

# **An Overview of English Literature**

## **Geoffrey Chaucer**

- Translation of *Roman de la Rose*, possibly extant as *The Romaunt of the Rose*
- *The Book of the Duchess*
- *The House of Fame*
- *Anelida and Arcite*
- *Parlement of Foules*
- Translation of Boethius' *Consolation of Philosophy* as *Boece*
- *Troilus and Criseyde*
- *The Legend of Good Women*
- *The Canterbury Tales*
- *A Treatise on the Astrolabe*

## **William Langland**

- *Piers Plowman*

## **John Gower**

- *Mirour de l'Omme*
- *Vox Clamantis*
- *Confessio Amantis*

## **University Wits**

- **John Lyly:** *Campaspe, Sapho and Phao, Gallathea, Endymion, The Man in the Moon, Midas, Mother Bombie, Love's Metamorphosis and The Woman in the Moon.*

- **George Peele:** *The Old Wives Tales, Arraignement of Pairs, The Battle of Alcazar, The Famous Chronicle of King Edward the First, The Love of King David and Fair Bethsabe and The Old Wives Tales.*
- **Robert Greene:** *The Comical History of Alphonsus, King of Aragon, Friar Bacon and Friar Bungay and James IV.*
- **Thomas Kyd:** *The Spanish Tragedy*
- **Christopher Marlowe:** *Tamburlaine, Dr. Faustus, Edward II, The Jew of Malta and The Tragedie of Dido.*
- **Thomas Lodge-** *Rosalynde, , A Looking Glass for London and England, The Wounds of Civil War*
- **Thomas Nashe-** *Summer's Last Will and Testament, The Isle of Dogs with Ben Jonson, Pierce Penniless, His Supplication to the Divell, The Choise of Valentines, The Terrors of the Night, The Anatomy of Absurdity, Christ's Tears over Jerusalem, The Unfortunate Traveller.*

## **Ben Jonson**

- *A Tale of a Tub*
- *The Isle of Dogs*
- *Every Man in His Humour*
- *Every Man out of His Humour*
- *Cynthia's Revels*
- *The Poetaster*
- *Sejanus His Fall*
- *Eastward Ho*
- *Volpone,*
- *Epicoene, or the Silent Woman*
- *The Alchemist*
- *Catiline His Conspiracy*
- *Bartholomew Fair*
- *The Devil is an Ass*

## John Milton

- 1629: *On the Morning of Christ's Nativity*
- 1630: *On Shakespeare*
- 1631: *On Arriving at the Age of Twenty-Three*
- 1632: *L'Allegro*
- 1632: *Il Penseroso*
- 1634: *Comus* (a masque)
- 1637: *Lycidas*
- 1645: *Poems of Mr John Milton, Both English and Latin*
- 1652: *When I Consider How My Light is Spent*
- 1655: *On the Late Massacre in Piedmont*
- 1667: *Paradise Lost*
- 1671: *Paradise Regained*
- 1671: *Samson Agonistes*
- 1673: *Poems, &c, Upon Several Occasions*
- *Arcades*

## Metaphysical Poets

- **John Donne-**
  - *Biathanatos* (1608)
  - *Pseudo-Martyr* (1610)
  - *Ignatius His Conclave* (1611)
  - *The Courtier's Library* (1611, published 1651)
  - *The First Anniversary: An Anatomy of the World* (1611)
  - *The Second Anniversary: Of the Progress of the Soul* (1612)
  - *Devotions upon Emergent Occasions* (1624)
  - *Poems* (1633)
  - *Juvenilia: or Certain Paradoxes and Problems* (1633)
  - *LXXX Sermons* (1640)

- *Fifty Sermons* (1649)
- *Essays in Divinity* (1651)
- *Letters to severall persons of honour* (1651)
- *XXVI Sermons* (1661)
- **Henry Vaughan**
- **Andrew Marvell**- To his Coy Mistress, The Garden, The Mower Poems (4), Upon Appleton House, An Horatian Ode upon Cromwell's Return from Ireland, Bermudas, The Coronet, The Definition of Love.
- **John Cleveland**
- **Abraham Cowley**
- **George Herbert**
- **Richard Crashaw**

