

英美文学选读

【课程代码：00604】

考前30分



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Part One Chapter One: The Renaissance Period

1. The Renaissance marks a transition from the medieval to the modern world. Generally, it refers to the period between the 14th and mid-17th centuries.

2. Humanism is the essence of Renaissance.

3. Elizabethan drama is the mainstream of the English Renaissance.

一、威廉·莎士比亚

1. William Shakespeare is one of the most remarkable playwrights and poets the world has ever known. With his 38 plays, 154 sonnets and 2 long poems, he has established his giant position in world literature.

2. From about 1591 to about 1611, Shakespeare was in the prime of his dramatic career

3. In 1593 and 1594, Shakespeare published two narrative poems, *Venus and Adonis* and *The Rape of Lucrece*.

4. Shakespeare's history plays are mainly written under the principle that national unity under a mighty and just sovereign is a necessity.

二、约翰·弥尔顿

1. his 3 major poetical works: *Paradise Lost*(1667) 《失乐园》, *Paradise Regained*(1671) 《复乐园》, & *Samson Agonistes*(1671) 《力士参孙》. Among the three, the first is the greatest, indeed the only generally acknowledged epic in English literature since *Beowulf*; & the last one is the most perfect example of the verse drama after the Greek style in English.

Chapter Two: The Neoclassical Period

1. Neoclassical period is the one in English literature between the return of the Stuarts to the English throne in 1660 and the full assertion of Romanticism which came with the publication of *Lyrical Ballads* by Wordsworth and Coleridge in 1798.

一、丹尼尔·笛福

1. [简答]What are the features of Defoe's writings?

Defoe was a very good story-teller. He had a gift for organizing minute details in such a vivid way that his stories could be both credible and fascinating. His sentences are sometimes short, crisp and plain, and sometimes long and rambling, which leave on the reader an impression of casual narration. His language is smooth, easy, colloquial and mostly vernacular. There is nothing artificial in his language; it is common English at its best.

二、亨利·菲尔丁

1. Fielding has been regarded by some as "Father of the English Novel", for his contribution to the establishment of the form of the modern novel.

2. Of all the 18th century novelists Fielding was the first to set out, both in theory and practice, to write specifically a "comic epic in prose", the first to give the modern novel its structure and style.

3. Tom Jones brings its author the name of the "Prose Homer"

Chapter Three: The Romantic Period

一、威廉·布莱克

1. The Songs of Innocence is a lovely volume of poems, presenting a happy and innocent world, though not without its evils and sufferings.

2. His Songs of Experience paints a different world, a world of misery, poverty, disease, war and repression with a melancholy tone.

3. Childhood is central to Blake's concern in the Songs of Innocence and Songs of Experience, and this concern gives the two books a strong social and historical reference.

4. Blake's Marriage of Heaven and Hell marks his entry into maturity.

二、威廉·华兹华斯

1. The poets Robert Southey, Wordsworth, Coleridge became known as the "Lake Poets"

三、珀·比·雪莱

1. In "The Cloud", Shelley created a Platonic symbol of the spirit of man, a force of beauty and regeneration. In "To a Skylark", the exultant song which suggests to the poet both celestial rapture and human limitation.

2. Shelley's greatest achievement is his four-act poetic drama, Prometheus Unbound. It's based on the Greek mythology.

四、简·奥斯汀

1. Austen's main literary concern is about human beings in their personal relationship.

2. Pride and Prejudice mainly tells of the love story between a rich, proud young man Darcy and the beautiful and intelligent Elizabeth Bennet.

Chapter Four: The Victorian Period

一、查尔斯·狄更斯

1. Dickens is one of the greatest critical realistic writers of the Victorian Age.

2. In his early novels, Dickens attacks one or more specific social evils in each: for example, the dehumanizing workhouse system and the dark, criminal underworld life in Oliver Twist.

3. Dickens' best-depicted characters are those innocent, virtuous, persecuted, helpless **child characters** such as Oliver Twist, Little Nell, David Copperfield and Little Dorrit; And he is also famous for the depiction of those **horrible and grotesque characters** like Fagin, Bill Sikes, and Quilp, and those broadly **humorous or comical** ones like Mr. Micawber, Sam Weller, and Mrs. Gamp.

4. Dickens' works are characterized by a mingling of humor and pathos.

5. The novel Oliver Twist is famous for its vivid description of the workhouse and life of the underworld in the 19th century London.

