tragedy. She overcame personal struggles, held a job as a governess, and produced significant literary works. Her poetry, too, played a crucial role in the Brontë story, as it was her verse that encouraged Emily to publish their collected poems.

Today, Anne Brontë is increasingly recognized as a talented writer in her own right, deserving of greater appreciation and study. Her novels continue to resonate with readers, offering valuable insights into the social and personal challenges faced by women in the 19th century.

The Tenant of Wildfell Hall



"The Tenant of Wildfell Hall," penned by Anne Brontë under the pseudonym Acton Bell, made its debut in 1848. This novel, often considered the most shocking of the Brontë sisters' works, immediately captivated readers, achieving phenomenal success. However, after Anne's death, her sister Charlotte, in a move that would impact Anne's literary reputation, prevented its republication in England until 1854. Charlotte felt the novel was a mistake and that it would be better for everyone if it never saw the light of day again.

The story unfolds through a series of letters from Gilbert Markham to his friend, detailing his encounters with a mysterious young widow named Helen Graham. Helen arrives at Wildfell Hall, an old, deserted mansion, with her young son and a servant. Defying the social norms of the early 19th century, Helen pursues a career as an artist, earning her own income by selling her paintings. Her choice to live in seclusion sparks gossip and ostracism within the neighboring village. Gilbert eventually learns that Helen is fleeing a troubled marriage, desperate to protect her son from his father's negative influence.

The novel fearlessly portrays the harsh realities of marital conflict and a woman's struggle for independence, softened by Anne Brontë's underlying belief in universal salvation. "The Tenant of Wildfell Hall" is now recognized by many critics as one of the first feminist novels. May Sinclair, a writer and suffragist, famously declared in 1913 that Helen's act of "slamming of [Helen's] bedroom door against her husband reverberated throughout Victorian England". By leaving her husband and taking their child, Helen openly defied both social conventions and the laws of early 19th-century England.

Charlotte's decision to suppress "The Tenant of Wildfell Hall" had a lasting impact on Anne's place in literary history. By preventing its republication, Charlotte effectively buried the novel along with its writer. When the book finally resurfaced a decade later, it had been largely forgotten, reducing Anne to a mere footnote in the story of her more famous sisters. This unjust perception persisted for over a century, and only recently has Anne's work begun to receive the recognition it deserves.

The novel's popularity stemmed not only from its compelling narrative but also from its controversial subject matter. Critics like "The Atlas" took issue with the novel's depiction of the upper classes, deeming it an exaggeration and questioning the authenticity of the characters. Such criticism prompted Anne Brontë to defend her work in the preface to the second edition of "The Tenant of Wildfell Hall". She

asserted her intention to depict vice and vicious characters as they truly are, rather than sanitizing them for the sake of pleasing readers.

Anne believed that truth, however unpleasant, was essential for conveying a moral message and revealing the "snares and pitfalls of life" to the young and inexperienced. Some aspects of the character Arthur Huntingdon in "The Tenant" mirror the life of Anne's brother, Branwell Brontë. Branwell struggled with alcohol and opium addiction, bringing shame and distress to his family until his death at the age of 31.

"The Tenant of Wildfell Hall" explores themes of social norms, morality, and the challenges faced by women in a patriarchal society. The story begins with Gilbert Markham recounting his life as a farmer in the early 1820s, offering insights into his family and social life. The arrival of Mrs. Graham sparks curiosity and speculation among the villagers. Gilbert's interactions with his family and his growing interest in Mrs. Graham hint at her significance and troubled past.

The narrative skillfully creates intrigue around Mrs. Graham, foreshadowing the unfolding drama surrounding her choices and the societal judgments she faces. The Folio Society published a new edition of "The Tenant of Wildfell Hall" to mark the 200th anniversary of Anne Brontë's birth. This edition aims to present Anne's original manuscript in its entirety, free from the editorial omissions that have plagued previous versions. Tracy Chevalier provides an insightful introduction, and Valentina Catto's illustrations blend historical accuracy with a contemporary feel, enhancing the reading experience.

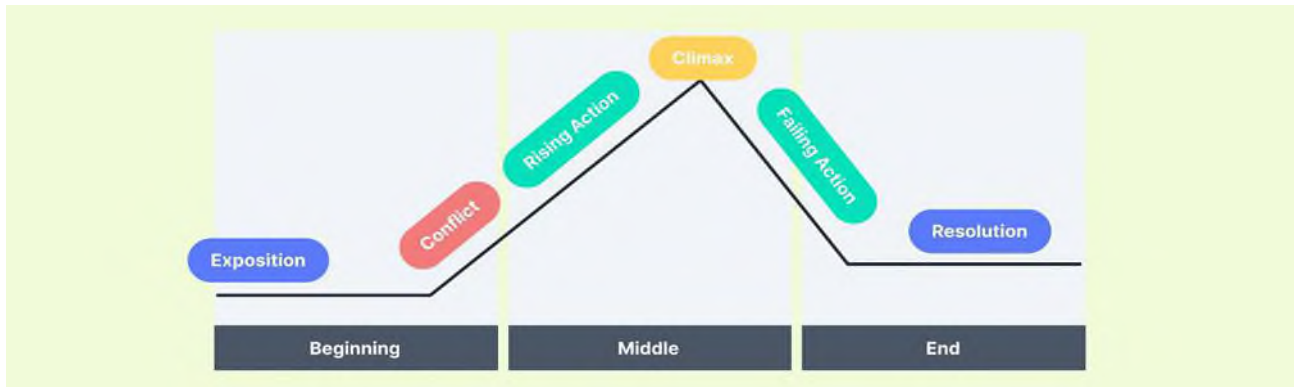
"The Tenant of Wildfell Hall" remains a powerful and relevant novel, offering a glimpse into the struggles and triumphs of a woman who dared to defy societal expectations. Its themes of marital breakdown, addiction, and a mother's fight to protect her child continue to resonate with modern readers, making it a valuable and thought-provoking work of literature.

Exercise 2. Play Kahoot game on topic "The Tenant of Wildfell Hall"



<https://create.kahoot.it/details/61b4bfa5-6420-4b0c-8a40-53d645b2f038>

Exercise 3. Make up plot of The Tenant of Wildfell Hall including six elements given below.



Exposition:_____

Rising action:_____

Climax:_____

Falling action: _____

Resolution: _____

Exercise 4. Answer the following questions.

1. Anne Brontë's commitment to realism in her writing was driven by her belief that truth carries its own moral weight. How do you see the role of truth in art and literature, and can you think of a time when you felt compelled to express a difficult truth, despite potential consequences?

2. Anne Brontë's novel, 'The Tenant of Wildfell Hall,' is considered one of the first feminist novels for its portrayal of a woman's fight for independence from domestic abuse. Reflect on a time when you or someone you know stood up against injustice or adversity. What challenges did you/they face, and what did you/they learn from the experience?

3. Despite facing personal struggles and being overshadowed by her sisters, Anne Brontë persevered and made significant contributions to literature. Can you identify a time in your life when you faced similar challenges or felt underestimated? How did you overcome these obstacles, and what did you learn about your own resilience and potential?

UNIT 10. William Makepeace Thackeray: Vanity Fair.



Exercise 1. Before reading the text, answer the following questions.

- 1 Who was William Makepeace Thackeray and to which literary period did he belong?
- 2 What themes did Thackeray often explore in his novels?
- 3 How did Thackeray's experience in journalism influence his writing style?
- 4 In what ways was Thackeray a contemporary and rival of Charles Dickens?
- 5 What makes Thackeray's narrative style and use of satire distinctive?
- 6 What is the main plot of "Vanity Fair"?
- 7 Who are the two main female protagonists in "Vanity Fair," and how do they differ from each other?
- 8 Why is "Vanity Fair" subtitled "A Novel Without a Hero"?

William Makepeace Thackeray

William Makepeace Thackeray, born on July 18, 1811, in Calcutta, British India, was a prominent English novelist and illustrator known for his satirical works. His most celebrated novel is "Vanity Fair" (1847–1848), a panoramic depiction of British society, and "The Luck of Barry Lyndon" (1844), which was adapted into a film by Stanley Kubrick in 1975. Thackeray's life was marked by both literary success and personal struggles.

Thackeray's early life began in Calcutta, where his father worked for the East India Company. Following his father's death in 1815, he was sent to England for his education. He attended various schools, including the infamous Charterhouse School, known for its strict discipline. He then briefly attended Trinity College, Cambridge, but left without completing a degree to travel Europe. During this time, he squandered a significant portion of his inheritance on gambling and unsuccessful newspaper ventures.

To support himself and his family, Thackeray turned to journalism. He contributed to several publications, including Fraser's Magazine, The Times, and Punch. His writing career began with satirical sketches, such as "The Yellowplush Papers," which gained him initial recognition. He also wrote travel books, including "The Paris Sketch Book" (1840) and "From Cornhill to Grand Cairo" (1844).

Thackeray's personal life was complicated by his wife Isabella's mental illness. Her condition caused him considerable distress, and he spent much time and effort seeking a cure while also raising their two children. Despite these

challenges, Thackeray continued to write and publish, achieving widespread fame with "Vanity Fair".

Vanity Fair



"Vanity Fair" exists in two distinct forms: a classic 19th-century novel and a modern magazine that focuses on pop culture, fashion, and current events. While seemingly unrelated, both share a common thread: a critical examination of society's values and aspirations.