## John Dryden

- *Astraea Redux*, 1660
- *Annus Mirabilis* (poem), 1667
- *An Essay of Dramatick Poesie*, 1668
- *Absalom and Achitophel*, 1681
- *Mac Flecknoe*, 1682
- *The Medal*, 1682
- *Religio Laici*, 1682
- *The Hind and the Panther*, 1687
- *A Song for St. Cecilia's Day*, 1687
- *Britannia Rediviva*, 1688, written to mark the birth of James, Prince of Wales.
- *Epigram on Milton*, 1688
- *The Works of Virgil*, 1697
- *Alexander's Feast*, 1697
- *Fables, Ancient and Modern*, 1700
- *Palamon and Arcite*

- *The Art of Satire*
- *The Wild Gallant, a Comedy* (1663/1669)
- *The Rival Ladies, a Tragi-Comedy* (1663/1664)
- *The Indian Queen, a Tragedy* (1664/1665)
- *The Indian Emperor, or the Conquest of Mexico by the Spaniards* (1665/)
- *Oedipus, a Tragedy* (1678 or 1679/1679), an adaptation with Nathaniel Lee of Sophocles' *Oedipus*
- *Troilus and Cressida, or Truth found too late, a Tragedy* (/1679)
- *King Arthur, or the British Worthy, a Dramatic Opera* (1691/1691)
- *Love Triumphant, or Nature will prevail, a Tragedy* (1693 or 1694/1693 or 1694)

**Next 3 writers belong to the Comedy of Manners or The Restoration Comedy genre-**

### **William Congreve**

- *The Old Bachelor* (1693)
- *The Double Dealer* (1694)
- *Love for Love* (1695)
- *The Mourning Bride* (1697)
- *The Way of the World* (1700)

### **William Wycherley**

- *The Country Wife*
- *The Plain Dealer*

### **George Etherege**

- *The Man of Mode or, Sir Fopling Flutter*
- *She Would If She Could*
- *The Comical Revenge or, Love in a Tub*

## **Samuel Pepys**

- Samuel Pepys's *Diary*

## **Alexander Pope**

- 1709: *Pastorals*
- 1711: *An Essay on Criticism*
- 1712: *Messiah*
- 1712: *The Rape of the Lock* (enlarged in 1714)
- 1713: *Windsor Forest*
- 1715: *The Temple of Fame: A Vision*
- 1715–1720: Translation of the *Iliad*
- 1717: *Eloisa to Abelard*<sup>l</sup>
- 1723–1725: *The Works of Shakespear, in Six Volumes*
- 1725–1726: Translation of the *Odyssey*
- 1727: *Peri Bathous, Or the Art of Sinking in Poetry*
- 1728: *The Dunciad*
- 1731–1735: *Moral Essays*
- 1733–1734: *Essay on Man*

## **Jonathan Swift**

- "A Modest Proposal"
- "Cadenus and Vanessa" (1713)
- A Tale of a Tub
- Gulliver's Travels
- "An Argument Against Abolishing Christianity"

## **Daniel Defoe**

- Robinson Crusoe

## **Samuel Richardson**

- *Pamela; or, Virtue Rewarded* (1740)
- *Clarissa: Or the History of a Young Lady* (1748)
- *The History of Sir Charles Grandison* (1753)

## Henry Fielding

- *Shamela* – novella, 1741
- *The History of the Adventures of Joseph Andrews and his Friend, Mr. Abraham Adams* – 1742
- *The Life and Death of Jonathan Wild, the Great* – 1743
- *The History of Tom Jones, a Foundling* – 1749
- *Amelia* – 1751

## Dr. Samuel Johnson

### Poetry

- |      |  |
|------|--|
| 1728 | <i>Messiah</i> , a translation into Latin of Alexander Pope's <i>Messiah</i> |
| 1738 | <i>London</i>  |
| 1747 | <i>Prologue at the Opening of the Theatre in Drury Lane</i>                  |
| 1749 | <i>The Vanity of Human Wishes</i><br><i>Irene, a Tragedy</i>                 |