6. The novel Oliver Twist presents Oliver Twist as Dickens' first child hero and Fagin the first grotesque figure.

二、夏洛特·勃朗蒂

1. Charlotte's works are famous for the depiction of the life of the middle-class working women.

2. The success of the novel Jane Eyre is due to its introduction of the first governess heroine to the English novel.

3. Jane Eyre represents those middle-class working women who are struggling for recognition of their basic rights and equality as a human being.

三、托马斯·哈代

1. Hardy's novels are all Victorian in date. Most of them are set in Wessex, the fictional primitive and crude rural region which is really the home place he both loves and hates.

2. Among Hardy's major works, Under the Greenwood Tree is the most cheerful and idyllic.

3. Generally speaking, all those writers with a naturalistic approach to human reality tend to be pessimists.

Chapter Five: The Modern Period

一、乔治·萧伯纳

1. With great efforts, Shaw wrote five novels in all. The best known is Cashel Byron's Profession. 《卡歇尔·拜伦的职业》

2. Widowers' House is a grotesquely realistic exposure of slum landlordism.

3. George Bernard Shaw's play, Mrs. Warren's Profession is a grotesquely realistic exposure of the economic oppression of women.

二、T.S.艾略特

1. The Waste Land, Eliot's most important single poem, has been hailed as a landmark and a model of the 20th century English poetry, comparable to Wordsworth's Lyrical Ballads.

2. The Hollow Men, which bears a strong thematic resemblance to The Waste Land is generally regarded as the darkest of Eliot's poems.

3. The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock is Eliot's most striking early achievement. It presents the meditation of an aging young man over the business of proposing marriage.

三、戴维·赫伯特·劳伦斯

1. The Rainbow is a story about the three generations of the Brangwen family on the Mash farm.

2. As a matter of fact, it is the first time for Lawrence to make a conscious attempt to combine social criticism with psychological exploration in his novel writing.

3. Lawrence's poems fall roughly into three categories---satirical and comic poems, poems about human relationships and emotions, and poems about nature.

4. In Sons and Lovers, D.H. Lawrence presented Paul as a sensitive man and artist.

5. The story starting with the marriage of Paul's parents Walter Morel and Mrs. Morel must be D.H. Lawrence's Sons and Lovers.

Part Two Chapter One: The Romantic Period

1. The Romantic Period, one of the most important periods in the history of American literature, stretches from the end of the 18th century to the outbreak of the Civil War. It started with the publication of Washington Irving's The Sketch Book and ended with Whitman's Leaves of Grass.

2. Being a period of the great flowering of the American literature, the Romantic Period is also called "the American Renaissance".

一、纳撒尼尔·霍桑

1. Nathaniel Hawthorne held an unceasing interest in the "interior of the heart" of human being. So in almost every book he wrote, Hawthorne discusses sin and evil.

2. In Young Goodman Brown by Hawthorne, the name of Goodman Brown's wife is Faith, which also contains many symbolic meanings.

3. In his novel The Scarlet Letter, Hawthorne intended to reveal the human psyche after they sinned, so as to show people the tension between society and individual.

4. The American novelist Nathaniel Hawthorne is known for his "black vision". The term "black vision" refers to Hawthorne's belief that all men are by nature evil.

二、华尔特·惠特曼

1. Walt Whitman's Leaves of Grass established him as the most popular American poet of the 19th century.

2. The theme of Song of Myself by Whitman reflects the author's belief in the singularity and equality of all beings in value.

3. Most of the poems in Leaves of Grass sing of the "en-masse" and the self as well.

4. What he prefers for his new subject and new poetic feelings is "free verse", that is, poetry without a fixed beat or regular rhyme scheme.

三、赫尔曼·麦尔维尔

1. In Moby-Dick, the white whale symbolizes nature for Melville, for it is also complex, unfathomable, malignant, though beautiful.

2.Herman Melville is best-known as the author of his mighty book, Moby-Dick which s one of the world's greatest masterpieces.

3.Moby-Dick is regarded as the first American prose epic

Chapter Two: The Realistic Period

一、马克·吐温

1.Mark Twain is a great literary giant of America,whom Mencken considered “the true father of our national literature” .

2.*The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* and,especially,its sequence *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* proved themselves to be the milestone in American literature,and thus firmly established Twain's position in the literary world.