William Makepeace Thackeray's "Vanity Fair," subtitled "A Novel without a Hero," was initially published in 1847 as a 19-part monthly series. It offers a satirical look at British society during and after the Napoleonic Wars through the intertwined lives of Becky Sharp and Amelia Sedley. Thackeray also created illustrations to go along with the text. The novel challenges the traditional concept of a hero, presenting characters with flaws and questionable motivations. The story is framed as a puppet play, with an unreliable narrator, adding another layer of complexity to the narrative.

Becky Sharp, the main character, grows up poor in London and is determined to climb the social ladder, no matter the cost. Her ambition and cunning contrast sharply with the gentle and naive nature of Amelia Sedley. The novel explores themes of ambition, social climbing, and the deceptive nature of appearances in a society driven by vanity. "Vanity Fair" is considered a significant work of Victorian literature, often credited as a founder of the Victorian domestic novel. Its popularity has led to numerous adaptations in audio, film, and television.

In contrast, the modern "Vanity Fair" is a monthly magazine published by Condé Nast in the United States. The first version of the magazine was published

from 1913 to 1936. It was revived in 1983 and has since expanded to include five international editions. These editions are in the United Kingdom, Italy, Spain, France, and Mexico. The magazine covers a wide range of topics, including popular culture, fashion, and current affairs. Radhika Jones is the current editor, following in the footsteps of notable figures like Tina Brown and Graydon Carter.

The original version of "Vanity Fair" magazine emerged from Condé Montrose Nast's acquisition of the men's fashion magazine "Dress" in 1913. Nast renamed it "Dress and Vanity Fair" and published four issues that year. Despite its success in the 1920s, the magazine fell victim to the Great Depression and declining advertising revenue. In 1935, Condé Nast announced that "Vanity Fair" would merge with "Vogue".

To celebrate the magazine's 95th anniversary in 2008, the National Portrait Gallery in London held an exhibition called "Vanity Fair Portraits, 1913–2008". The exhibition showcased the magazine's photographic heritage and traveled to other locations, including Edinburgh, Los Angeles, and Canberra. A special jubilee issue and hardback book, "Vanity Fair: The Portraits," were also published in the fall of 2008.

While the novel critiques the superficiality and moral compromises of 19th-century society, the magazine examines contemporary culture and its obsessions. Both, in their own way, hold a mirror up to society, inviting us to reflect on our values and priorities. The title "Vanity Fair" itself, originating from John Bunyan's "Pilgrim's Progress," refers to a place of worldly temptations and superficiality. This connection underscores the enduring relevance of the theme of vanity throughout history and across different forms of media.

Whether through the satirical lens of Thackeray's novel or the glossy pages of the modern magazine, "Vanity Fair" continues to provoke thought and discussion about the ever-changing landscape of society and culture.

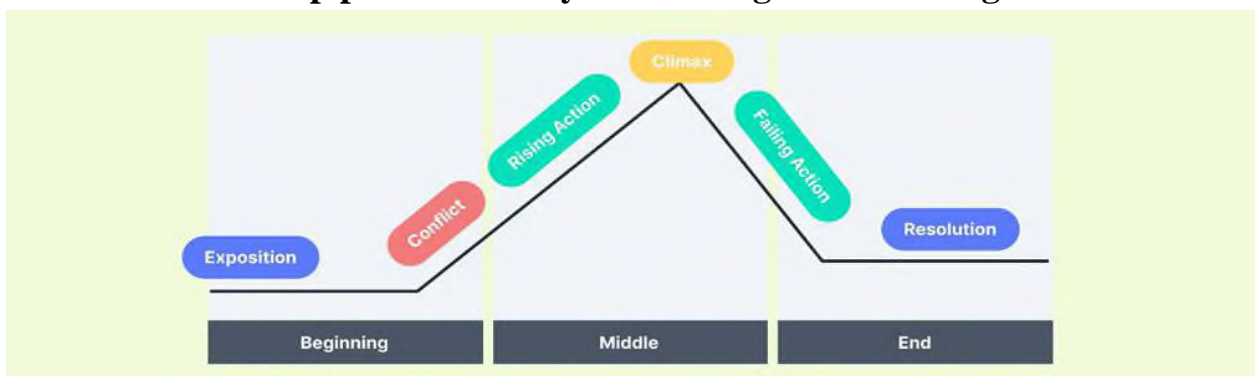
Exercise 2. Scan QR and watch the video William Makepeace Thackeray then do research map.



Exercise 3. Answer to the following questions.

1. What was William Makepeace Thackeray's most celebrated novel, and during what years was it published?
2. In what capacity did Thackeray contribute to publications such as Fraser's Magazine, The Times, and Punch, and what type of writing initially garnered him recognition?
3. What is one of H.N. Wethered's observations regarding Thackeray's poetry, and where were some of his poems published?
4. Where was William Makepeace Thackeray born, and what was his father's occupation at the time?
5. What event led to Thackeray being sent to England for his education, and which school was particularly noted for its strict discipline?
6. What specific role did Thackeray assume at the Cornhill Magazine in 1860, and what other endeavor did he unsuccessfully pursue in 1857?

Exercise 4. Make up plot of Jane Eyre including six elements given below.



Exposition: _____

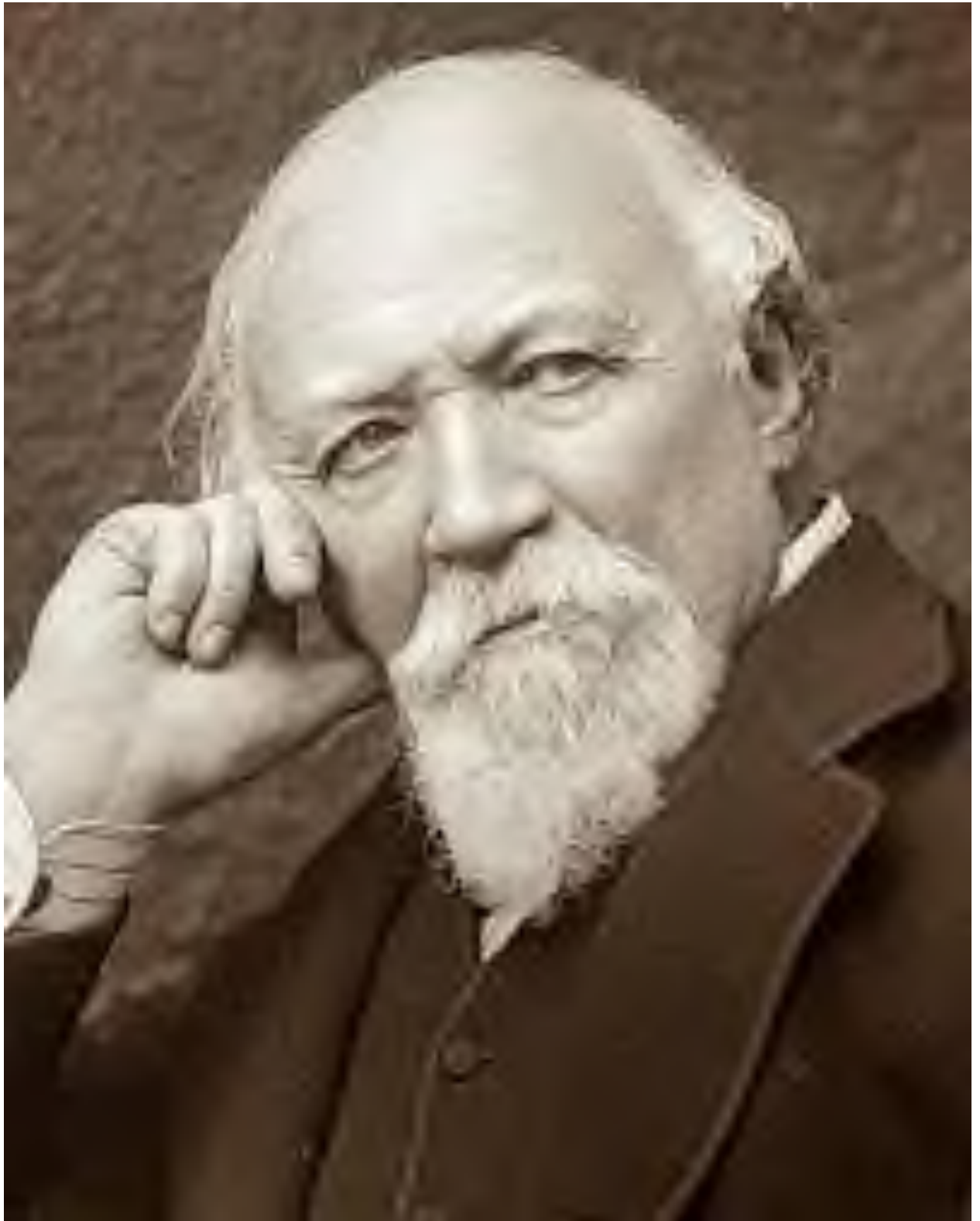
Rising action: _____

Climax: _____

Falling action: _____

Resolution: _____

UNIT 11. Robert Browning: My Last Duchess and Porphyria's Lover.



Exercise 1. Before reading the text, answer the following questions.

- 1 Who was Robert Browning, and to which literary movement did he belong?
- 2 What is a dramatic monologue, and why is Browning famous for this poetic form?
- 3 How did Browning's marriage to Elizabeth Barrett affect his poetry and life?
- 4 How was Browning's poetry received during his lifetime?
- 5 What themes are commonly found in Browning's works?
- 6 What is the main event or story in "My Last Duchess"?