### Biographies, criticism

- |      |   |
|------|---|
| 1735 | <i>A Voyage to Abyssinia</i> , by Jerome Lobo, translated from the French   |
| 1744 | <i>Life of Mr Richard Savage</i>  |
| 1745 | <i>Miscellaneous Observations on the Tragedy of Macbeth</i>   |
| 1756 | "Life of Browne" in <i>Thomas Browne's Christian Morals</i><br><i>Proposals for Printing, by Subscription, the Dramatick Works of William Shakespeare</i> |
| 1765 | <i>Preface to the Plays of William Shakespeare</i>  |

*The Plays of William Shakespeare*  
1779–  
81 *Lives of the Poets*

### **Dictionary**

1755 *Preface to a Dictionary of the English Language*  
*A Dictionary of the English Language*

### **Novellas**

1759 *The History of Rasselas, Prince of Abissinia*

## **William Blake**

- *Songs of Innocence and of Experience* (edited 1794)
- *Songs of Innocence* (edited 1789)
- *The Book of Thel* (written 1788–1790, edited 1789–1793)
- *The Marriage of Heaven and Hell* (written 1790–1793)
- *America a Prophecy* (edited 1793)
- *Europe a Prophecy* (edited 1794–1821)
- *The Song of Los* (edited 1795)
- *The First Book of Urizen* (edited 1794–1818)
- *The Book of Los* (edited 1795)
- *Milton* (written 1804–1810)
- *Jerusalem: The Emanation of the Giant Albion*
- *Poetical Sketches* (written 1769–1777, edited 1783 and 1868 as a volume)
- *The French Revolution* (edited 1791)
- *A Song of Liberty* (edited 1792)
- *Vala, or The Four Zoas* (written 1797–1807, unfinished)
- *Tiriel* (written c. 1789, edited 1874)



## William Wordsworth

- *Lyrical Ballads, with a Few Other Poems* (1798)
  - "Simon Lee"
  - "We are Seven"
  - "Lines Written in Early Spring"
  - "Expostulation and Reply"
  - "The Tables Turned"
  - "The Thorn"
  - "Lines Composed A Few Miles above Tintern Abbey"
- *Lyrical Ballads, with Other Poems* (1800)
  - Preface to the Lyrical Ballads
  - "Strange fits of passion have I known"
  - "She Dwelt among the Untrodden Ways"
  - "Three years she grew"
  - "A Slumber Did my Spirit Seal"
  - "I travelled among unknown men"
  - "Lucy Gray"
  - "The Two April Mornings"
  - "Nutting"
  - "The Ruined Cottage"
  - "Michael"
  - "The Kitten at Play"
- *Poems, in Two Volumes* (1807)
  - "Resolution and Independence"
  - "I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud" Also known as "Daffodils"
  - "My Heart Leaps Up"
  - "Ode: Intimations of Immortality"
  - "Ode to Duty"
  - "The Solitary Reaper"
  - "Elegiac Stanzas"
  - "Composed upon Westminster Bridge, September 3, 1802"
  - "London, 1802"
  - "The World Is Too Much with Us"

- "French Revolution" (1810)
- *Guide to the Lakes* (1810)
- "To the Cuckoo"
- *The Excursion* (1814)
- *Laodamia* (1815, 1845)
- *The White Doe of Rylstone* (1815)
- *Peter Bell* (1819)
- *Ecclesiastical Sonnets* (1822)
- *The Prelude* (1850)

### **Samuel Taylor Coleridge**

- *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner*
- 'Frost at Midnight'
- 'Dejection: An Ode'
- 'Kubla Khan'
- 'Christabel'
- 'This Lime-Tree Bower My Prison'
- *The Eolian Harp*
- *Fears in Solitude*
- *The Nightingale: A Conversation Poem*
- *Dejection: An Ode*
- *To William Wordsworth*
- *Christabel*
- *Biographia Literaria*

