

LECTURE PLAN

B.A. (Hons) English III sem, Paper V, English Poetry II

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Lectures: Tuesday, Wednesday, 3.15 pm to 4.00 pm, H-219

The objective of the Paper is to acquaint the students with English poetry from the Romantic Period to the Modern Age and to the post-War poet. I'll teach Unit I and Unit II, which would cover the following texts: Shelley "Ode to the West Wind", Keats "Ode to Autumn", Tennyson "Ulysses", Browning "My Last Duchess", Yeats "Sailing to Byzantium", Eliot "Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock". With this paper, the students would study major trends of British poetry. While I teach the poems and the poets, I'll keep on asking students to do additional work, both in terms of reading as well as written work at home. Any work that I give to the students in the classroom should be completed at home. Every fortnight or so, I would check the homework given to the students. If I am absent due to ill-health or due to official work, I'll endeavour to fix extra classes the same week in consultation with the Class Representatives.

BA ENG(H) Sem-III

Week 1: Introductory class: Poetry as a genre; Romantic poetry. The Romantic age.

Week 2: "Ode to the West Wind": About the Author; Discussing "Ozymandias" and "To a Skylark".

Week 3: "Ode to the West Wind: Reading, and an overview of the poem.

Week 4: "Ode to the West Wind": Concluding lecture; Drawing comparison between Shelley and Keats.

Week 5: "Ode to Autumn": Introduction to the poem and the poet; Reading of the poem; Drawing comparison with other poems by John Keats ("Ode to a Nightingale" and "Ode on a Grecian Urn").

Week 6: "Ode to Autumn": Reading of the poem. Wrapping up of Romantic poets. Discussing Victorian sentiments.

Week 7: Victorian Background. Detailed discussion. Role of Tennyson. Tennyson's poem "Ulysses".

Week 8: Detailed discussion of the poem, "Ulysses". Dramatic Monologue.

Week 9: Robert Browning. Use of Dramatic Monologue. "My Last Duchess". Comparing the poem with "Ulysses" in terms of poetic form.

Week 10: Transition from Victorian Age to Modern Age. Idea of modernity.

Week 11: Yeats. Introduction. "Sailing to Byzantium". Also refer to the poem "Byzantium" in the class and refer to Byzantine civilization.

Week 12: Detailed discussion of the poem, "Sailing to Byzantium".

Week 13: T. S. Eliot. Introduction. An important twentieth century voice. Eliot and Yeats as poets.

Week 14: Teaching: T. S. Eliot's "Love Song of J Alfred Prufrock".

Week 15: Wrapping up week. Revision.

Note: In the third and the fourth week of October, I propose to devote extra classes to presentations by students. This would essentially mean the second mid-term. Students should give the topics for their presentations to the Class Representatives latest by first week of October. The marks allocated would be 25. All students would be required to attend the presentations and submissions **without fail**. This would enrich the class as a whole.

I'll return the assignments to the students with comments. The next three weeks in the month of November would be devoted to students, where they could discuss any doubts, any metaphors or images in the poems taught, as also clarify any questions regarding the literary background of the texts in the course.

Background Reading:

1. Students should focus primarily on the History of Literature texts for the literary background. The book recommended in Paper I is the *Routledge History of English Literature*. Additionally, they should also read another standard history of literature such as the *History of English Literature from the Earliest Times to 1916* by Arthur Compton-Rickett. These books would help the students acquire a sense of the general background.
2. Students should also use *A Glossary of Literary Terms* by M H Abrams extensively.
3. It is imperative that students read more poems by the poets in the course. I have referred to some poems which I would like the students to study in addition to the poems prescribed in their syllabus.
4. Further reading materials would be provided in the class.