Robert Browning

Robert Browning, born on May 7, 1812, in Camberwell, Surrey, England, was a prominent English poet and playwright of the Victorian era. He died on December 12, 1889, in Venice, Italy, at the age of 77 and was buried in Westminster Abbey. Browning's work is characterized by dramatic monologues, irony, characterization, dark humor, social commentary, and historical settings, often employing challenging vocabulary and syntax.

Browning's father, Robert Browning, was a well-paid clerk at the Bank of England, earning around £150 per year. His mother, Sarah Anna (née Wiedemann), was devoutly religious and of German-Scotch heritage. Browning also had a sister named Sarianna. His father's scholarly interests and unusual educational practices significantly influenced Browning's development as a poet. The elder Browning had a personal library of approximately 6,000 volumes, which included collections of arcane lore and historical anecdotes that the poet later used for his poetic material. It is believed that Browning was proficient in reading and writing by the age of five. By fourteen, he had learned Latin, Greek, and French. From fourteen to sixteen, he was educated at home with tutors in music, drawing, dancing, and horsemanship.

In 1833, Browning anonymously published his first major work, "Pauline". In 1840, he published "Sordello," which was widely considered a failure. Despite some setbacks, Browning's techniques in dramatic monologues, particularly his use of diction, rhythm, and symbol, are considered his most important contribution to

poetry. These techniques influenced major 20th-century poets such as Ezra Pound, T. S. Eliot, and Robert Frost.

After reading Elizabeth Barrett's "Poems" in 1844 and corresponding with her for a few months, Browning met her in 1845. In 1846, Robert Browning married fellow poet Elizabeth Barrett and moved to Italy. Their marriage was initially a secret due to Elizabeth's father's disapproval. Elizabeth's frail health posed a risk, and she suffered a miscarriage early in their marriage, causing Browning great remorse. The couple had a son, Robert Barrett ("Pen").

By the time of Elizabeth's death in 1861, Browning had published the collection "Men and Women" (1855). Following her death, Browning dedicated himself to his son, sister, and father. He also continued to write, producing long narrative poems and lyrics. "Dramatis Personae" (1864) and the book-length epic poem "The Ring and the Book" (1868–1869) solidified his reputation as a leading poet.

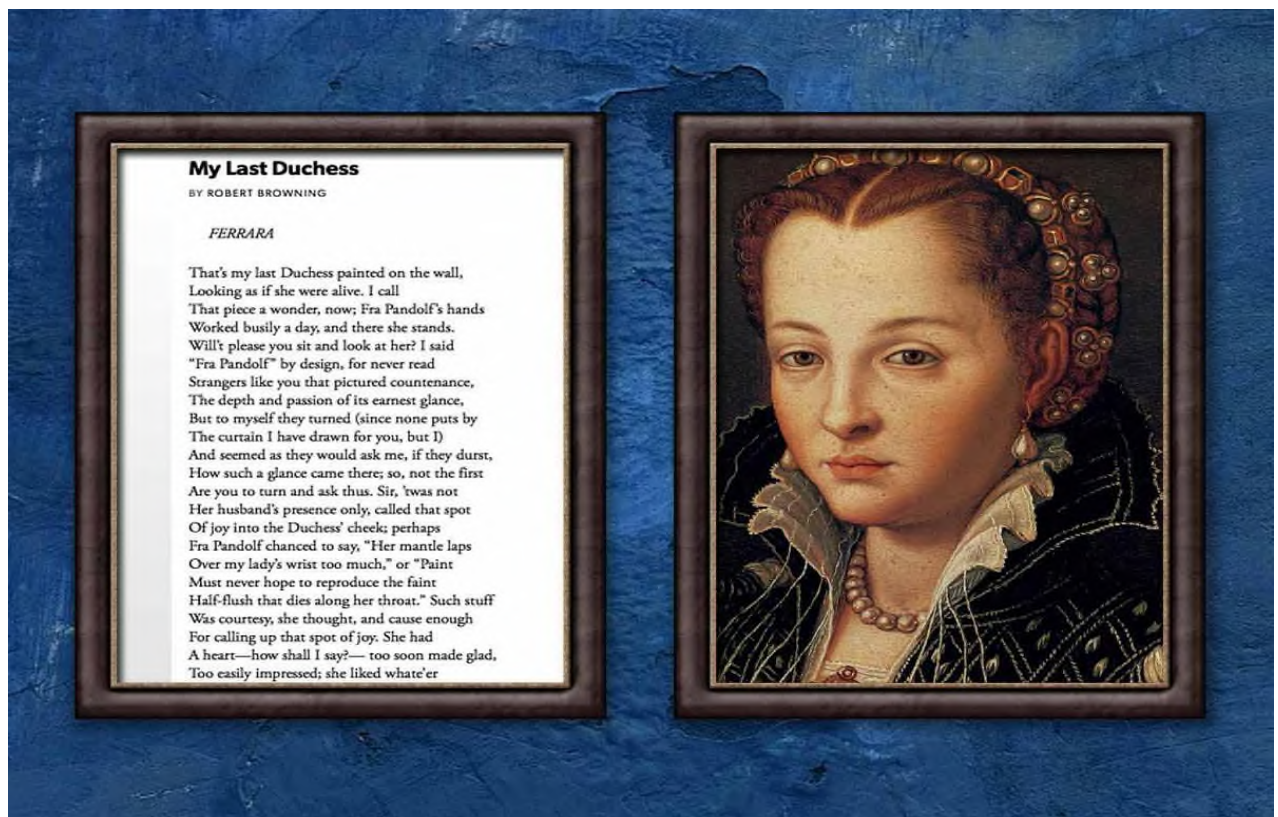
Browning's dramatic monologues often explore the psychology of characters, revealing their motivations and flaws through their own words. One notable example is "My Last Duchess," first published in 1842. In this poem, the Duke of Ferrara shows a visitor a painting of his deceased wife, revealing his controlling and obsessive nature. The poem exemplifies Browning's use of dramatic irony and ambiguity to create a study of violence and power dynamics.

Despite the density and difficulty of some of his poetry, Browning gained considerable recognition during his lifetime. By his death in 1889, he was regarded as a sage and philosopher-poet who contributed to Victorian social and political discourse. Societies for studying his work emerged in Britain and the US and lasted into the 20th century.

Browning's personal life, though not as sensational as some of his contemporaries, was marked by dedication to his craft and family. His relationship with Elizabeth Barrett was a significant influence on his work and life. After Elizabeth's death, Browning remained a widower, cherishing her memory and focusing on his writing and family responsibilities.

Robert Browning's legacy as one of the most important English poets of the Victorian period endures through his innovative use of dramatic monologues and his exploration of complex themes. His works continue to be studied and appreciated for their psychological depth, historical context, and challenging style.

My Last Duchess and Porphyria's Lover.



Robert Browning, a prominent Victorian poet, masterfully explored the depths of human psychology through his dramatic monologues, often weaving in gothic elements, social commentary, and historical context. "My Last Duchess" and "Porphyria's Lover" stand as chilling examples of his work, presenting narrators who are disturbingly similar in their possessiveness, desire for control, and capacity for violence.

"My Last Duchess," published in 1842, unfolds as a Duke addresses a representative seeking to arrange his next marriage. He speaks of his deceased wife, whose portrait hangs on the wall, seemingly alive. However, his words reveal a deep-seated resentment towards her perceived flaws. The Duke criticizes her for being "too easily impressed," for finding joy in simple pleasures like compliments from Fra Pandolf, the painter, or the gift of cherries. He is infuriated that she treated his "gift of a nine-hundred-years-old name" as equal to any other gesture of kindness.

The Duke's monologue drips with arrogance and a need for control. He implies that he was unable to articulate his dissatisfaction to the Duchess, finding it beneath him to "stoop" to such a level. The chilling climax arrives when he declares, "I gave commands; / Then all smiles stopped together". This suggests he orchestrated her

murder, unable to tolerate her independent spirit and the attention she gave to others. The poem highlights the Duke's obsession with power and his belief that his social status entitled him to absolute control over his wife.

In contrast, "Porphyria's Lover," published earlier in 1836, presents a more direct and disturbing act of violence. The poem opens with a vivid depiction of a stormy night, setting a dark and ominous tone. Porphyria arrives at the speaker's cottage, bringing warmth and light into his cheerless existence. She tends to him, making him feel loved and desired. However, the speaker is consumed by a fear that she is "too weak" to fully commit to him, held back by "pride, and vainer ties".

In a moment of twisted logic, the speaker decides to preserve their perfect moment by killing Porphyria. He believes that in death, she will be forever his, "perfectly pure and good". He strangles her with her own hair, convinced that she feels no pain. The speaker then arranges her body, propping her head against his shoulder, and spends the rest of the night with her, believing that God has not punished him for his actions.

Both the Duke and the speaker in "Porphyria's Lover" share a disturbing need to control the women in their lives. The Duke desires complete dominance over his Duchess, unable to accept her independent nature. The speaker in "Porphyria's Lover" seeks to possess Porphyria entirely, believing that only through death can he achieve this. Their actions reveal a deep-seated insecurity and a fear of losing control.

