

## Matèria: Literatura anglesa

### Instructional Objectives

I)

Introduction to the literature in the English language produced in the British Isles up to the 17<sup>th</sup> century, paying special attention to the relevant historical and cultural contexts in which it was written.

II)

Critical analysis of a representative selection of literary texts written in English in the British Isles between 1660 and 1900.

### Thematic Blocks

I)

**The Medieval Age:** The Romance *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*, Chaucer's "The Wife of Bath's Prologue and Tale", the ballad "The Death of Robin Hood"

**The 16<sup>th</sup> Century:** The Sonneteers Wyatt, Howard, Sidney and Shakespeare/ the play *A Midsummer Night's Dream*

**The 17<sup>th</sup> Century:** The Metaphysical Poets: John Donne, Katherine Philips and Aphra Behn

II)

**1: The Restoration:** Samuel Pepys, Nahum Tate and Henry Purcell.

**2: The Eighteenth Century:** Mary Wortley Montagu, Eliza Haywood, Jonathan Swift, William Hogarth, Samuel Johnson, Sarah Scott, Laurence Sterne, Thomas Bridges, Mary Wollstonecraft, Jane Austen.

**3: Romanticism:** William Blake, William Wordsworth, John Keats, John Polidori.

**4: The Victorian Age:** Charles Dickens, Lewis Carroll, Christina Rossetti, Oscar Wilde, Robert Louis Stevenson, Arthur Conan Doyle.

### Assessment

Students should be familiar with the main literary currents and authors writing in the period under study and offer critical readings of the following texts.

I)

*Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*. Penguin Classics (modern English version)

*A Midsummer Night's Dream*. William Shakespeare. Longman

"The Wife of Bath's. Prologue and Tale" (Chaucer)

"The Death of Robin Hood"

"The Flea" & "The Sun Rising" (John Donne)

"To One Persuading a Lady to Marriage" (Katherine Philips)

"Love Armed" (Aphra Behn)

II)

*Fantomina* (Eliza Haywood, 1725)

*Rasselas* (Samuel Johnson, 1759)

*The Importance of Being Earnest* (Oscar Wilde 1895)

*The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde* (R.L. Stevenson, 1886)

and extracts of works by Samuel Pepys (*The Diary of Samuel Pepys*), Nahum Tate and Henry Purcell (*Dido and Aeneas*), Lady Mary Montagu (*Turkish Embassy Letters* - extracts), Jonathan Swift (*A Modest Proposal*), Samuel Johnson (*Ramblers* 4, 170, and 171; *Idler* 84), Sarah Scott (*Millennium Hall* - extracts), Laurence Sterne (*Tristram Shandy* - extracts), Thomas Bridges (*Adventures of a Bank-note* - extracts), Mary Wollstonecraft (*Original Stories from Real Life* - extracts), Jane Austen (*Love and Friendship*), Charles Dickens (“A Walk in the Workhouse”), Lewis Carroll (*The Adventures of Alice in Wonderland* - extracts), Christina Rossetti (“Goblin Market”), Oscar Wilde (*The Importance of Being Earnest*), Robert Louis Stevenson (*Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde*), Arthur Conan Doyle (“The Musgrave Ritual”).

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I)

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