

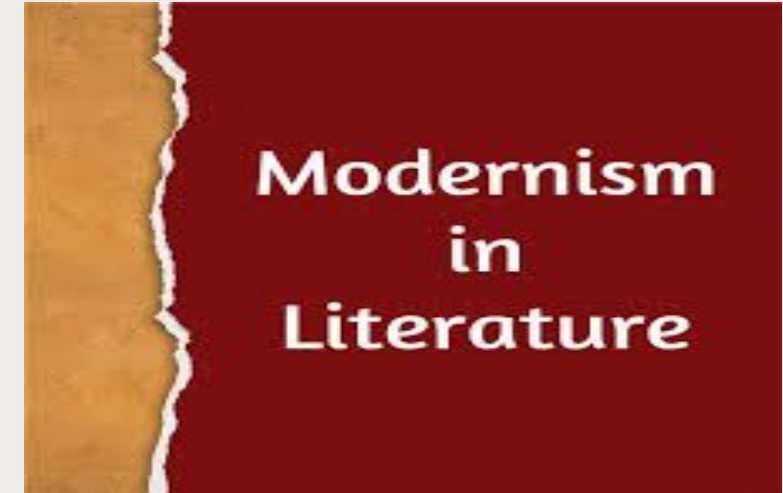


MODERNISM IN THE ENGLISH LITERATURE. THE 20TH CENTURY. THE TWENTIES

ИЯК 18-03
Zhanarbekkyzy Gaukhar

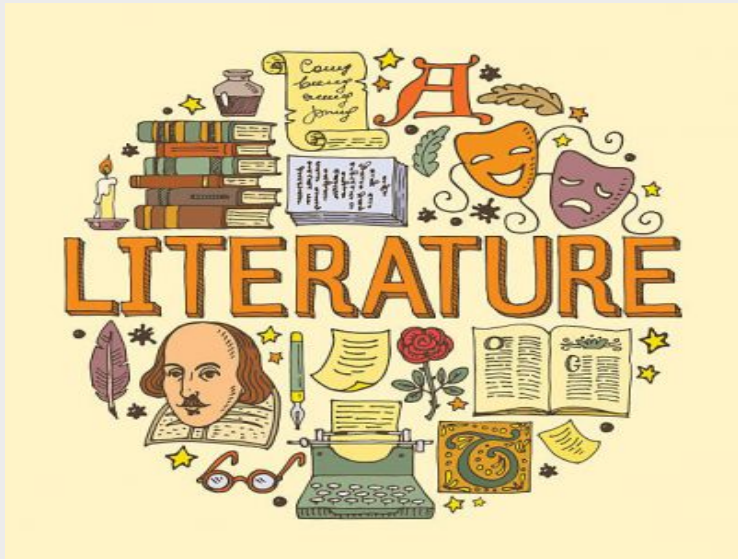
Modernism

- the breaking away from established rules, traditions, and conventions; fresh ways of looking at a human's position and function in the universe
- avant-garde: exploration, path-finding, innovation, invention, something new or advanced, revolutionary
- A new way for the human being
- Modernism wants to find new ways of expression as a response to the new situation of man □ he has lost his/her faith in traditional believes.
- Tradition had not secured him/her a point of reference.
- Now the individual has to find essence of life with in himself/herself



Twentieth-century English literature

- Modernism is a major literary movement of the first part of the twentieth-century.
- It describes a series of reforming cultural movements in art, music and literature
- It developed during the first three decades of the XX century
- The movement is rooted in the changes in the Western society
- It is a trend of thought that affirms the power of the human being to create, improve, and reshape the environment.

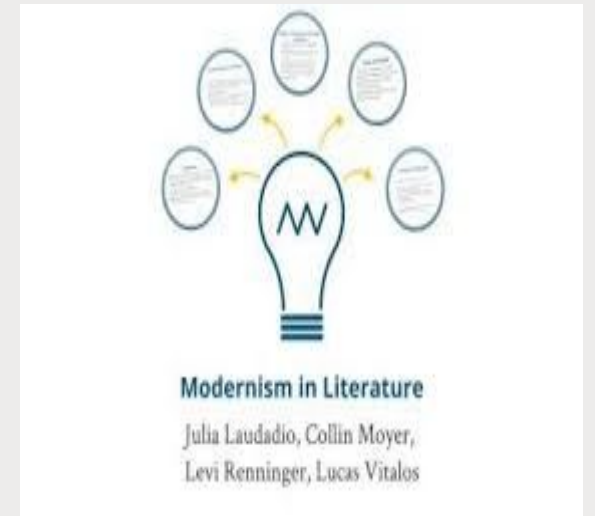


Thematic Characteristics

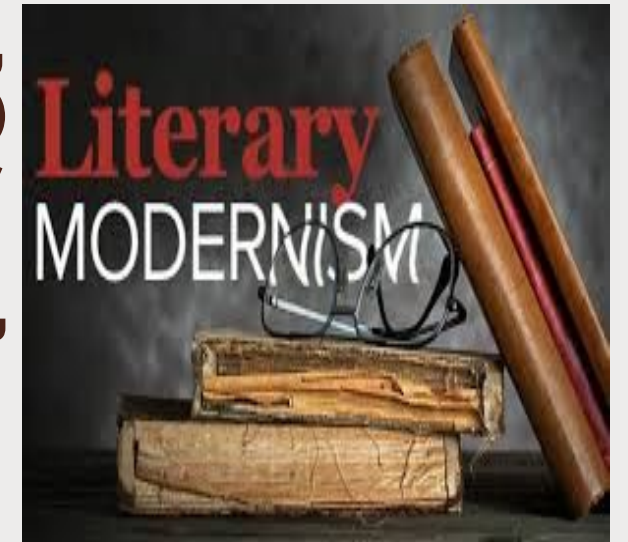
- **Breakdown of social norms and cultural sureties**
- **Dislocation of meaning and sense from its normal context**
- **Valorization of the despairing individual in the face of an unimaginable future**
- **Disillusionment**
- **Rejection of history and the substitution of a mythical past, borrowed without chronology**
- **Product of the metropolis, of cities and urbanscapes**
- **Overwhelming technological changes of the 20th century**
- **Loss of sense of tradition**

