

English 11 - Semester 1 Review

Literary movements:

Puritanism	Revolutionary Era	Romantic Age	Transcendentalism	Anti-Transcendentalism
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The period is dominated by simplicity and plainness both in life & literature. - The purpose of writing is to honor God and improve the writer's relationship with God. - Some authors did not want to be published, because their works were only for the eyes of God. - Journals describe the continent and the land. - Natives are described as savage-like and uneducated. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The literature is primarily pamphlets and speeches. - theme of "Independence" - The topics focus on science, ethics, and government, rather than a primary focus on religion. - The Age of Reason impacts the movement. - Literature reflects the value of reason more than emotion or imagination. - Authors begin to express unique opinions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Now that the country is established & thriving, authors write the first creative fiction & poetry for the U.S. - The short story is "Americanized." - American Surrealism stems from this period. - This period includes the "literary hero." - Edgar Allan Poe wrote during this time. - Nature is described as mysterious, powerful, & supernatural. - This period reflects emotion more than reason. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The movement stresses that mankind is full of potential. - Says that all humans can experience God and greatness. - To learn about ourselves, we become a "transparent eyeball" in nature. - Self reliance and solitude are important aspects. - Emerson comes up with the theories, & Thoreau puts such theories into action. - There is a strong emphasis on individuality. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The movement stresses the good and the bad/flawed aspects of mankind. - Nature is described as eerie and having a dark/dangerous side. - Hawthorne is the influential author. - Hawthorne's characters represent humans as vulnerable or in a negative way.

Specific Works to be familiar with for the Exam

- "The Devil and Tom Walker"—Washington Irving
- "The Fall of the House of Usher"—Edgar Allan Poe
- "The Raven"—Edgar Allan Poe
- "Aphorisms from Poor Richard's Almanac"—Ben Franklin
- "Walden"—Henry David Thoreau
- "Civil Disobedience"—Henry David Thoreau
- "The Minister's Black Veil"—Nathaniel Hawthorne
- * "Thanatopsis"—Bryant
- * "The Letter to Samson Occum"—Wheatley

To prepare for the essays:

Essay topic #1 deals with the expectations of the societies in which the authors or characters exist, and how those expectations affect the authors/characters. (Do they follow the norm? Do they respond by ignoring the expectations? Do they fail to live up to them?) You have to address this issue with multiple works from first semester.

Essay topic #2 deals with the fact that many significant events in literature are mental or psychological (a discovery or awakening, an unexpected observation, a change in thought, etc.). You have to be able to address this issue with multiple works from first semester.

Essay topic #3 deals with reflecting on your own writing skills this year. You will have access to your writing folders and will be expected to make specific references to those papers.