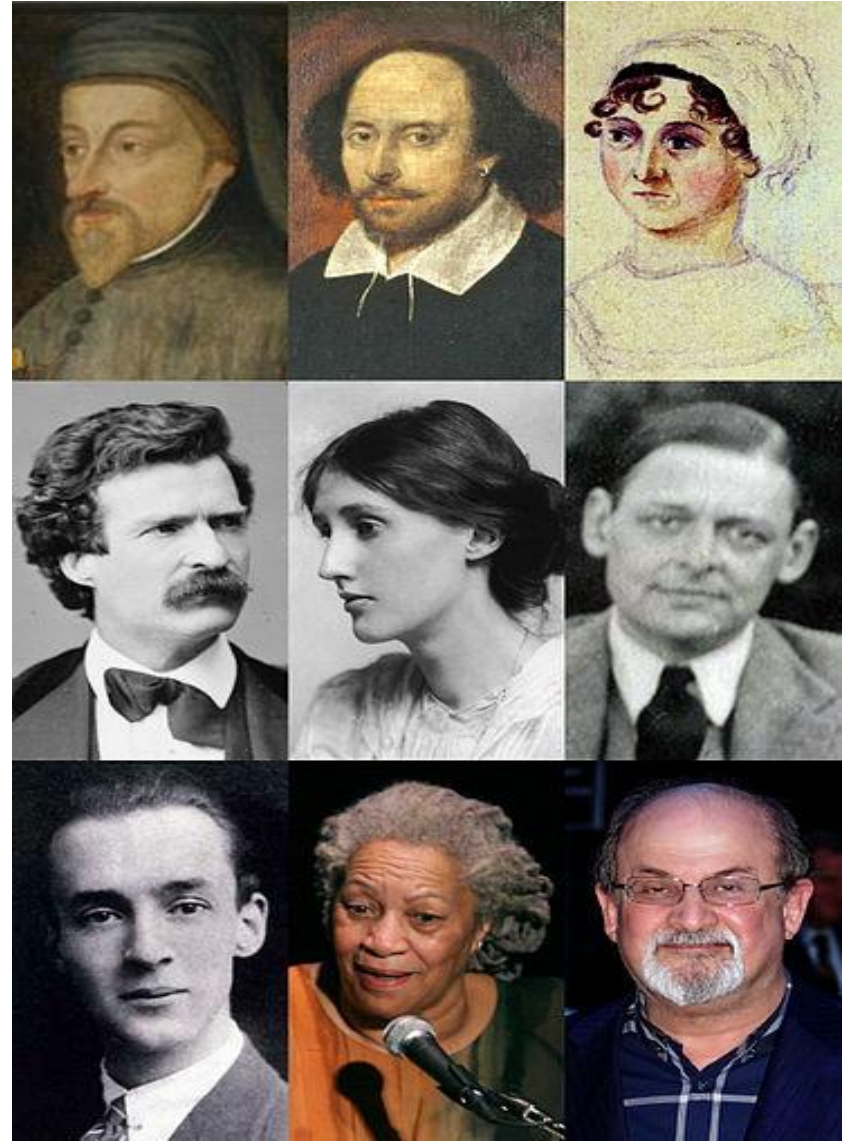


# English literature

- “MAY GOD KEEP US
- FROM SINGLE VISION.”
  - William Blake

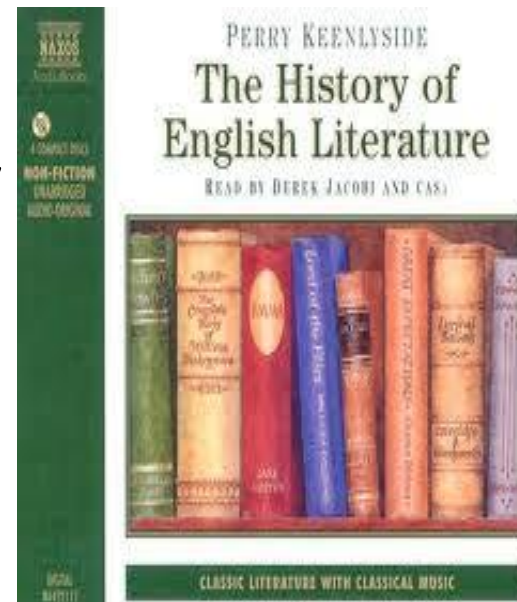


# What is Literature?

Poems, plays, novels and short stories in a given language collectively make up a national literature.

It is never static.