### **Lord Byron**

- *Hours of Idleness* (1807)
- *English Bards and Scotch Reviewers* (1809)
- *Childe Harold's Pilgrimage, Cantos I & II* (1812)
- *The Siege of Corinth* (1816)
- *The Prisoner of Chillon* (1816)
- *The Dream* (1816)

- *Prometheus* (1816)
- *Manfred* (1817)
- *The Lament of Tasso* (1817)
- *Beppo* (1818)
- *Childe Harold's Pilgrimage* (1818)
- *Don Juan* (1819–1824; incomplete on Byron's death in 1824)
- *Mazeppa* (1819)
- *The Prophecy of Dante* (1819)

### **John Keats**

- “*Lamia*”
- “*The Eve of St. Agnes*”
- “*On Indolence*”
- “*On a Grecian Urn*”
- “*To Psyche*”
- “*To a Nightingale*”
- “*On Melancholy*”
- “*To Autumn*”
- *The Eve of St. Agnes* (published in 1820)
- The two versions of *Hyperion*

### **Percy Bysshe Shelley**

- (1810) *Zastrozzi*
- (1812) *The Devil's Walk: A Ballad*
- (1813) *Queen Mab: A Philosophical Poem*
- (1815) *Alastor, or The Spirit of Solitude* (Published 1816)
- (1816) *Mont Blanc*
- (1817) *Hymn to Intellectual Beauty*
- (1817) *Laon and Cythna; or, The Revolution of the Golden City: A Vision of the Nineteenth Century* (published 1818)
- (1818) *The Revolt of Islam, A Poem, in Twelve Cantos*
- (1818) *Ozymandias*

- (1818) *Rosalind and Helen: A Modern Eclogue* (published in 1819)
- (1819) *The Cenci, A Tragedy, in Five Acts*
- (1819) *Ode to the West Wind*
- (1819) *The Mask of Anarchy* (published 1832)
- (1819) *England in 1819*
- (1819) *Julian and Maddalo: A Conversation*
- (1820) *Peter Bell the Third* (published in 1839)
- (1820) *Prometheus Unbound, A Lyrical Drama, in Four Acts*
- (1820) *To a Skylark*
- (1820) *The Cloud*
- (1820) *Oedipus Tyrannus ; Or, Swellfoot The Tyrant: A Tragedy in Two Acts*
- (1821) *Adonais*
- (1821) *Epipsychidion*
- (1822) *Hellas, A Lyrical Drama*
- (1822) *The Triumph of Life* (unfinished, published in 1824)
- *The Necessity of Atheism* (with T. J. Hogg) (1811)
- *A Defence of Poetry* (1821, published 1840)

## Lord Tennyson

- "Timbuctoo"
- *Poems, Chiefly Lyrical* (1830):
  - "All Things Will Die"
  - "The Deserted House"
  - "The Dying Swan"
  - "The Kraken"
  - "Mariana"
  - "Nothing Will Die"
- *Poems* (published 1832, but dated 1833 on title page)
  - "A Dream of Fair Women"
  - "The Lady of Shalott"
  - "The Lotos-Eaters"

- "Oenone"
- "The Palace of Art"
- "St. Simeon Stylites" (1833)

*Poems* (1842)

- "'Break, Break, Break'"
- "The Day-Dream"
- "A Dream of Fair Women"
- "Godiva"
- "Lady Clara Vere de Vere" (1832)
- "Locksley Hall"
- "Sir Galahad" (written September 1834)
- "The Two Voices" (written 1833–1834)
- "Ulysses" (1833)
- "The Vision of Sin"

*The Princess: A Medley* (1847)

*In Memoriam* (1850)

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*Idylls of the King* (1859–1885; composed 1833–1874)

*Enoch Arden and Other Poems* (1862/1864):

- "Enoch Arden"
- "Tithonus"

*The Holy Grail and Other Poems* (1870):

- "Flower in the Crannied Wall" (1869)

