

British Literature, Pre-Romantics to Contemporary II

(British Lit II, Revised 28 March 2008)

This list covers British, Irish, Commonwealth, and Anglophone literature from the Romantic period (about the middle of the Eighteenth Century) through contemporary literature. It is keyed to three of the most popular and respected modern anthologies of literature.

1780-1901: Romantic and Victorian Writers

Arnold, Matthew. "Dover Beach," "The Buried Life," "Stanzas from the Grande Chartreuse," and "The Scholar Gypsy"; excerpt from *The Function of Criticism at the Present Time**

Austen, Jane. *Pride and Prejudice*

Baillie, Joanna. "Introductory Discourse" to the *Plays on the Passions***

Barbauld, Anna Letitia. "Eighteen-Hundred and Eleven" **

Blake, William. *Songs of Innocence and Experience*; *The Marriage of Heaven and Hell**

Brönte, Emily. *Wuthering Heights*

Browning, Elizabeth Barrett. From *Aurora Leigh*, excerpts "Book One" and "Book Two"*

Browning, Robert. "My Last Duchess," "Love Among the Ruins," "Two in the Campagna," "Caliban upon Setebos," "Rabbi Ben Ezra," and "Fra Lippo Lippi" *

Byron, Lord (George Gordon). "Manfred," excerpt from "Childe Harold's Pilgrimage," excerpt from "Don Juan." *

Carlyle, Thomas. Excerpt from *Sartor Resartus* *

Clare, John. "Clock a Clay," "I Am," "The Mores" **

Coleridge, Samuel. "Kubla Khan," "The Time of the Ancient Mariner," "The Eolian Harp," "Frost at Midnight," "Christabel"; excerpt from *Biographia Literaria**

Dickens, Charles. *Great Expectations*

Eliot, George. *Middlemarch*

Equiano, Olaudah. Excerpt from *The Interesting Narrative of the Life* **

Fitzgerald, Edward. *The Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam*

Hardy, Thomas. *Jude the Obscure*

Hemans, Felicia. "Casabianca" *

Hopkins, Gerard Manley. "God's Grandeur," "Pied Beauty," "The Windhover," "[Carrion Comfort]," and "The Wreck of the Deutschland" *

Keats, John. "Ode on a Grecian Urn," "To Autumn," "To a Nightingale," "On First Looking Into Chapman's Homer," "La Belle Dame Sans Merci," and "Lamia" *

Radcliffe, Ann. *The Italian*

Rossetti, Christina. "Goblin Market" *

Scott, Sir Walter. *Waverley*

Shelley, Mary. *Frankenstein; or, The Modern Prometheus* *

Shelley, P.B. "Ozymandias," "Mont Blanc," "England in 1819," "Adonais," "Alastor" *

Smith, Charlotte. Excerpt from "Beachy Head" **

Tennyson, Alfred, Lord. "The Lady of Shalott," "Ulysses," excerpt from "In Memoriam A.H.H.," and "Locksley Hall" *

Wilde, Oscar. *The Importance of Being Earnest* *

Wollstonecraft, Mary. Excerpt from *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman* **

Wordsworth, Dorothy. Excerpt from *The Grasmere Journal* **

Wordsworth, William. "The Prelude," "I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud," "Tintern Abbey," "Resolution and Independence," "Ode, Intimations of Immortality," *Lyrical Ballads* (with 1800 Preface) *

1901–Present: Edwardian to Contemporary Writers (British Lit II)

Achebe, Chinua. *Things Fall Apart*

Amis, Kingsley. *Lucky Jim*

Beckett, Samuel. *Waiting for Godot*

Breeze, Jean. "Binta," "Riddyn Ravings (The Mad Woman's Poem)," "Cherry Tree Garden" ***

Conrad, Joseph. *Heart of Darkness*

Davie, Donald. "Hearing Russian Spoken," "Rejoinder to a Critic," "Rodez," "Out of East Anglia," "A Conditioned Air," "Inditing a Good Matter" ***

