

## Istituto d'Istruzione Superiore "Vincenzo Benini" Programma effettivamente svolto

### 1 The Romantic Age (1798-1837)

#### 1. Historical Background

- 1.1 Napoleonic Wars
- 1.2 William IV and the First Reform Bill

#### 2. Literary Production

- 2.1. Pre-romanticism and Gothic Fiction
  - Matthew Gregory Lewis (1775-1818)  
*The Monk* (literary references)

#### POETRY

- 2.2 Features of English Romantic poetry
  - William Blake (1757-1827)  
*Song of Innocence and Songs of Experience*  
Text 1: "The Lamb"  
Text 2: "The Tyger"

#### 2.3 The First Generation of Romantic Poets

- William Wordsworth (1770-1850)  
*Lyrical Ballads*  
Text 3: "The Solitary Reaper"
- Samuel T. Coleridge (1772-2834)  
Text 4: *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner*  
(part I - II - VII)  
Text 5: *Christabel*  
(part I - II)

#### 2.4 The Second Generation of Romantic Poets

- George Gordon, Lord Byron (1792-1822)  
Text 6: *Childe Harold's Pilgrimage*
- John Keats (1795-1821)  
Text 7: *La Belle Dame Sans Merci*

#### PROSE

- 2.5 The Evolution of Gothic Fiction
  - Mary Shelley (1797-1851)  
*Frankenstein*  
Text 8: "What was I"  
Text 9: "The Creation of the Monster"  
Text 10: "This was then the reward"  
Literary connections:  
Ahmed Saadawi - *Frankenstein fi Baghdad*

#### 2.6 The Historical Novel

- Walter Scott (1771-1832)  
*Waverley*  
Text 11: "Edward Waverley"

#### 2.7 The Domestic Novel

- Jane Austen (1775-1817)  
*Pride and Prejudice*  
Text 12: "Mr. Collins's proposal"  
Text 13: "Mr Darcy's first proposal of marriage"  
Text 14: "No more prejudice"

### 2 The Victorian Age (1837-1901)

#### 1. Historical Background

- 1.1 Queen Victoria
- 1.2 Chartism Movement
- 1.3 Second and Third Reform Bills
- 1.4 British Empire

#### 2. Social Background

- 2.1 The Victorian Compromise
- 2.2 The Position of Women
- 2.3 Sport in the Victorian Age

#### 3. Literary Production

- 3.1 Fiction in the 19th century
- 3.2 Early Victorian fiction

#### PROSE

- 3.3 Social Novel
  - Charles Dickens (1812-1870)  
*Oliver Twist*  
Text 15: "Lunch Time"  
Text 16: "Jacob's Island"  
*Hard Times*  
Text 17: "Coketown"  
*Pickwick Papers*
- 3.4 Late Romantic Novel
  - Charlotte Brontë (1816-1855)  
*Jane Eyre*  
Text 18: "Bertha Mason is my wife"  
Insights: Madness in the Victorian Age

## 3.5 Late Realistic Novel

- George Eliot (1819-1880)

*Middlemarch* (ch. 20)

## 3.6 Non-sense Literature

- Lewis Carroll (1832-1898)

*Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*

Text 19: "The Rabbit's Hole"

Text 20: "A Mad Tea Party"

## 3.7 The Late Victorian Period

## 3.8 Late Victorian Novelists

## 3.9 Fiction of Crime, Mystery and the Supranational

- Robert L. Stevenson (1850-1894)

*The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde*

Text 21: "Jekyll and Hyde"

Text 22: "Dr Jekyll's First Experiment"

- Bram Stoker (1847-1912)

*Dracula* (ch. I - II - III - VIII - XII - XIII)

Text 23: "The Origin of Dracula"

Insight: The origin of the myth of the vampire between history and literature

## 3.10 Detective Novel

- Arthur Conan Doyle (1859-1939)

*A Study in Scarlet*

Text 24: "The Science of Deduction"

Insight: Jack the Ripper

## 3.11 Aesthetic Novel

- Oscar Wilde (1854-1900)

*The Picture of Dorian Gray*

Text 25: "Preface"

Text 26: "Perfumes"

Text 27: "I Would Give My Soul for That"

**POETRY**

## 3.12 The Pre-Raphaelite Movement

- Christina Rossetti (1830-1894)

*Goblin Market*

**THE AMERICAN RENAISSANCE**

## 3.13 American Voices in the 19th Century

- Herman Melville (1819-1891)

*Moby Dick*

Text 28: "Call me Ishmael"

Text 29: "The Genesis of Ahab's Obsession"

**3 The Age of Modernism (1901-1945)****1. Historical Background**

1.1 The beginning of the century

1.2 World War I and the Windsors

1.3 The Irish Question

1.4 Britain after World War I

1.5 World War II and the post-war period

1.6. Propaganda posters

**2. Social Background**

2.1 Women in the first half of the 20th century

**3. Literary Production**

3.1 Poetry in the first half of the 20th century

**POETRY**

## 3.2 Edwardian Poetry

- Rudyard Kipling (1865-1936)

*The White Man's Burden*

Text 30: "The Mission of the Coloniser"

## 3.3 War Poetry

- Rupert Brooke (1887-1915)

*The Soldier*

- Wilfred Owen (1893-1918)

*Futility*

## 3.4 Irish Poetry

- William B. Yeats (1865-1939)

*A Vision*

Text 31: "The Second Coming"

Text 32: "Easter, 1916"

## PROSE

### 3.5 The Novel in the Modern Age

### 3.6 The Evolution of Psychological and Social Novel

- David H. Lawrence (1885-1930)

*Lady Chatterley's Lover*

Text 33: "Tevershall"

### 3.7 Dystopian Novel

- George Orwell (1903-1950)

*Animal Farms*

Text 34: "Old Major's Speech"

Text 35: "The Execution"

Text 36: "The Final Party"

*1984*

Text 37: "The Object of Power is Power"

Text 38: "Room 101"

Text 39: "Big Brother is watching you"

Text 40: "We are destroying words"

## 4 The Present Age (1945 - today)

### 1. Historical Background

#### 1.1 Elizabeth II

#### 1.2 Britain and the Empire after the War

#### 1.3 Partition of Pakistan

#### 1.4 The Process of Decolonisation

### 2. Social Background

#### 2.1 The Rise of Thatcherism

#### 2.2 The Troubles in Northern Ireland

### 3. Literary Production

#### 3.1 The post-war English novel

## PROSE

### 3.2 Women Writers

- Doris Lessing (1919 - 2013)

*The Sweetest Dream*

Text 41: "AIDS, a curse on us"

### 3.3 Atonement

- Ian McEwan (1948 - )

*The Child in Time*

Text 42: "Lost in the supermarket", ch. I

### 3.4 Different Voices (South Africa)

- Nadine Gordimer (1923-2014)

*July's People*

Text 43: "A Crude Awakening", ch. I

## POETRY

### 3.5 Poetry in the post-war period

#### 3.6. The Movement: 1950

- Philip Larkin (1922-1985)

*How to Sleep*

#### 3.7 The Group: 1950

- Ted Hughes (1930-1998)

*The Thought-Fox*

#### 3.8 The Confessional Poetry: 1960-1970

- Sylvia Plath (1931-1963)

*Mirror*

#### 3.9 The New Poets: 1980

- Seamus Heaney (1939-2013)

*Death of a Naturalist*

Text 44: "Digging"