Techniques in Modernism

- **Writers and poets spurred common conventions of writing: they might omit punctuation or create a new form**
- **Writing took on an experimental nature**
- **Influenced by developments in modern psychology, writers began using the stream-of-consciousness technique, attempting to re-create the natural flow of a character's thoughts.**
- **Lack of traditional chronological narrative**
- **Break of narrative frames**
- **Fragmentation = disjointed and nonlinear narratives. Modernist literature embraces fragmentation as a literary form, since it reinforces the fragmentation of reality.**

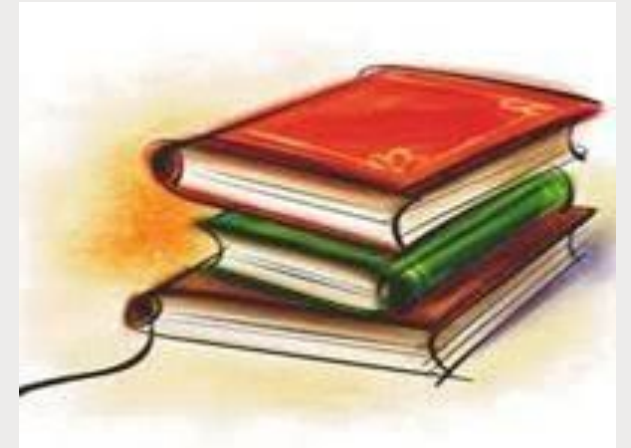


Modernist works (for instance, the poetry of Eliot and Pound) may have to the unfamiliar reader a tendency to dissolve into chaos of sharp atomistic impressions, and some critics have deplored their drift towards what has been described as “dehumanization». In short, alienation and loneliness are the basic themes of modernism.



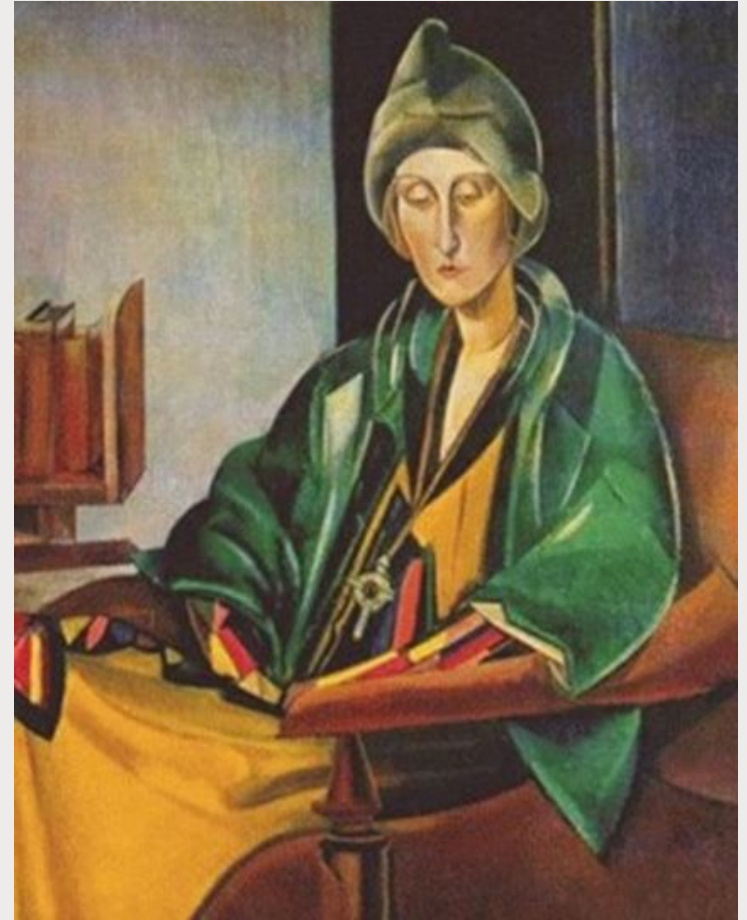
Examples of Modern Literature

- James Joyce – his experimental work, *Ulysses*, completely abandons generally accepted notions of plot, setting and characters
- Virginia Woolf's – *To the Lighthouse*, strays from conventional forms, focusing on Stream of Consciousness
- Stevie Smith's – *Novel on Yellow Paper* parodies conventionally
- Aldous Huxley's – *Brave New World* protests against the dangers and nature of modern society.
- D. H. Lawrence's works reflect on the dehumanizing effect of modern society



THE END

The End Modernism was very important in Europe because it “founded” Postmodernist movement, which developed in the second half of the 20th century.



Wyndham Lewis

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR
ATTENTION!**