3.Hemingway once described Mark Twain's novel *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* the one book from which “all modern American literature comes”

二、亨利·詹姆斯

1.Henry James was the first American writer to conceive his career in international terms.

2.Henry James is generally regarded as the forerunner of the 20th century “stream-of-consciousness” novels and the founder of psychological realism.

3.In his realistic fiction,Henry James's primary concern is to present the inner life of human beings.

三、艾米莉·狄金森

1.Emily Dickinson remained unmarried all her life.She wrote 1,775 poems,and only seven had appeared during her life.

2.Perhaps Dickinson's greatest rendering of the moment of death is to be found in “I heard a Fly buzz-when I died-” ,”poem universally considered one of her masterpieces.

四、西奥多·德莱塞

1.With the publication of *Sister Carrie*,Dreiser was launching himself upon a long career that would ultimately make him one of the most significant American writers of the school later known as literary naturalism.

2.As a genre,naturalism emphasized heredity and environment as important deterministic forces shaping individualized characters who were presented in special and detailed circumstances.

Chapter Three: The Modern Period

一、罗伯特·李·弗洛斯特

1.Frost's first collection *A Boy's Will*,whose lyrics trace a boy's development from self-centered idealism to maturity is marked by an intense but restrained emotion and the characteristic flavor of New England life.

2.*North of Boston* is described by the author as “a book of people” , which shows a brilliant insight into New England character and the background that formed it.

4.What are the characteristics of Robert Frost's poetry?

By using simple spoken language and conversational, rhythms, Frost achieved an effortless grace in his style.

He combined traditional verse forms—the sonnet, rhyming couplets, blank verse—with a clear American local speech rhythm, the speech of New England farmers with its idiosyncratic diction and syntax.

In verse form he was assorted; he wrote in a form that borrows freely from the merits of both, in a form that might be called semi-free or semi-conventional.

二、F.司各特·菲兹杰拉德

1.F.Scott Fitzgerald is often acclaimed literary spokesman of the Jazz Age

2. Most critics have agreed that Fitzgerald is both an insider and an outsider of the Jazz Age with a double vision.

三、欧内斯特·海明威

1. Hemingway's "Indian Camp" is one of the fourteen short stories collected under the title of In our Time. This title is very ironic because there is no peace at all in the stories.

2. In our Time is the first book to present a Hemingway hero—Nick Adams.

3. The Sun Also Rises is Hemingway's first true novel. It casts light on a whole generation after the First World War and the effects of the war by way of a vivid portrait of "The lost Generation".

4. Hemingway's second big success is A Farewell to Arms, which wrote the epitaph to a decade and to the whole generation in the 1920s in telling us a history about the tragic love affair of a wounded American soldier with a British nurse.

5. For Whom the Bell Tolls and The Old Man and the Sea tell more about the later Hemingway.

6. For Whom the Bell Tolls clearly represents a new beginning in Hemingway's career as a writer, which concerns a volunteer American guerrilla Robert Jordan fighting in the Spanish Civil War.

7. [简答] How do you understand Hemingway's "Iceberg principle" according to his works?

A. Hemingway once said, "The dignity of movement of an iceberg is due to only one-eighth of it being above water."

B. According to Hemingway, good literary writing should be able to make readers feel the emotion of the character directly and the best way to produce the effect is to set down exactly every particular kind of feeling without any authorial comments, without conventionally emotive language, and with a bare minimum of adjectives and adverbs.

四、威廉·福克纳

1. Almost all Faulkner's heroes turned out to be tragic because most of them were prisoners of the past.

2. Emily Grierson has a distorted personality; she is physically deformed and paralyzed; she is the symbol of the old values of the south.

3. In 1950, Faulkner was awarded the Nobel Prize for the anti-racist Intruder in the Dust

4. Most of Faulkner's works are set in the American South, with his emphasis on the Southern subjects and

consciousness.

5. [简答]Symbolism is an important literary practice in literature and it has been widely used by many American writers.Discus the way symbolism is used in Faulkner's story *A Rose for Emily*

A.Rose,as a symbol of love,may refer to the love between Emily and the Northerner,yet used rather ironically,in the way it is associated with decay and death in the story.

B.Rose could also stand for the pity,sympathy,or the lament “we” shows for Emily.

C.The pity and lament goes not only to Emily but all those who are imprisoned in the past and fail to adapt to the change.

