

Yr 8 – NEO CLASSICAL (Term 2)

1660- 1798

Just replace that o with a w & you've got yourself Newclassicism.....Neoclassicism is a movement that was inspired by classical culture. Put simply: these guys loved ancient Greece & Rome. A lot had changed since the days of ancient Western civilization, but Neoclassicist thinkers had the idea that human nature was things weren't really all that different.

What is a novel?

- A novel is a very long piece of fiction with a narrative structure. Because a novel is, first & foremost, a story, you'll (usually) find lots of characters & a plot.

Why was the world's first novel so important?

- **The Tale of Genji** is a classic work of Japanese literature written by the noblewoman & lady-in-waiting Murasaki Shikibu in the early years of the 11th century. The fact it was written by a women & depicted love as well as court life.
- The world's first novel, written in English, is widely considered to be 'Robinson Crusoe' by Daniel Defoe. It was particularly his characters sharing their thoughts that marked out this change.

What literature has Robinson Crusoe inspired?

- *Gulliver's Travels*
- *Lord of the Flies*
- *Life of Pi*
- *The Swiss Family Robinson*

What is a mock epic? (BOUNCE BACK – GREEK)

- When you think about epics, you probably think about grand battles, heroic warriors, & valiant sword-wielders like Achilles & Hector in the *Iliad*.
- The Augustans (18th century writers) took on the epic genre but used all the conventions to talk about silly, trivial things. Basically, they wrote about silly things in a grand way, in order to make fun of these silly things.

Why was Pope's heroic couplet so important? (BOUNCE BACK – MEDIEVAL)

- Heroic couplets—sets of two lines of rhyming iambic pentameter were hands-down *the* most popular poetic form in late 17th, early 18th century.
- The origins of heroic couplets are murky—they go back to Chaucer in the 14th century—but they first got their name in the 17th, where they were the main poetic form used for heroic drama.
- By the 1700s, almost every poet used them for almost every poem. But of all of those poets, Alexander Pope was the master of the heroic couplet.

Words that were dear to the neoclassicists' hearts:

- Order
- Moderation
- Limits
- Reason
- Bowing to society

What made Samuel Johnson's dictionary so remarkable?

- Samuel Johnson's 'Dictionary of the English Language' is one of the most famous dictionaries in history.
- First published in 1755, the dictionary took just over eight years to make, required six helpers, & listed 40,000 words.
- It was a huge achievement. The comparable French *Dictionnarre* had taken 55 years to compile & required the dedication of 40 scholars.

What made Lowth & Murray's grammar book so remarkable?

- Several grammar books were published during the 18th century. They fulfilled a demand among a growing middle class for guidance on how to use 'polite'/'correct' English.
- Lowth, an academic & bishop, compiled this work, originally to help his son at school.
- Many scholars see him as too strict with the 'rules' of grammar. This is called prescriptivism.

Reading tasks

A fiction & a non-fiction analysis

Writing tasks

A descriptive & informative/explanatory travel article PLUS an advisory leaflet.

Reading skills: the analysis of language/ structure/ form reveals further distinct meanings

Why do you need to understand the whole text & the question first?

Alliteration used in a persuasive text is has a different effect to alliteration in descriptive writing.

What is the effect of the technique in addition to the meaning of the words?

FOR EXAMPLE: When the boys chant "Kill the pig. Cut her throat. Spill her blood." as well as there being violent words in it, like 'kill' & 'cut', Golding's use of imperative verbs makes the boys seem aggressive.

Writing a leaflet

- A clear/ apt/ original title
- organisational techniques such as subheadings or boxes
- bullet points
- effectively/ fluently sequenced paragraphs.

Writing an article

- Broadsheet = formal/Local or tabloid = informal
- a clear/apt/original title
- a strapline & subheadings
- an introductory (overview) paragraph
- effectively/fluently sequenced paragraphs.

Writing to explain/inform

- Be factual
- Give a balanced view (but not contradictory)
- Use evidence to support your view
- Use connectives of comparison
- Write in 3rd or 1st person

Language techniques

CONNOTATION

IRONY

TO NE

SIMILE

METAPHOR

PERSONIFICATION

ALLITERATION

IAMAFORSTER

Foreshadowing

Onomatopoeia

Juxtaposition

Flashback/ flashforward

Topic sentence

CHARACTER

PLOT

SETTING

GENRE

ALLEGORY

Writing to advise

- Use gentle modal verbs
- Write in present tense
- Use connectives
- Write in 2nd person

Stretch Yourself

- Anarchy
- Democracy
- Dictatorship
- Savagery
- *Animal Farm*

Grammar

- Personal Pronouns – Used to replace a subject or object in a sentence. E.g. I, me, you
- Reflexive Pronouns – refer back to the subject of the sentence clause. They either end in –self, as in the singular form or –selves, as in the plural form. Possessive Pronouns – Used to demonstrate that something belongs to a person. e.g. mine, yours
- Interrogative Pronouns – Used to ask questions (Who, Whom, What, Which & Whose)
- Determiners – A word that precedes a noun & serves to introduce & add context to the noun. e.g. the, a, a few, some
- Coordinating Conjunctions – placed between words, phrases, clauses or sentences of equal rank-FANBOYS

- Subordinating conjunctions – a conjunction that introduces a subordinate clause.
- Preposition – a word that is used before a noun, noun phrase or a pronoun to connect it to another word. e.g. under, in, to

Looking forward

Ah, romance. Bouquets of roses, Valentine's Day treats, smooching over a candlelight dinner... Okay, did you get that out of your system? Because Romanticism is NOT that.