## Robert Browning

- *Pauline: A Fragment of a Confession* (1833)
- *Sordello* (1840)
- *Bells and Pomegranates* (1841–46)
- *Bells and Pomegranates No. III: Dramatic Lyrics* (1842)
  - *Porphyria's Lover*
  - *Soliloquy of the Spanish Cloister*
  - *My Last Duchess*
  - *The Pied Piper of Hamelin*
  - *Count Gismond*
  - *Johannes Agricola in Meditation*
- *Christmas-Eve and Easter-Day* (1850)
- *Men and Women* (1855)
  - *Evelyn Hope*
  - *Love Among the Ruins*
  - *A Toccata of Galuppi's*
  - *Childe Roland to the Dark Tower Came*
  - *Fra Lippo Lippi*
  - *Andrea Del Sarto*
  - *The Patriot*
  - *The Last Ride Together*
- *Dramatis Personae* (1864)
  - *Rabbi Ben Ezra*
- *The Ring and the Book* (1868–69)

## Charles Dickens

- *Sketches by Boz* (1836).
- *The Pickwick Papers* (1836-1837)
- *Household Words and All the Year Around*.
- *Oliver Twist; or, The Parish Boy's Progress* (1838)
- *Nicholas Nickleby* (1839)

- *The Old Curiosity Shop* (1840-41)
- *Barnaby Rudge* (1841)
- *American Notes* (1842)
- *Martin Chuzzlewit* (1844)
- *A Christmas Carol* (1843).
- *Pictures from Italy* (1845)
- *Dombey and Son* (1846-1848)
- *David Copperfield* (1849-1850)
- *Bleak House* (1852-1853)
- *Hard Times* (1854)
- *Little Dorrit* (1855-1857)
- *A Tale of Two Cities* (1859)
- *The Uncommercial Traveler* (1861)
- *Great Expectations* (1861)
- *Our Mutual Friend* (1864-65)
- *Edwin Drood* (unfinished).

### **Thomas Hardy**

- *The Poor Man and the Lady* (1867, unpublished and lost)
- *Under the Greenwood Tree: A Rural Painting of the Dutch School* (1872)
- *Far from the Madding Crowd* (1874)
- *The Return of the Native* (1878)
- *The Mayor of Casterbridge: The Life and Death of a Man of Character* (1886)
- *The Woodlanders* (1887)
- *Wessex Tales* (1888, a collection of short stories)
- *Tess of the d'Urbervilles: A Pure Woman Faithfully Presented* (1891)
- *Life's Little Ironies* (1894, a collection of short stories)
- *Jude the Obscure* (1895)
- *A Pair of Blue Eyes: A Novel* (1873)

- *The Trumpet-Major* (1880)
- *Two on a Tower: A Romance* (1882)
- *The Well-Beloved: A Sketch of a Temperament* (1897) (first published as a serial from 1892)
- *Desperate Remedies: A Novel* (1871)
- *The Hand of Ethelberta: A Comedy in Chapters* (1876)
- *A Laodicean: A Story of To-day* (1881)
- *The Dynasts* (1904-08)

### **William Makepeace Thackeray**

- *The Yellowplush Papers* (1837)
- *Catherine* (1839–1840)
- *A Shabby Genteel Story* (1840)
- *The Paris Sketchbook* (1840)
- *Second Funeral of Napoleon* (1841)
- *The Irish Sketchbook* (1842)
- *The Luck of Barry Lyndon* (1844)
- *The Book of Snobs* (1848)
- *Vanity Fair* (1848)
- *Pendennis* (1848–1850)
- *Men's Wives* (1852)
- *The History of Henry Esmond* (1852)
- *The English Humorists of the Eighteenth Century* (1853)
- *The Newcomes* (1855)
- *The Rose and the Ring* (1855)
- *The Virginians* (1857–1859)
- *Lovel the Widower* (1860)
- *Four Georges* (1860–1861)
- *The Adventures of Philip* (1862)
- *Roundabout Papers* (1863)

### **Jane Austen**

- *Sense and Sensibility* (1811)