These poems also explore the theme of female agency and the consequences of defying societal expectations. The Duchess's crime, in the Duke's eyes, was her openness and kindness towards others, traits that challenged his sense of superiority. Porphyria's transgression lies in her inability to fully commit to the speaker, due to social constraints and her own desires. Both women are punished for their perceived transgressions, highlighting the limited power women held in Victorian society.

Browning's use of dramatic monologue allows readers to delve into the minds of these disturbed characters, exposing their twisted logic and motivations. The poems serve as a chilling commentary on the dangers of unchecked power, possessiveness, and the societal pressures that can lead to violence and oppression. Through "My Last Duchess" and "Porphyria's Lover," Browning challenges readers to confront the darker aspects of human nature and the complexities of love, power, and control.

Exercise 2. Answer to the following questions.

1. What is a key characteristic of Robert Browning's poetry that significantly influenced 20th-century poets?

- A) His use of complex rhyme schemes and traditional sonnet forms.
- B) His techniques in dramatic monologues, particularly his use of diction, rhythm, and symbol.
- C) His focus on nature and pastoral themes, reminiscent of Romantic poets.
- D) His extensive use of historical settings without psychological depth.

2. How did Elizabeth Barrett Browning's death impact Robert Browning's life and work?

- A) He remarried shortly after her death and shifted his focus to writing comedies.
- B) He abandoned poetry altogether and dedicated his life to political activism.
- C) He dedicated himself to his son, sister, and father, while continuing to write and solidifying his reputation as a leading poet.
- D) He moved back to England and ceased writing, overwhelmed by grief.

3. What aspect of Robert Browning's poem 'My Last Duchess' is most notable?

- A) Its straightforward narrative style and lack of ambiguity.
- B) Its exploration of nature and the beauty of the Italian landscape.
- C) Its use of dramatic irony and ambiguity to create a study of violence and power dynamics.
- D) Its celebration of marital harmony and mutual respect.

4. What was Robert Browning's father's occupation and how did his father's interests influence Robert's development as a poet?

- A) His father was a clergyman who taught him religious dogma, leading Robert to explore spiritual themes in his poetry.
- B) His father was a military officer who instilled in him a sense of discipline, reflected in the structured forms of his poems.

C) His father was a well-paid clerk at the Bank of England with scholarly interests and a large personal library, which provided Robert with rich material for his poetry.

D) His father was a merchant who traveled extensively, exposing Robert to diverse cultures that influenced his poetic settings.

5. What was the initial public and critical reception of Robert Browning's poem 'Sordello,' published in 1840?

A) It was immediately hailed as a masterpiece and established Browning as a leading poet of his time.

B) It was widely considered a failure, marking a significant setback in Browning's early career.

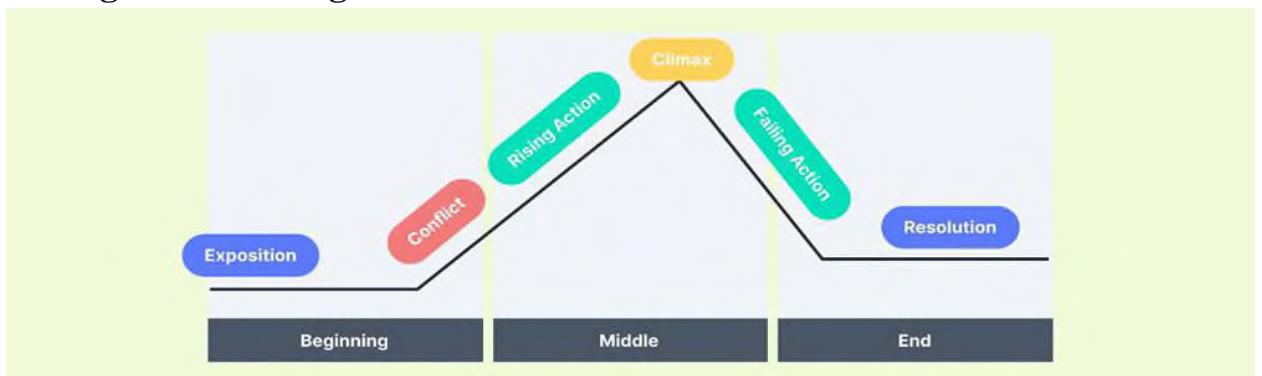
C) It was praised for its accessibility and straightforward narrative, appealing to a broad audience.

D) It was controversial due to its radical political themes, sparking public debate and discussion.

Exercise 3. Scan QR and watch the video My Last Duchess and Porphyria's Lover then do research map.



Exercise 4. Make up plot of My Last Duchess and Porphyria's Lover including six elements given below.



Exposition: _____

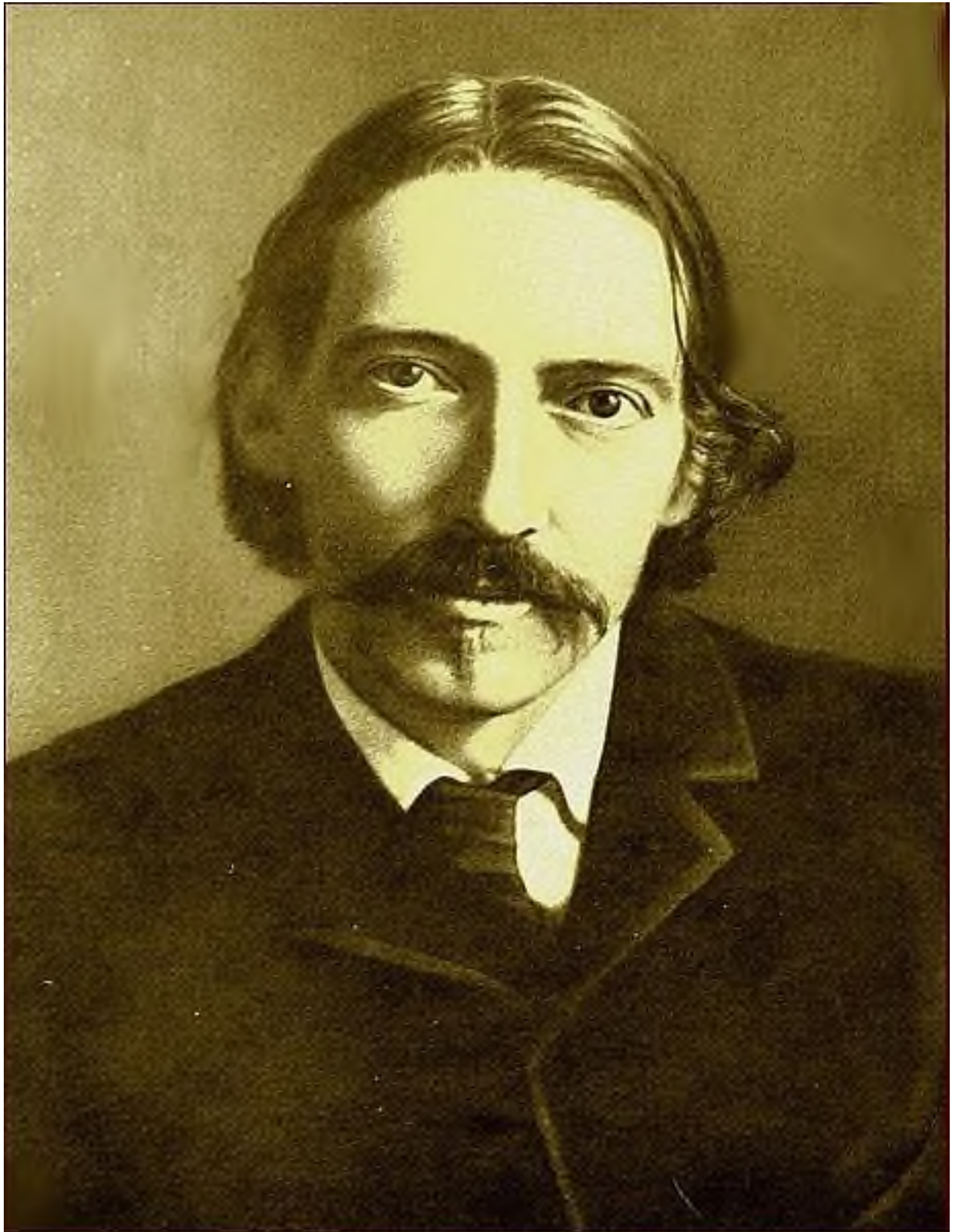
Rising action: _____

Climax: _____

Falling action: _____

Resolution: _____

UNIT 12. Robert Louis Stevenson: Treasure Island.



ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON
From a photo by James Notman, 270 Boylston Street, Boston.

Exercise 1. Before reading the text, answer the following questions.

- 1 Who is Robert Louis Stevenson, and in what genres did he write?
- 2 What inspired Stevenson to write adventure stories like *Treasure Island*?
- 3 How did Stevenson's Scottish origins influence his work?
- 4 What other famous works does Stevenson have besides *Treasure Island*?
- 5 Why is Stevenson considered an important figure in 19th-century literature?
- 6 What is the main plot of *Treasure Island*?
- 7 Who is Jim Hawkins and how does he change throughout the story?
- 8 What makes Long John Silver a memorable and complex villain?

Robert Louis Stevenson

Robert Louis Stevenson, born Robert Lewis Balfour Stevenson on November 13, 1850, in Edinburgh, Scotland, was a prolific Scottish writer known for his novels, essays, poems, and travelogues. His most famous works include **Treasure Island**, **Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde**, **Kidnapped**, and **A Child's Garden of Verses**. Stevenson's life was marked by both literary success and a constant battle with poor health.