Duffy, Carol Ann. "Standing Female Nude," "And How Are We Today?," "Psychopath," "Translating the English, 1989," "Poet for Our Times" ***

Eliot, T.S. "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock," *The Waste Land*, "Little Gidding"; "Tradition and the Individual Talent" *

Golding, William. *Lord of the Flies*

Gunn, Thom. "The Unsettled Motorcyclist's Vision of His Death," "Confessions of the Life Artist," "Moly," "Seesaw," "A Sketch of the Great Dejection," "Lament" ***

Hardy, Thomas. "The Darkling Thrush," "Channel Firing" *

Heaney, Seamus. "Bogland," "North," "Singing School," "Oysters," "The Toome Road," "The Underground," from "Station Island:VII, XII," "The Mud Vision" ***

Hughes, Ted. "View of a Pig," "Pike," "Out," "Pibroch," "Wodwo," "Crow Hears Fate Knock on the Door," "Flounder" ***

Joyce, James. *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*

Kinsella, Thomas. "Baggot Street Deserta," "Ritual of Departure" ***

Lawrence, D.H. *Women in Love*

Larkin, Phillip. "Church Going," "Toads," "Nothing to Be Said," "Water," "The Whitsun Weddings," "An Arundel Tomb," "High Windows," "Going, Going," "Homage to a Government," "This be the Verse," "The Explosion"

Lessing, Doris. *The Golden Notebook*

Mansfield, Katherine.

McGuckian, Medbh. "Tulips," "The Seed-Picture," "Slips," "Aviary," "The War Ending," "The Albert Chain" ***

Monk, Geraldine. "La Quinta del Sordo," "Where?" ***

Montague, John. "The Trout," "A Bright Day," "The Cage," "This Neutral Realm," "The Well Dreams" ***

Murdoch, Iris. *Under the Net*

Nichols, Grace. "The Fat Black Woman Remembers," "The Fat Black Woman Versus Politics," "Skanking Englishman Between Trains," "Long-Man" ***

O'Casey, Sean. *Juno and the Paycock*

O'Sullivan, Maggie. "Starlings," "Garb," "Hill Figures" ***

Pinter Harold. *The Caretaker*

Ray, Jackie. From "The Adoption Papers, Chapter 7: Black Bottom" ***

Riley, Denise. "Affections Must Not," "Lure, 1963," "When it's Time to Go," "Pastoral" ***

Rushdie, Salman. *Midnight's Children*

Shaw, George Bernard. *Major Barbara*

Silken, Jon. "Death of a Son," "First it was Singing," "Dandelion," "A Daisy," "A Word About Freedom and Identity in Tel-Aviv" ***

Stoppard, Tom. *Arcadia*; *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead*

Thomas, Dylan. "The Force That Through the Green Fuse Drives the Flower," "Fern Hill," and "Do Not Go Gently Into That Good Night" *

Tomlinson, Charles. "Aesthetic," "Distinctions," "Saving the Appearances," "Swimming Chenango Lake," "Prometheus," "Annunciation," "The Plaza," "The Garden" ***

Woolf, Virginia. *To the Lighthouse*; excerpt from *A Room of One's Own* *

Yeats, William Butler. "Easter 1916," "The Second Coming," "Leda and the Swan," "Sailing to Byzantium," and "Among School Children" *

Some selections are found in these readily available anthologies of British Literature; the number of asterisks indicates the preferred excerpt or selections:

*Norton Anthology of English Literature, Volume 2 (7th Ed.)

**Longman Anthology of English Literature, Volume 2 (2nd Ed.)

***Anthology of Twentieth-Century British and Irish Poetry (Oxford, 2001)

Novels and plays are available in a number of editions and can be found in the UNO Library. Poems, as well, can be found in collected in editions and era-specific anthologies in the UNO Library.