- *Pride and Prejudice* (1813)
- *Mansfield Park* (1814)
- *Emma* (1815)
- *Northanger Abbey* (1818, posthumous)
- *Persuasion* (1818, posthumous)
- *Lady Susan* (1871, posthumous)
- *The Watsons* (1804)
- *Sanditon* (1817)

## **Matthew Arnold**

### **Poetry**

- *Stanzas in Memory of the Author of "Obermann"* (1849)
- *The Strayed Reveller, and Other Poems* (1849)
- *Empedocles on Etna, and Other Poems* (1852)
- *Sohrab and Rustum* (1853)
- *The Scholar-Gipsy* (1853)
- *Stanzas from the Grande Chartreuse* (1855)
- *Memorial Verses to Wordsworth*
- *Rugby Chapel* (1867)
- *Thyrsis* (1865)

### **Prose**

- *Essays in Criticism* (1865, 1888)
- *Culture and Anarchy* (1869)
- *Friendship's Garland* (1871)
- *Literature and Dogma* (1873)
- *God and the Bible* (1875)

## **T.S. Eliot**

### **Poems**

- *The Waste Land* (1922)

- *The Hollow Men* (1925)
- *Ariel Poems* (1927–1954)
  - *Journey of the Magi* (1927)
  - *A Song for Simeon* (1928)
  - *Animula* (1929)
  - *Marina* (1930)
  - *Triumphal March* (1931)
  - *The Cultivation of Christmas Trees* (1954)
  - *Macavity: The Mystery Cat*
- *Ash Wednesday* (1930)
- *Coriolan* (1931)
- *Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats* (1939)
- *The Marching Song of the Pollicle Dogs* and *Billy M'Caw: The Remarkable Parrot* (1939) in *The Queen's Book of the Red Cross*
- *Four Quartets* (1945)
- *Prufrock and Other Observations* (1917)
  - *The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock*
  - *Portrait of a Lady*
  - *Preludes*
  - *Rhapsody on a Windy Night*
- *Poems* (1920)
  - *Gerontion*
  - *Whispers of Immortality*
  - *Sweeney Among the Nightingales*

## Plays

- *Sweeney Agonistes* (published in 1926, first performed in 1934)
- *The Rock* (1934)
- *Murder in the Cathedral* (1935)
- *The Family Reunion* (1939)
- *The Cocktail Party* (1949)
- *The Confidential Clerk* (1953)
- *The Elder Statesman* (first performed in 1958, published in 1959)

## Non-fiction

- *Tradition and the Individual Talent* (1920)
- *The Sacred Wood: Essays on Poetry and Criticism* (1920)
  - "Hamlet and His Problems"
- *Homage to John Dryden* (1924)
- *Shakespeare and the Stoicism of Seneca* (1928)
- *Selected Essays, 1917-1932* (1932)
- *The Use of Poetry and the Use of Criticism* (1933)
- *Essays Ancient and Modern* (1936)
- *A Choice of Kipling's Verse* (1941)
- *Notes Towards the Definition of Culture* (1948)
- *Poetry and Drama* (1951)
- *The Three Voices of Poetry* (1954)
- *The Frontiers of Criticism* (1956)
- *On Poetry and Poets* (1943)

## W. B. Yeats

- 1889 – *The Wanderings of Oisín and Other Poems*
- 1890 – "The Lake Isle of Innisfree"
- 1892 – *The Countess Kathleen and Various Legends and Lyrics*
- 1893 – *The Works of William Blake: Poetic, Symbolic and Critical*
- 1899 – *The Wind Among the Reeds*
- 1903 – *In the Seven Woods*
- 1910 – *The Green Helmet and Other Poems*, verse and plays
- 1916 – *Easter 1916*
- 1917 – *The Wild Swans at Coole, Other Verses and a Play in Verse*
- 1920 – "The Second Coming"
- 1928 – *The Tower*, includes "Sailing to Byzantium"

### **Important poems-**

- 'Leda and the Swan'
- 'The Second Coming'
- 'Sailing to Byzantium'
- 'Easter 1916'
- 'The Lake Isle of Innisfree'
- 'Among School Children'
- Byzantium
- No Second Troy