

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 stable enough that 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 woman & 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?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Gulliver's Travels</li><li>Life of Pi</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Lord of the Flies</li><li>The Swiss Family Robinson</li></ul> |
|---|---|

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 (18<sup>th</sup> 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 17<sup>th</sup>, early 18<sup>th</sup> 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.

Characters in Lord of The Flies

Ralph - The novel's protagonist, the twelve-year-old English boy who is elected leader of the group of boys marooned on the island. Ralph attempts to coordinate the boys' efforts to build a miniature civilization on the island until they can be rescued.

Jack - The novel's antagonist, one of the older boys stranded on the island. Jack becomes the leader of the hunters but longs for total power and becomes increasingly wild, barbaric, and cruel as the novel progresses.

Simon - A shy, sensitive boy in the group. Simon, in some ways the only naturally "good" character on the island, behaves kindly toward the younger boys and is willing to work for the good of their community.

Piggy - Ralph's "lieutenant." A whiny, intellectual boy, Piggy's inventiveness frequently leads to innovation, such as the makeshift sundial that the boys use to tell time.

Roger - Jack's "lieutenant." A sadistic, cruel older boy.

Dystopian Fiction

Because Lord of the Flies presents the characters as living in a nightmarish, oppressive society as a result of their flawed natures, it is also an example of dystopian fiction. In direct contrast to utopian fiction, which suggests that human beings are perfectible and a society free of suffering is possible, dystopian fiction suggests that societal injustice is inevitable.

Language techniques

- |                        |
|------------------------|
| IRONY                  |
| Foreshadowing          |
| Onomatopoeia           |
| Juxtaposition          |
| Flashback/flashforward |
| ALLEGORY               |

Motifs and Symbols

**Motifs** · Biblical parallels; natural beauty; the bullying of the weak by the strong; the outward symbols of savagery (face paint, spears, totems, chants)

**Symbols** · The conch shell; Piggy's glasses; the signal fire; the beast; the Lord of the Flies

Context of LOTF

- Golding's experience in World War II had a profound effect on his view of humanity and the evils of which it was capable.
- Writing in an era following WWII known as the 'atomic age,' Golding tapped into a widespread cultural panic over nuclear destruction and man's capacity for warfare.
- Although Lord of the Flies is an allegorical novel, it draws a great deal from adventure literature, a genre that pits humans against nature to explore the personality traits necessary for the survival of the species. However Goulding was more interested in subverting traditional adventure tales and reversing their moral message.

Themes in LOTF

- Civilization vs. savagery
- Loss of innocence
- Struggle to build civilization
- Danger of mob mentality
- War and future of mankind

Words that sum up neoclassicists:

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

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 3<sup>rd</sup> or 1<sup>st</sup> person

Grammar

- Personal Pronouns**  
Replace a subject or object in a sentence.  
SUBJECT = I, you, he, she, we, you, they.  
OBJECT = me, you, him, her, us, you, them
- Coordinating Conjunction** – placed between clauses of equal rank- FANBOYS
- Subordinating conjunction** – a conjunction that introduces a subordinate clause.

**Bounce-back grammar from Y7:**  
Noun types, verb types, adjective types, articles, phrases, clause types, sentence types, simple tenses

Writing to advise

- Use gentle modal verbs
- Write in present tense
- Use connectives
- Write in 2<sup>nd</sup> person

Writing a leaflet

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

Stretch Yourself

- Anarchy
- Democracy
- Dictatorship
- Savagery
- Animal Farm