

**ENGLISH**  
**COURSE NO. ENG (Hon) 103:**  
**HISTORY OF ENGLISH LITERATURE**

**Unit I: Elizabethan Age.**

**1. Historical perspective.**

- The Renaissance.
- The influence of Renaissance on English literature.

**2. Main characteristic of the age.**

**3. Elizabethan Poetry.**

- Sonnets and sonneteers.
- Edmund Spenser's contribution to English poetry.
- Metaphysical poetry.
- John Donne as a metaphysical poet

**4. Elizabethan drama.**

- The development of the drama.
- Pre-Shakespearean drama.
- The university wits.
- Marlow's contribution to British drama.
- Shakespeare: An appreciation.
- Works of Shakespeare.
- Post-Shakespearean drama: Decline of the drama.
- Ben Jonson's contribution to the art of comedy
- John Webster as a tragic playwright.

**5. Elizabethan prose writers.**

- Prose before 1579 and Prose after 1579.
- The Authorised version of the bible.
- Francis Bacon as the father of English essay

**6. Elizabethan Novel.**

- Important novelist: Sir. Philip Sidney, John Lyly, Thomas nashe etc.

**Unit II: The Age of Dryden and Pope.**

**A).The Age of Dryden.**

**1. Historical perspective.**

- The Restoration (1660).
- Religious and political Quarrels.
- The Bloodless Revolution (1688).

**2. The Chief Traits of the age of Dryden.**

**3. Poetry of the age of Dryden.**

- Analysis of Dryden's true place and greatness.

**4. Prose of the age of Dryden.**

**5. Drama of the age of Dryden.**

- Restoration tragedy,-Restoration comedy.

## **B).The Age of Pope.**

- 1. Historical perspective.**
- 2. Literary characteristics of the Age.**
- 3. Alexander pope as the representative of the age.**
- 4. Prose of the age of Pope.**
  - Periodical Essays,-Addison's contribution to the Essay.
  - Jonathan Swift's contribution to the essay

## **Unit III: The Romantic Age.**

- 1. Historical perspective.-The French Revolution,-The Industrial Revolution,-Science,-The Rise of romanticism.**
- 2. Literary characteristics of the age.**
- 3. The age of poetry.**
  - Main Characteristics of romantic poetry.
  - The poetry of Wordsworth.
  - Coleridge as a romantic poet.
  - Main characteristics of Shelly's Poetry.
  - Main characteristics of Keat's poetry.
- 4. Prose Writers of the age.**
  - Charles lamb, William Hazlitt, Thomas De Quincey etc.
- 5. Novel of the Romantic Age.**
  - Jane Austin as a novelist.

## **Unit IV: The Victorian Age.**

- 1. Historical perspective.**
  - An era of peace, prosperity and programmes, The New Education, Victorian Compromise, Social unrest, Democracy, the Impact of Science.
- 2. Characteristics of the age.**
- 3. Tennyson as the representative Poet of the age.**
- 4. Tennyson's treatment of nature.**
  - Browning philosophy of life.
  - Browning's conception of love.
  - As a Writer of dramatic monologue.
  - Browning's obscurity
- 5. A Critical appraisal of Mathew Arnold.**
- 6. Novelist of the Victorian Age.**
  - The age of prose.
  - Critical appraisal of Thomas Carlyle, George Eliot, Thomas hardy, Charles Dickens.

## **Unit V: Modern Age.**

### **1. Historical Perspective.**

-The World Wars.

### **3. General characteristics of the age.**

### **3. Modern poetry.-The Decodents, -The Realists,-The Pessimist,-The Transitional Poets.**

-The Georgians,-The imagist,-French Poets,-An analysis of W.B.Yeats , -An analysis of T.S. Eliot.

### **4. Modern Drama.**

-Main features of modern drama.

-The realistic drama.

- John Galsworthy as a dramatist

- G. B Shaw as a dramatist.

### **5. Modern novel.**

-Characteristics of modern novel.

-Analysis of main novelist of the period: Joseph Coward, H.G. Wells, E.M. Forster, D.H. Lawrence, James, Joyce, Virginia Woolf.

### **6. Critical estimate of modern prose.**

-New modes.

-Brevity and flexibility.

-The Essay style.