Growing up in Edinburgh, Stevenson came from a family with a strong engineering background; his father, Thomas Stevenson, was a leading lighthouse engineer. However, Robert Louis's interests leaned more towards literature. He spent much of his childhood indoors due to bronchial issues, finding solace in books and his imagination. A young woman named Alison Cunningham cared for him, and he later dedicated **A Child's Garden of Verses** to her. Despite his health problems, Stevenson enjoyed summers in the countryside, playing with his cousins.

Although he began studies at the University of Edinburgh in 1867 with the intention of following in his family's footsteps, Stevenson soon realized that his passion lay in writing. To appease his father, he did earn a law degree and was admitted to the bar at twenty-five. However, he never practiced law, choosing instead to pursue his literary ambitions.

Stevenson's early writings were influenced by his family's strong religious beliefs, but his own views shifted during his college years. He traveled extensively through Europe, writing essays and articles about his experiences. In 1876, he met Fanny Vandegrift Osbourne, an American woman ten years his senior, and followed her to California. He traveled in steerage across the Atlantic and the United States, nearly dying upon arrival in Monterey, California, in 1879. After recovering, he married Osbourne in 1880.

After marrying Fanny, Stevenson returned to Britain with his new family and continued to write despite his ongoing health issues. **Treasure Island**, his first major success, was published in 1884, followed by **A Child's Garden of Verses** in 1885, and **Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde** in 1886. These works cemented his reputation as a popular and successful author.

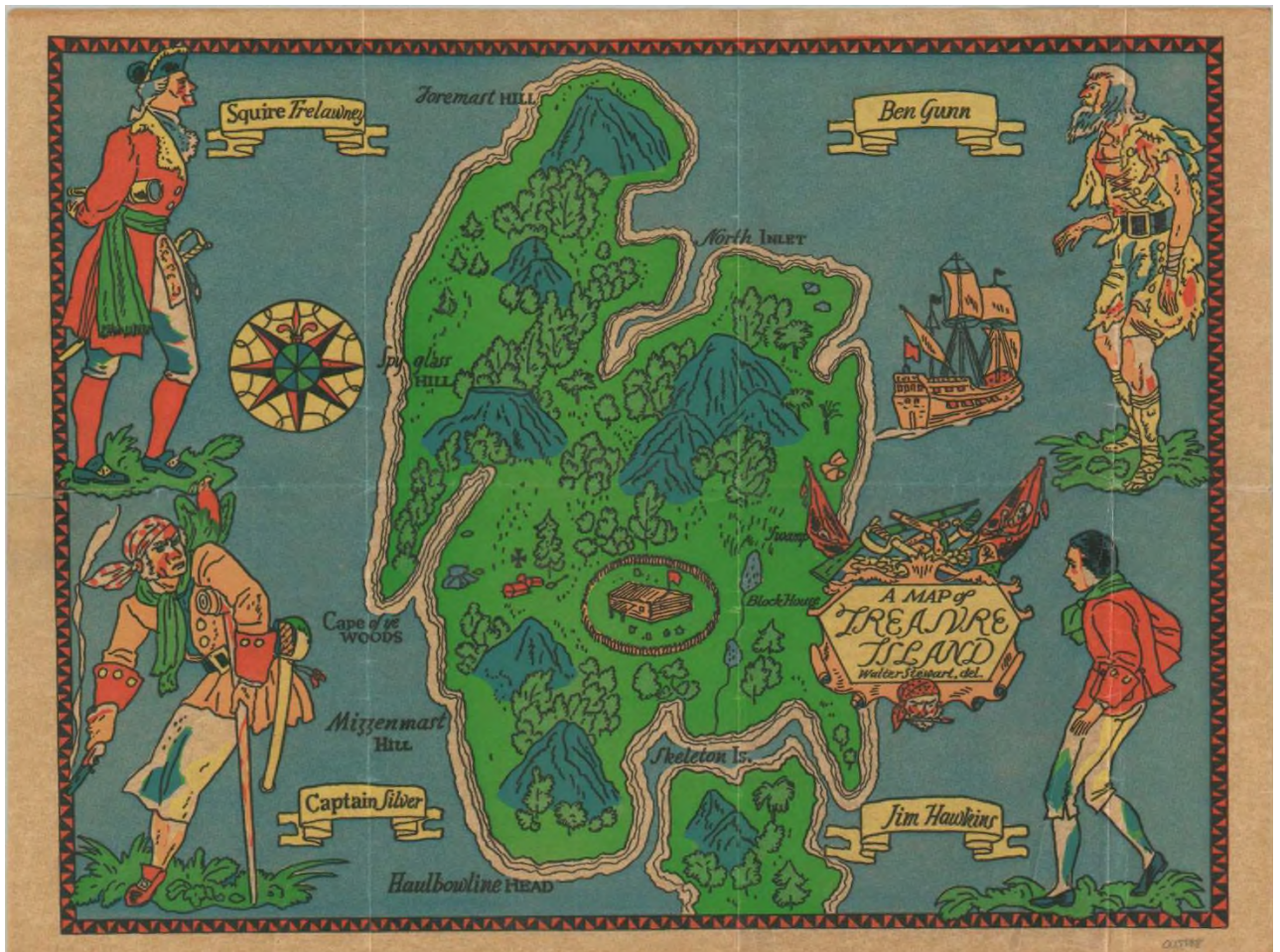
Stevenson's health continued to decline, and he sought a more favorable climate. In 1890, he settled in Samoa, where he became increasingly concerned about the growing influence of European and American powers in the South Sea islands. His writing shifted from romance and adventure to a darker, more realistic style.

Despite his physical frailty, Stevenson possessed remarkable emotional vitality. He was known for his engaging personality and his ability to connect with people. His contemporaries often remarked on the contrast between his weak physical state and his strong spirit.

Robert Louis Stevenson died on December 3, 1894, in Vailima, Samoa, at the age of 44. The cause of death was a stroke. He was buried on Mount Vaea in Samoa, with his self-written epitaph inscribed on his gravestone. His final lines reflected his love for adventure and his acceptance of death: "Home is the sailor, home from the sea, And the hunter home from the hill".

Although some critics dismissed his work during his lifetime, Stevenson was admired by many prominent authors, including Jorge Luis Borges, Ernest Hemingway, and Rudyard Kipling. Today, his works are widely acclaimed, and he remains one of the most translated authors in the world. Stevenson's legacy extends beyond his adventure stories; he is also recognized as a poet, playwright, and essayist who explored complex themes of good and evil, identity, and the human condition.

Treasure Island



"Treasure Island," penned by Robert Louis Stevenson, is a timeless adventure novel that has captivated readers for generations. Originally serialized in the children's magazine "Young Folks" from 1881 to 1882 under the pseudonym "Captain George North," it was later published as a complete book in 1883. The story, initially titled "The Sea Cook: A Story for Boys," is a coming-of-age tale set in the 18th century, brimming with pirates, buried gold, and thrilling escapades.

The narrative kicks off at the Admiral Benbow Inn, owned by Jim Hawkins' father. Their quiet life is disrupted by the arrival of Billy Bones, an old seaman with a mysterious past. Bones, haunted by the fear of a "one-legged seafaring man," enlists Jim to keep a lookout. This sets the stage for a series of events that plunge Jim into a world of danger and intrigue.

The appearance of Black Dog, a pirate with missing fingers, throws the inn into chaos. A violent confrontation ensues, leaving Bones wounded and revealing his connection to the infamous Captain Flint. Bones confesses to Jim that he was Flint's first mate and possesses knowledge of the location of Flint's buried treasure. He also

knows that his former crewmates, including Black Dog, are after him to get the treasure for themselves.

As fate would have it, Jim's father passes away, adding to the turmoil. Soon after, the blind pirate Pew delivers the "black spot" to Bones, a summons demanding he reveal the treasure's location. Overwhelmed by the threat, Bones suffers a fatal stroke. Jim and his mother, now in possession of a map detailing the treasure's whereabouts, find themselves caught in a dangerous game of cat and mouse with the ruthless pirates.

Seeking help, Jim and his mother turn to Dr. Livesey and Squire Trelawney. The squire, fueled by the prospect of adventure and riches, decides to finance a voyage to find the treasure. A ship, the *Hispaniola*, is commissioned, and a crew is assembled, with Jim serving as the cabin boy and Livesey as the ship's doctor.

The journey to Treasure Island is fraught with peril. Tensions rise as it becomes clear that some members of the crew are not who they seem. Jim overhears a plot by the ship's cook, Long John Silver, and a group of pirates to mutiny and seize the treasure for themselves. This revelation forces Jim and his loyal companions to prepare for a battle for survival.

Upon reaching the island, the adventure truly begins. Jim finds himself separated from the main group and encounters Ben Gunn, a marooned sailor who has been living on the island for years. Gunn, a former member of Flint's crew, becomes a valuable ally, providing Jim with knowledge of the island and its hidden dangers.

The conflict between the loyal crew and the pirates escalates, leading to fierce battles and daring escapes. Jim plays a crucial role in thwarting the pirates' plans, using his wit and courage to outsmart them at every turn. The quest for treasure becomes a test of character, forcing Jim to confront his fears and make difficult choices.

In the end, good triumphs over evil, and the treasure is recovered. However, the experience leaves a lasting impact on Jim, marking his transition from boyhood to adulthood. "Treasure Island" is more than just a thrilling adventure; it's a story about loyalty, betrayal, and the challenges of growing up in a world filled with danger and uncertainty.

