

Below is a Checklist of some technical terms, notable quotations, names, dates and philosophies. Some of these are taken from the oral presentations. The exam will be taken directly from this list so there will be no unexpected questions. You will be given three sections: definition, short answer and essay questions. Please bring a pen to the final exam; no pencil, please.

- I. Events whose dates you ought to know:
 - a. Victoria's Accession to the Throne
 - b. First Reform Bill
 - c. writing & publication of *Frankenstein*
 - d. publication of *Frankenstein* with the Introduction

- II. Know a significant biographical fact or two and his/her relevance to the period (as discussed during the 2nd half of the semester):
 - a. John Keats
 - b. Samuel Taylor Coleridge
 - c. Percy B. Shelley
 - d. Dorothy Wordsworth
 - e. Mary Wollstonecraft
 - f. Mary Shelley
 - g. Anna L. Barbauld
 - h. George Gordon, Lord Byron
 - i. Felicia Hemans
 - j. Letitia Elizabeth Landon

- III. Some Significant words, phrases and definitions:
 - a. "I bid my hideous progeny go forth and prosper."
 - b. egotistical sublime
 - c. "unregenerate mind"
 - d. "half-extinguished thought"
 - e. "more than half a poet"
 - f. doppelganger
 - g. He-Man
 - h. irresolvable contraries (Hemans)
 - i. Elements of a Good novel (Barbauld)
 - j. anxiety of authorship
 - k. *Grasmere Journals*
 - l. *Letters Written in Sweden*
 - m. negative capability
 - n. "Poets are the unacknowledged legislators of the world"
 - o. Cockney School
 - p. Satantic School
 - q. Female Keats
 - r. Geneva
 - s. "Casabianca"
 - t. homosocial relationships
 - u. "Aeolian Harp"
 - v. "Invention . . . does not consist in creating out of void, but out of chaos"
 - w. odal hymn
 - x. sonnet
 - y. ekphrastic
 - z. Intellectual Beauty (Shelley)
 - aa. palimpsest
 - bb. Byronic hero
 - cc. Dedication to *Don Juan*
 - dd. Prometheus
 - ee. "I shall be with you on your wedding night"
 - ff. nightingale
 - gg. Robert Walton

- hh. poet-statesman
- ii. archaic language
- jj. epistolary novel
- kk. Gothic novel
- ll. Victor Frankenstein
- mm. unreliable narrator
- nn. Grecian Urn
- oo. "She walks in beauty, like the night"
- pp. "Beauty is truth, truth beauty that is all / Ye know on earth, and all ye need to know"

IV. Philosophies of significant authors concerning nature, imagination, poetry and the poet:

- a. P.B. Shelley
- b. William Wordsworth (review)
- c. John Keats
- d. George Gordon, Lord Byron
- e. Mary Shelley
- f. Felicia Hemans
- g. Samuel Coleridge (review)

V. **Explication:** Expect to explicate a poem (text provided) or compare two poems on similar topics (that we've discussed in class). Review the following expectations & procedures for an explication:

A poetry explication is a relatively short analysis which describes the possible meanings and relationships of the words, images, and other small units that make up a poem. Writing an explication is an effective way for a reader to connect a poem's plot and conflicts with its structural features (language and structure). You'll notice that we will do this to every poem that we discuss in class.

Getting Started:

- Read through your poem once silently and once out loud
- Annotate features in your poem that stand out in your initial reading
- Begin to identify the different language being used
- Begin to identify the poetic structure being used
- Paraphrase the poem (i.e., write a very brief summary in your own words)

Writing the Explication:

In an explication of a poem, it's important first to make a clear statement of thesis for your paper. In other words, what do you intend to argue that the poem means? Or what is the theme of the poem? Here is an extensive definition of theme from *Literature and the Writing Process*:

Theme has been defined in many ways: the central idea or thesis [of a literary work]; the underlying meaning, either implied or directly stated; the general insight revealed by the entire story; the central truth; the dominating idea; the abstract concept that is made concrete through representation in person, action and image. (116)

Essentially, your explication first will make an overall interpretation of the work by explaining the theme--what the work means. Remember that while there's no one correct answer about the theme of a work, it is possible to misread theme.

In the body of your essay, you will discuss the various literary elements of the poem that lead you to this interpretation. While you need not discuss every element of poetic analysis, you must provide clear and specific examples from the poem to back up your thesis, and every part of your response should be devoted to proving that thesis. Be sure that each paragraph has a clear topic sentence, and is unified, dealing with only one topic per paragraph. You should quote liberally from the poem in providing evidence, as well. Remember, though, that each quoted line needs some discussion, so don't quote just to quote.

An explication is critical and interpretative. Do not summarize the poem; assume your reader already understands the basic situation of the poem. Explain instead the importance of the various elements in the poem that enable you to reach an understanding of the entire poem.