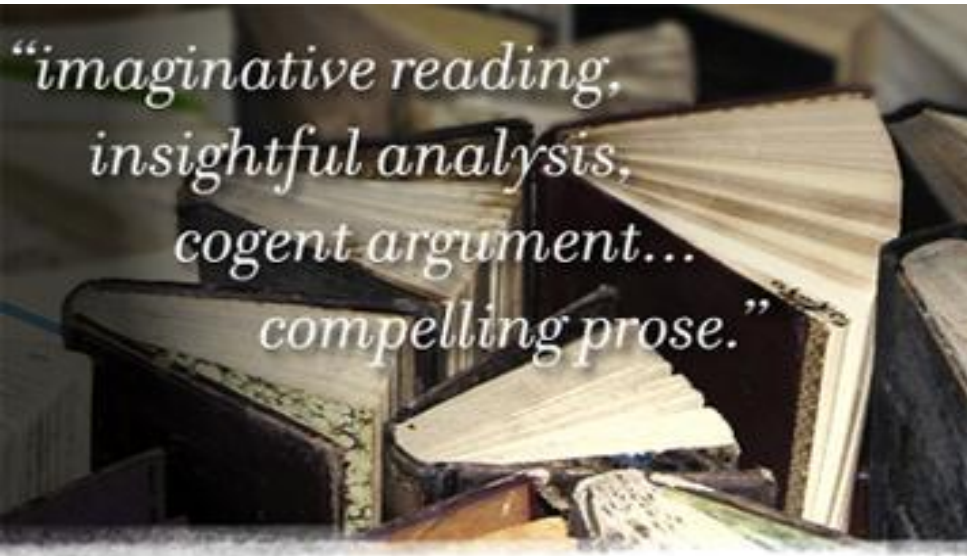
For the reader literature is simply beautiful, meaningful writing.



# Why do we read literature?

- Books provide an escape from our daily lives by transporting us to different times and places (escapism).
- Books are a source of knowledge and information.
- Books break down our personal barriers.
- Books stir up our emotions. They help us to understand ourselves and others. Literature widens our field of vision.

# Why do we analyse literature?



- An analytical approach to literature involves careful observation and drawing conclusions, a way of learning more about how texts are structured, provides the vocabulary(setting, character, plot, point of view), makes us more receptive and responsive readers.



# V.Periods in History of English Literature

- 1.Middle Ages(5th century-1485)
- 2.The Renaissance(late 15th-early 17th century)
- 3.The 17th Century
- 4.The Enlightenment(late 17th –middle 18th century)
- 5.Romanticism(1798-1832)
- 6.Realism(1830s-1918)
- 7.Modernism(1918-1945)
- 8.The Contemporary Period(1945-)

# What is poetry?

- Poetry emerges from the interplay between the meaning of words and their arrangement on paper.
- “Poetry is the best words in the best order.”
- Samuel Taylor Coleridge.



# Figures of speech

- Personification
- Simile
- Alliteration
- Metaphor
- Onomatopoeia
- Assonance
- Hyperbole
- Imagery
- Symbols
- Irony



# What is drama?

What we call the play is only one component of drama. Other elements are needed to bring a dramatic text to life-

The actors, who interpret the play.

The director, who decides how the play should be performed.

The audience, who watch the play.







# What is Fiction?

- Fiction ( fingere -lat.) refers to any narrative in prose or verse that is entirely or partly the work of the imagination. It most directly fulfills our innate need for storytelling.
- Fiction, since its emergence in the form of the novel in the eighteenth century, has been the most popular genre in Western culture.



# CHARACTER



- Key questions for analyzing characters-
- Their relation to the plot (major / minor).
- The degree to which they are developed (complex/ one-dimensional).
- Their growth in the course of story (the same/ have significant changes in their personalities).

# PLOT

- Basic elements-
- Conflict ( outside/ within)
- Suspense (denying the reader immediate access to information).
- Subplot (a second story that is complete in its own right).



# Narrators and Point of view

- First-person narrators (point of view) and third- person narrators (omniscient, limited and dramatic objective ).
- Stream of consciousness (an extension of either first or third- person narratives).



# THEME

- Theme is the central idea that directs and shapes matter of a story, play or poem.
- An overt theme (clearly stated)/ An implied theme ( hidden in the actions).
- The theme is the abstract, generalised comment or statement the author makes about the subject of the story.” What does the story mean?”, but not “What is the story about?”







**You don't have to burn books  
to destroy a culture. Just get  
people to stop reading them.**

— Ray Bradbury