Exercise 2. Scan QR and watch the video Robert Louis Stevenson then do research map.



Exercise 3. Play Kahoot game on topic "Treasure Island"



<https://create.kahoot.it/details/8ef01e86-4787-4068-81c3-945fd1efa8e7>

Exercise 4. Answer to the following questions.

1. Stevenson faced significant health challenges throughout his life, yet he maintained a prolific writing career and a vibrant spirit. Reflect on a time when you faced a personal challenge or obstacle. How did you find the strength to persevere, and what did you learn about yourself in the process?
2. Stevenson initially pursued a career in law to appease his father but ultimately followed his passion for writing. Describe a time when you had to make a difficult decision between meeting expectations and pursuing your own interests or passions. What factors influenced your decision, and what were the outcomes?
3. Stevenson's experiences in Samoa led him to reflect on the impact of European and American powers on the South Sea islands, influencing a shift in his writing style. Think about a time when your perspective on a particular issue or topic changed significantly due to new experiences or information. How did this shift in perspective affect your beliefs or actions?
4. Stevenson's works often explore themes of duality, such as good versus evil in *Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*. Consider a time when you experienced an internal conflict or struggled with opposing desires or values. How did you navigate this conflict, and what did you learn about the complexities of human nature?
5. Stevenson traveled extensively and lived in various places, including Scotland, Europe, and Samoa. Reflect on the impact of travel or experiencing different cultures on your own personal growth and understanding of the world. How have these experiences shaped your perspectives and values?

UNIT 13. Alfred, Lord Tennyson: The Idylls of the King



Exercise 1. Before reading the text, answer the following questions.

1. According to the text, what position did Alfred, Lord Tennyson hold from 1850, and what is the title of the cycle of narrative poems he wrote?
2. Based on the text, what are some of the key themes explored in Tennyson's 'Idylls of the King'?
3. According to the text, from what sources did Tennyson draw inspiration for 'Idylls of the King'?
4. According to the text, what is the fate of King Arthur at the end of Tennyson's 'Idylls of the King'?
5. Based on the text, what is the verse form in which Tennyson wrote 'Idylls of the King', and what does the text suggest about Tennyson's observation of nature in the poem?
6. According to the text, what is the role of Merlin in 'Idylls of the King'?
7. According to the text, to whom did Tennyson dedicate 'Idylls of the King', and what reflective tone did this dedication set for the poem?
8. Based on the text, what does Arthur lament in the poignant passage recounted by Sir Bedivere, and what hope does Arthur express despite his disillusionment?

Alfred, Lord Tennyson

Alfred, Lord Tennyson, a prominent figure of the Victorian era, held the esteemed position of Poet Laureate of the United Kingdom from November 19, 1850, until his death on October 6, 1892. During his tenure, he served under Queen Victoria and was succeeded by Alfred Austin. Tennyson's influence extended beyond poetry; he was also a member of the House of Lords as a Lord Temporal from March 11, 1884, until his death, succeeded in this role by his son, Hallam Tennyson, 2nd Baron Tennyson.

Born on August 6, 1809, in Somersby, Lincolnshire, England, Tennyson's early life was marked by both privilege and turmoil. He demonstrated a talent for writing at a young age, composing a 6,000-line epic poem at twelve. His father, Reverend George Tennyson, provided him with a classical education, tutoring his sons in classical and modern languages. However, the family dynamic was strained by the Reverend's mental instability and alcoholism.

Tennyson's family history was fraught with difficulties, including instances of madness, and addiction. One of his brothers was confined to an insane asylum. These experiences profoundly influenced Tennyson's work, with themes of mental illness, dysfunctional relationships, and social anxieties recurring throughout his poetry.

In 1827, Tennyson entered Trinity College, Cambridge. That same year, he and his brother Charles published **Poems by Two Brothers**. While the poems were largely juvenilia, they garnered attention from the "Apostles," an undergraduate literary club led by Arthur Henry Hallam. This group provided Tennyson with friendship and encouragement, bolstering his confidence as a poet. Hallam became a close friend, and his sudden death in 1833 deeply affected Tennyson, inspiring the elegy "In Memoriam" and other works.

Tennyson's early collections, **Poems, Chiefly Lyrical** (1830) and **Poems** (1832), received mixed reviews, with some critics deeming them "affected" and "obscure". Discouraged by the reception, Tennyson refrained from publishing for nine years. In 1836, he became engaged to Emily Sellwood, but the engagement was called off in 1840 after he lost his inheritance due to a bad investment.

Despite these setbacks, Tennyson's literary career rebounded with the publication of **Poems** in two volumes in 1842, which achieved both critical and popular acclaim. The release of "In Memoriam" in 1850 solidified his status as one of Britain's most beloved poets, leading to his appointment as Poet Laureate. In the same year, he married Emily Sellwood, and they had two sons.

Tennyson's poetry often drew inspiration from classical mythology, as seen in works like "Ulysses" and "The Lotos-Eaters". He also excelled at short lyrics, including "Break, Break, Break," "The Charge of the Light Brigade," "Tears, Idle Tears," and "Crossing the Bar". His poem "The Charge of the Light Brigade," which recounts a disastrous military event during the Crimean War, contains the famous line, "Theirs not to reason why, theirs but to do and die".

Tennyson's impact on Victorian literature and culture is undeniable. He captured the spirit of his age, grappling with themes of industrialization, social change, and the conflict between tradition and modernity. His mastery of language and rhythm, combined with his exploration of universal human experiences, cemented his place as one of the greatest poets in the English language. Tennyson died on October 6, 1892, in Lurgashall, Sussex, England, and was laid to rest in Westminster Abbey.

The Idylls of the King



"Idylls of the King," a cycle of twelve narrative poems, is a reimagining of the Arthurian legend penned by the English poet Alfred, Lord Tennyson between 1859 and 1885. Tennyson, who held the esteemed position of Poet Laureate from 1850, delves into the well-known story of King Arthur, his valiant knights, his love for Guinevere, her heartbreaking betrayal, and the subsequent rise and fall of Arthur's kingdom.

The overarching narrative follows Arthur's ambitious yet ultimately unsuccessful attempt to elevate humanity and establish a perfect kingdom, from his ascent to power to his demise at the hands of the treacherous Mordred. Each poem focuses on the exploits of different knights, such as Lancelot, Geraint, Galahad, and Balin and Balan, as well as the mystical figures of Merlin and the Lady of the Lake. While transitions between individual "Idylls" are subtle, the central character of Arthur serves as a unifying thread throughout the collection. Tennyson dedicated these poems to the memory of the late Albert, Prince Consort.

Written in blank verse, "Idylls of the King" showcases Tennyson's keen observations of nature, drawn from his surroundings over many years. While the

narratives possess dramatic elements, they lack the structure and tone of a traditional epic, instead evoking an elegiac sadness reminiscent of Theocritus' idylls. The poem is often interpreted as an allegory for the societal conflicts that plagued Britain during the mid-Victorian era.

Tennyson drew inspiration primarily from Sir Thomas Malory's "Le Morte d'Arthur" and the Welsh "Mabinogion". However, he expanded upon these sources, adding his own unique interpretations, most notably in the portrayal of Guinevere's fate. In Malory's version, Guinevere retreats to a convent after fleeing Mordred's usurpation of Arthur's throne. She outlives Arthur and shares a final encounter with Lancelot, urging him to leave as she dedicates herself to a life as a nun, a path Lancelot then follows.

"Idylls of the King" explores themes of chivalry, morality, and the complexities of love and honor. The poem opens with a dedication to Albert, setting a tone of reflection on ideals of nobility and virtue. It then introduces King Arthur's rise to power, highlighting the chaotic state of Britain before his reign and his efforts to unite the realm. The initial section recounts Arthur's legendary feats, including his battles against heathens and his pursuit of Queen Guinevere as his bride. Tennyson's lyrical language vividly portrays Arthur's noble character and the challenges he faces, laying the groundwork for the overarching themes of unity and conflict.

Throughout the poem, key figures like Merlin, the wizard who guides Arthur, and Guinevere, Arthur's queen, play pivotal roles. Guinevere's affair with Sir Lancelot becomes a central element in the unfolding tragedy. The poem delves into themes of chivalry, loyalty, betrayal, and the quest for spiritual purity. The characters embark on personal journeys that reflect their virtues and flaws, from Gareth's quest to prove himself as a knight to Galahad's pursuit of the Holy Grail, symbolizing divine grace.

As the narrative progresses, the idealism of Arthur's reign faces challenges, leading to conflict and disillusionment within the Round Table. The poem culminates in the poignant passing of Arthur, who, wounded in battle, is taken to Avalon, leaving behind a legacy of both glory and sorrow. Tennyson's work celebrates the grandeur of Arthurian legend and reflects on the fragility of human ideals and the inevitability of change.

Tennyson's "Idylls of the King" is his most ambitious work, reflecting his lifelong fascination with Arthurian themes. For Tennyson, the "Idylls" embodied the universal struggle between sense and soul, with Arthur representing the highest ideals of manhood and kingship, aligning with the moral values of his time.

Tennyson's poetic style, influenced by the Romantics, particularly Keats, is uniquely his own, characterized by delicate phrasing and subtle metrical effects.

