

## AMERICAN LITERARY PERIODS (IN A NUTSHELL)

PURITANISM (1600s)	COLONIALISM (a.k.a. "The Age of Reason" or "Rationalism") (1700s)	ROMANTICISM (1800-1860)
<p><b>Buzzwords and Phrases:</b>  --religion  --salvation through grace  --predestination  --people inherently bad but redeemed through God</p> <p><b>Authors:</b>  --Anne Bradstreet  --Jonathan Edwards</p>	<p><b>Buzzwords and Phrases:</b>  --man has God-given ability to reason  --progress  --people inherently good but can be better</p> <p><b>Authors:</b>  --Ben Franklin  --Thomas Paine  --Phillis Wheatley</p>	<p><b>Buzzwords and Phrases:</b>  --supernatural  --fascination with death  --larger-than-life hero  --unspoiled nature  --simplicity of the past  --anti-progress</p> <p><b>Authors:</b>  --Hawthorne --Longfellow --Irving --Bryant  --Poe --Lowell</p> <p><b>LED THE WAY TO TRANSCENDENTALISM</b></p> <p><b>Buzzwords and Phrases:</b>  --Oversoul  --man/nature/God  --nature → spiritual enlightenment and self-awareness</p> <p><b>Authors:</b>  --Emerson  --Thoreau</p>
REALISM (1860-1914)	MODERNISM (1914-1939)	POSTMODERNISM (1939 to Present)
<p><b>Buzzwords and Phrases:</b>  --ordinary hero  --true-to-life struggles and circumstances  --focus on lower class  --depiction of life "as it is"</p> <p><b>SEGMENTS OF REALISM:</b>  --<b>Naturalism</b> (man vs. uncaring universe/nature)  --<b>Regionalism</b> (dialect/culture of a geographic area)  --<b>Psychological Realism</b> (how the mind copes with stress)</p> <p><b>Authors:</b>  --Bierce (psychological) --Twain (regionalist)  --Chopin (regionalist) --London (naturalist)  --Crane (naturalist) --Robinson (poet) --Wharton</p>	<p><b>Buzzwords and Phrases:</b>  --flawed character with grace under pressure  --fragmented society  --disillusionment with American Dream  --experimentation with subject, style, form</p> <p><b>ALSO TIME PERIOD OF...</b>  --Imagist Poetry --Harlem Renaissance</p> <p><b>Authors:</b>  --Fitzgerald --Steinbeck --e.e. cummings  --Hemingway --Frost --Williams  --Faulkner --Hughes --Pound  --Welty --Hurston</p>	<p><b>Buzzwords and Phrases:</b>  --still evolving  --multiple meanings, multiple worlds (literal, metaphorical, futuristic)  --culturally diverse-part of the global culture  --nostalgia for the past, invigorated by present  --poetry=extremely personal, "anything goes"</p> <p><b>Authors:</b>  --O'Connor --Olds  --Tan --Miller  --Walker --Collins  --Roethke --and the list continues...</p>

