

# Survey of British Literature: Overview

Quarter	British Literature: Lecture and Class Discussion	Vocabulary	British Literature (Specific Reading) <sup>1</sup>	British Literature (General Reading) <sup>2</sup>	Writing Project <sup>3</sup>
1	<p><i>Early English Literature, ca. 800 AD to 1600 AD</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Roots of the English written language</li> <li>• French, Latin, and English influences</li> <li>• Old English (<i>Beowulf</i>, etc.) versus Middle English (Chaucer, etc.) works</li> <li>• <i>Magna Carta</i>, the Wycliffe Bible, mystery plays, the Venerable Bede</li> <li>• Shakespeare</li> </ul>	Vocabulary: ca. 15-20 well-known expressions from Shakespeare plays	<i>Hamlet</i> and <i>Much Ado About Nothing</i> , William Shakespeare; <i>Pilgrim's Progress</i> , John Bunyan OR <i>Gulliver's Travels</i> , Jonathan Swift	Early English Literature, 800 AD to 1650 AD ( <i>Beowulf</i> , poems plays, and stories, etc.), Middle English literature (Chaucer, More, Marlowe, etc.); <i>The King James Bible</i> ; heavy focus on William Shakespeare	(i) Research Paper I (Focused Topic: Shakespeare): Research paper related to Shakespeare and his plays OR (ii) Creative Writing I: Write a brief "Shakespeare-style" 1- to 3-act play.
2	<p><i>1600 AD to Early 19th Century</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• John Milton: <i>Paradise Lost</i></li> <li>• John Locke, John Bunyan, Daniel Defoe, Henry Fielding, Jonathan Swift, Oliver Goldsmith, etc,</li> <li>• Sir Walter Scott, Jane Austen, the Bröntes</li> <li>• Romantic poets; Coleridge</li> </ul>	Vocabulary: ca. 150 words from <i>Wuthering Heights</i> and <i>Pride and Prejudice</i>	<i>Pride and Prejudice</i> , Jane Austen; <i>Wuthering Heights</i> , Emily Brönte	Elizabethan literature (ca. 1600) to early 19th century literature (Bunyan, Milton, the Puritans, Defoe, Romantic poets, Coleridge, Scott, Austen, the Brönte sisters, etc.)	Research Paper II (Open Topic): Paper on a literary figure and/or work from the 1625 to 1832 period
3	<p><i>Early 19th to late 19th Century</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Charles Dickens, Robert Louis Stevenson, Joseph Conrad, Rudyard Kipling, George Eliot, Thomas Hardy, Elizabeth Gaskell, etc.</li> <li>• Poetry: Tennyson, Browning, Carroll, etc.</li> </ul>	Vocabulary: ca. 150 words from <i>Treasure Island</i> and <i>Captains Courageous</i>	<i>Great Expectations</i> , Charles Dickens; <i>Treasure Island</i> , Robert Louis Stevenson; <i>Captains Courageous</i> , Rudyard Kipling	British literature in the middle to late 19th century (Stevenson, Hardy, Kipling, Carmichael, Spurgeon, Conrad, etc.); heavy focus on Charles Dickens	(i) Research Paper III: Topic in 19th century British literature (1825-1900) OR (ii) Creative Writing II: A Dickensian-style short story.
4	<p><i>Early 20th Century to the Present</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• H. G. Wells, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, James Joyce, W. Somerset Maugham, J. R. R. Tolkien, C. S. Lewis</li> <li>• Modern British authors</li> </ul>	Vocabulary: ca. 150 words from <i>Lost Horizon</i> , <i>Animal Farm</i> , & <i>Watership Down</i>	<i>Lost Horizon</i> , James Hilton; <i>Animal Farm</i> , George Orwell; <i>Watership Down</i> , Richard Adams	20th century British Literature (Orwell, Conrad, Hilton, Waugh, Churchill, Lewis, Christie, Doyle, etc.)	Literary Analysis I: (20th Century British Literature) Write a literary analysis of <i>Lost Horizon</i> , <i>Animal Farm</i> , or <i>Watership Down</i>

<sup>1</sup>These books are read in their entirety by all students and analyzed in detail in class.

<sup>2</sup>A selection of literature readings (poems, short stories, speeches, essays, excerpts, etc.) from *British Literature*, 4<sup>th</sup> ed (A Beka Book, Inc. ).

<sup>3</sup>Each quarter's writing project is ca. 7 to 10 pages (typed and double-spaced) in length. Research methods, documentation, and the correct formatting and preparation of academic research papers are emphasized and reviewed periodically through the year.