Alfred Tennyson, later known as Alfred Lord Tennyson, was born in Somersby, Lincolnshire, in 1809. He received his early education at Louth Grammar School and later attended Trinity College, Cambridge. In 1850, he succeeded William Wordsworth as Poet Laureate and married Emily Sellwood. Tennyson continued to write poetry and plays throughout his life, and in 1884, he was raised to the peerage as Baron Tennyson of Aldworth, the first Englishman to receive such an honor solely for literary achievement. He died in 1892 at the age of 83.

Exercise 2. Scan QR and watch the video Alfred Lord Tennyson then do research map.



Exercise 3. Play Kahoot game on topic Victorian Poets



<https://create.kahoot.it/details/1d43bc05-5727-411b-99fc-82d54bef6686>

Exercise 4. Answer to the following questions.

1. Tennyson's 'Idylls of the King' explores the complexities of love, loyalty, and betrayal within the context of Arthurian legend. Reflect on a time when you experienced a conflict between your personal desires and your sense of duty or loyalty to others. How did you navigate this conflict, and what did you learn about yourself and your relationships in the process?

2. The poem portrays King Arthur's ambitious yet ultimately unsuccessful attempt to establish a perfect kingdom. Consider a time when you strived to achieve an ideal or create a positive change in your own life or community. What challenges did you encounter, and how did you reconcile your aspirations with the realities of the situation?

3. Tennyson's work reflects on the fragility of human ideals and the inevitability of change. Think about a time when your perception of someone you admired or an ideal you held dear was challenged or altered. How did this experience impact your understanding of human nature and the world around you?

4. The characters in 'Idylls of the King' grapple with moral dilemmas and personal flaws. Reflect on a time when you made a difficult ethical decision or faced the consequences of your own imperfections. How did this experience shape your understanding of right and wrong, and what lessons did you learn about personal responsibility?

5. Tennyson's poem explores the themes of chivalry, morality, and the quest for spiritual purity. Consider a time when you witnessed an act of courage, selflessness, or moral integrity that inspired you. How did this experience influence your own values and aspirations, and what impact did it have on your perspective of humanity?

Essential Literary Terms in Victorian Literature

Realism

A literary movement that aims to depict everyday life and society without embellishment or romantic idealization. Example: Charles Dickens's 'Hard Times' realistically depicts the struggles of the working class.

Satire

A genre that uses humor, irony, or exaggeration to criticize or expose societal flaws. Example: Oscar Wilde's 'The Importance of Being Earnest' satirizes Victorian social norms.

Symbolism

The use of symbols to represent ideas or qualities. Example: Stonehenge in 'Tess of the d'Urbervilles' symbolizes ancient justice.

Bildungsroman

A coming-of-age novel tracing the protagonist's psychological and moral growth. Example: 'Jane Eyre' by Charlotte Brontë.

Narrative Point of View

The perspective from which a story is told. Example: 'Great Expectations' is told from Pip's first-person point of view.

Allegory

A story where characters and events symbolize broader meanings. Example: 'Alice's Adventures in Wonderland' contains allegories about Victorian society.

Irony

A contrast between expectation and reality. Example: The name 'Ernest' is ironic in Wilde's play, as the characters are dishonest.

Gothic Fiction

A genre combining horror and romance, often with supernatural elements. Example: 'Wuthering Heights' includes ghosts and dark, stormy settings.

Dramatic Monologue

A poem where a character speaks to a silent audience, revealing inner thoughts. Example: Browning's 'My Last Duchess'.

Social Criticism

Using literature to critique social injustices. Example: 'Middlemarch' explores issues of gender and class.

Foreshadowing

Hints of what is to come later in the story. Example: Pip's encounter with Magwitch in 'Great Expectations' foreshadows future revelations.

Motif

A recurring element in a literary work. Example: The motif of 'double lives' in 'The Importance of Being Earnest'.

Frame Narrative

A story within a story. Example: 'Wuthering Heights' uses a frame structure with Mr. Lockwood and Nelly Dean.

Characterization

The method of developing characters and their personalities. Example: George Eliot's rich characterization in 'Middlemarch'.

Stream of Consciousness

A technique that presents thoughts as they occur. Example: Seen in introspective narration in 'Jane Eyre'.

Metaphor

A figure of speech comparing two things without using 'like' or 'as'. Example: Fire and ice in 'Jane Eyre' symbolize passion and repression.

Tragic Hero

A noble character with a flaw leading to downfall. Example: Tess in 'Tess of the d'Urbervilles'.

Parody

A humorous imitation of another work or style. Example: Carroll's parody of education in 'Alice's Adventures in Wonderland'.

Pathos

Evoking pity or sadness. Example: The depiction of poverty in 'Oliver Twist'.

Denouement

The final resolution of a story's plot. Example: Jack's identity is revealed at the end of 'The Importance of Being Earnest'.

Allusion

An indirect reference to another work or event. Example: Dickens alludes to Shakespeare in 'Great Expectations'.

Juxtaposition

Placing elements side by side to highlight differences. Example: Dorothea and Rosamond in 'Middlemarch'.

Epistolary Form

A story told through letters or diary entries. Example: Used in parts of Victorian novels like 'Dracula'.

Dramatic Irony

When the audience knows something the characters do not. Example: The identity of 'Ernest' in Wilde's play.

Archaism

The use of outdated language. Example: Hardy's rural speech style often uses archaisms.

Idiolect

A character's unique speech pattern. Example: Joe's speech in 'Great Expectations'.

Foil

A character who contrasts with another to highlight traits. Example: St. John Rivers vs. Mr. Rochester in 'Jane Eyre'.

Utopia/Dystopia

Imaginary societies representing perfection or oppression. Example: The bleak industrial setting in 'Hard Times'.

Persona

The speaker or narrator of a literary work. Example: The Duke in Browning's 'My Last Duchess'.

PROGRESS TEST

1. Which monarch's reign defines the Victorian era?
A) Queen Elizabeth I
B) Queen Anne
C) Queen Victoria
D) King George III
2. Which of the following is considered one of the earliest periods of English literature?
A) Victorian literature
B) Restoration literature
C) Middle English literature
D) Old English literature
3. Who among the following is known as the Father of English poetry?
A) William Shakespeare
B) Charles Dickens
C) Geoffrey Chaucer
D) Daniel Defoe
4. Which of these genres is NOT typically included in English literature?
A) Essays
B) Lyrical poems
C) Scientific theories
D) Plays
5. Which literary period followed the Middle English period?
A) Victorian period
B) Old English period
C) Modern English period
D) Renaissance period
6. What is a key characteristic of English writers, according to the text?
A) They avoided social issues
B) They mainly wrote fiction
C) They were deeply interested in their political and social environment
D) They did not write poetry

7. Which of the following authors is associated with Victorian literature?
- A) John Milton
 - B) William Shakespeare
 - C) Charles Dickens
 - D) Daniel Defoe
8. The Augustan Age refers to the literary period between:
- A) 1800–1850
 - B) 1485–1603
 - C) 1700–1750
 - D) 1603–1660
9. Which genre became prominent during the Elizabethan era?
- A) Metaphysical poetry
 - B) Restoration comedy
 - C) Gothic fiction
 - D) Drama
10. What distinguishes national literature, as discussed in the text?
- A) It always ignores politics
 - B) It has no impact on world literature
 - C) It reflects the history and character of a nation
 - D) It only includes poetry and drama
11. What is the primary theme explored in Victorian literature?
- A) Science fiction
 - B) Political satire
 - C) Social change
 - D) War and peace
12. Which genre was significantly developed during the Victorian era?
- A) Epic poetry
 - B) Realist novel
 - C) Allegorical play
 - D) Travel writing

13. Who wrote 'Jane Eyre'?
- A) Emily Brontë
 - B) George Eliot
 - C) Charlotte Brontë
 - D) Mary Shelley
14. Which of the following was NOT a concern of Victorian writers?
- A) Industrialization
 - B) Gender roles
 - C) National independence
 - D) Moral values
15. Which author is famous for the novel 'Middlemarch'?
- A) Thomas Hardy
 - B) George Eliot
 - C) Oscar Wilde
 - D) Charles Dickens
16. Which author is associated with 'Tess of the d'Urbervilles'?
- A) George Eliot
 - B) Charles Dickens
 - C) Thomas Hardy
 - D) Robert Browning
17. What societal issue is often reflected in Victorian literature?
- A) Scientific revolutions
 - B) Spiritual transformation
 - C) Social inequality
 - D) Global trade
18. Which female Victorian author used a male pen name?
- A) Jane Austen
 - B) Charlotte Brontë
 - C) Mary Shelley
 - D) George Eliot
19. Which form of narration is common in Victorian novels?

- A) Second person
- B) Omniscient third person
- C) Objective narrator
- D) First person plural

20. What period defines the Victorian Age in English literature?

- A) 1700-1750
- B) 1837-1901
- C) 1603-1660
- D) 1900-1914

21. Which of the following was a dominant literary trend in the Victorian period?

- A) Exclusively focusing on medieval romance stories
- B) Writing only in poetic forms without novels
- C) Realistic depictions of society, morality, and class struggles
- D) Exploration of mythical creatures and fantasy worlds

22. How did the rise of industrialization impact Victorian-era literature?

- A) It caused a decline in the number of books published
- B) Authors ignored social changes and focused on historical epics
- C) Victorian literature promoted only agrarian lifestyles
- D) Writers began exploring themes of labor exploitation and urban life

23. Which of these authors was NOT a prominent Victorian author according to the text?

- A) Charles Dickens
- B) George Eliot
- C) Geoffrey Chaucer
- D) Thomas Hardy

24. What was a recurring theme in Victorian novels, particularly among critical realists?

- A) The decline of mythology in society
- B) The personal and moral dilemmas of individuals in a changing world
- C) The dominance of supernatural beings over human destiny
- D) The rejection of science and technological advancements

25. The Chartist movement, a revolutionary movement of English workers, lasted until what year?
- A) 1833
 - B) 1848
 - C) 1901
 - D) 1870
26. What is a central theme explored in Charles Dickens' "Great Expectations"?
- A) The glorification of wealth and social status as the ultimate goals in life.
 - B) The critique of social class disparities and the pursuit of personal transformation.
 - C) The importance of maintaining one's social status regardless of moral implications.
 - D) The celebration of the British monarchy and its influence on Victorian society.
27. What is the significance of Abel Magwitch in Pip's life in "Great Expectations"?
- A) Magwitch is Pip's rival, who constantly challenges him throughout the novel.
 - B) Magwitch is a minor character who has little impact on Pip's personal development.
 - C) Magwitch represents Pip's connection to the criminal underworld and the source of his unexpected wealth.
 - D) Magwitch serves as a mentor figure who guides Pip in his pursuit of social status.
28. What does Pip realize as he ascends the social ladder in London in "Great Expectations"?
- A) Education and refinement are the only paths to personal success.
 - B) The values of the upper class are inherently superior to those of the lower class.
 - C) Wealth and status do not necessarily equate to happiness or moral worth.
 - D) Wealth and status are the keys to true happiness and fulfillment.
29. In what year was Charles Dickens born?
- A) 1800

- B) 1812
- C) 1822
- D) 1837

30. Which of the following novels belongs to Dickens's third creative period (1850-1859), known for its strong social criticism?

- A) The Posthumous Papers of the Pickwick Club
- B) Dombey and Son
- C) Great Expectations
- D) Hard Times

31. Charles Dickens's novel "Great Expectations" was published serially from what years?

- A) 1833-1836
- B) 1842-1848
- C) 1860-1861
- D) 1850-1859

32. What is Oscar Wilde's only novel?

- A) The Happy Prince, and Other Tales
- B) Lady Windermere's Fan
- C) The Picture of Dorian Gray
- D) An Ideal Husband

33. Which of Oscar Wilde's plays is considered a classic of comic theater and was first performed in 1895?

- A) Lady Windermere's Fan
- B) An Ideal Husband
- C) The Importance of Being Earnest
- D) A Woman of No Importance

34. What was the purpose of social comedy for Oscar Wilde?

- A) To reform the morality of his time
- B) To reflect the morality of his time
- C) To connect art with the truth of life
- D) To demand similarity between reality and its depiction in art

35. Oscar Wilde was a proponent of which doctrine?
- A) Realism
 - B) Naturalism
 - C) Art for art's sake
 - D) Critical Realism
36. What did Oscar Wilde often show in *The Importance of Being Earnest* regarding his characters?
- A) How they led fulfilling lives.
 - B) How they led futile lives.
 - C) How they actively engaged in social reform.
 - D) How they struggled with poverty.
37. Which of the following best describes the social class of Tess Durbeyfield at the beginning of Thomas Hardy's **Tess of the d'Urbervilles**?
- A. She belongs to the wealthy aristocratic class, secretly descended from nobility.
 - B. She is a member of the impoverished rural working class, despite her ancient lineage.
 - C. She is a respected member of the urban elite, disguised as a country girl.
 - D. She is a prosperous middle-class woman working on a farm.
38. What significant event leads to Tess Durbeyfield leaving her home in Marlott and seeking assistance from the d'Urbervilles?
- A. She causes the accidental death of the family's horse, Prince, and feels responsible.
 - B. Her parents force her to marry a wealthy suitor from the d'Urberville family.
 - C. Her family inherits a large sum of money, and she decides to travel.
 - D. She elopes with Angel Clare, and they decide to start a new life.
39. Which character in **Tess of the d'Urbervilles** is initially depicted as a manipulative and self-serving individual who takes advantage of Tess's vulnerability?
- A. Angel Clare

- B.Reverend Clare
- C.John Durbeyfield
- D.Alec d'Urberville

40. Which character in **Tess of the d'Urbervilles** is initially depicted as a manipulative and self-serving individual who takes advantage of Tess's vulnerability?
- A.Angel Clare
 - B.Reverend Clare
 - C.John Durbeyfield
 - D.Alec d'Urberville
41. Which of the following is NOT a significant theme explored in **Tess of the d'Urbervilles**?
- A.The decline of the aristocracy and the rise of the working class.
 - B.The transformative power of industrialization on urban centers.
 - C.The conflict between paganism and Christianity.
 - D.Fate versus free will and the impact of misfortune.
42. What causes Alice's repeated changes in size throughout **Alice's Adventures in Wonderland**?
- A.The Queen of Hearts uses her royal powers to alter Alice's height.
 - B. She possesses an innate magical ability to change her physical form.
 - C.She consumes various magical food and drink items, such as cakes and potions.
 - D.Her size changes are a manifestation of her emotional state, growing when happy and shrinking when sad.
- 43.Which of the following characters is known for frequently disappearing and reappearing, leaving only a grin behind?
- A.The White Rabbit
 - B.The Queen of Hearts
 - C.The Cheshire Cat
 - D.The Mad Hatter
44. A recurring motif in **Alice's Adventures in Wonderland** is the subversion of logic and reason. How is this typically demonstrated?

A.Characters engage in highly structured philosophical debates that always lead to clear conclusions.

B.Alice uses her superior intellect to correct the illogical thinking of the Wonderland creatures.

C.Conversations and events frequently defy common sense, exhibiting nonsensical arguments and illogical situations.

D.The inhabitants of Wonderland consistently follow strict social etiquette and rules.

45. What is the primary motivation for the Queen of Hearts' constant threats of execution?

A. She uses them to scare people into participating in her croquet games.

B. She is genuinely committed to enforcing strict laws and punishments.

C. She is truly benevolent and only uses threats to maintain order.

D.Her threats are a theatrical display of her immense power and short temper, often not carried out.

45.Which period in the English Literature is called the Victorian age literature?

A. 1837 - 1901.

B. 1901 -1917.

C. 1850-1900.

D. 1815-1837.

E. 1750-1800.

46. When did Christianity penetrate into the British Isles?

A. In the 10th century.

B. In the third century.

C. In the 11th century. D. In the 14th century.

E. In the 7th century.

47. When did the “University Wits” live ?

A. In the Victorian age.

B. In the Augustan age.

C. In the Elizabethan age.

D. In the age of Enlightenment.

E. During the Adwardian period.

48. Which was the first poetic work published by Walter Scott?

- A. The Lay of the Last Minstrel.
- B. The Lady of the Lake.
- C. Minstrelsy of the Scottish Border.
- D. Hours of Idleness. E. Poems Chiefly in Scottish Dialect.

49. Tick the name of the famous Irish dramatist and politician of the 18th-19th centuries.

- A. Richard Brinsley Sheridan.
- B. John Milton.
- C. Alexander Pope.
- D. Daniel Defoe.
- E. Samuel Richardson.

50. What character is described in the following passage?

“...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. He was high sheriff, and rode in a golden coach. Great ministers and statesmen courted him; and in Vanity Fair he had a higher place than the most brilliant genius of spotless virtue”.

- A. Captain William Dobbin in W.M.Thackeray’s “Vanity Fair”.
- B. Charles Strickland in W.S.Maugham’s “The Moon and Sixpence”.
- C. Soames Forsyte in J.Galsworthy’s “The Forsyte Saga”.
- D. Andrew Manson in A.J. Cronin’s “The Citadel”.
- F. Sir Pitt Crawley in W.M.Thackeray’s “Vanity Fair”.

51. Who became the outstanding literary figure of the Restoration after John Milton’s death?

- A. George Gordon Byron.
- B. John Dryden.
- C. Thomas Malory.
- D. Dylan Thomas.
- E. Oscar Wilde.

52. How is the period in English literature from 1700 to 1750 called?

- A. The Victorian Age.
- B. The Age of Romanticism.
- C. The Augustan Age.
- D. The Restoration period.
- E. The Age of Johnson.

53. Who were the two greatest novelists of the romantic period?

- A. Sir Walter Scott and Graham Greene.
- B. Jane Austen and Oscar Wilde.
- C. Ben Jonson and William Wordsworth.
- D. Jane Austen and Samuel Johnson.
- E. Jane Austen and Sir Walter Scott.

54. What is satirized in Jonathan Swift's "A Tale of a Tub"?

- A. Parliamentary debates.
- B. Social institutions of the day.
- C. Family affairs.
- D. Differing interpretations of Christianity.
- E. Literary critics.

55. What did Charles Dickens describe in his novels "Oliver Twist" and "David Copperfield"?

- A. The lives of children made miserable by cruel or thoughtless adults.
- B. The lives of medical workers, who served for the well-being of their country.
- C. Unhappy love.
- D. The spread of Christianity.
- F. Illusory actions and things.

56. What were the three chief forms of Elizabethan poetry?

- A. the lyric, the sonnet, and narrative poetry.
- B. the epic, the sonnet, and blues.
- C. the limericks, the lyric and narrative poetry.
- D. Spenserian stanzas, the lyric, and epic.

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