Poetry and Poetics

Poetry

Poets Selected for Extended Analysis

• Pre-1600: Edmund Spenser (1552-1599) and Sir Philip Sidney (1554-1586)
• 1600-1800: John Donne (1572-1631) and Alexander Pope (1688-1744)
• 1800-1900: John Keats (1795-1821) and Emily Dickinson (1830-1886)
• 1900-2013: Langston Hughes (1902-1967) and Elizabeth Bishop (1911-1979)

Historical and Generic Distribution (thirty poems encompassing the following genres: ballad, drama, elegy, epic, epigram, epistle, ode, and sonnet)

1. Homer, *The Odyssey* (8th century B.C.E.) (epic)
4. *Beowulf* (8th century) (epic)
5. Francis Petrarch, “It was the morning of that blessed day” (14th century) (sonnet)
7. Sir Thomas Wyatt, “Whoso list to hunt” (early-mid 1500s) (sonnet)
8. Christopher Marlowe, “The Passionate Shepherd to His Love” (1600) (idyll)
10. Ben Jonson, “To John Donne” (1616) (epigram)
12. Anne Bradstreet, “To My Dear and Loving Husband” (1678) (epistle)
15. Robert Burns, “Holy Willie’s Prayer” (1795) (dramatic monologue, satire)
18. Lord Byron, *Don Juan*, Cantos I, II, and XVI (1821) (mock epic)
20. Robert Browning, “Fra Lippo Lippi” (1855) (dramatic monologue)
22. Walt Whitman, *Song of Myself* (1881) (lyric)
25. Claude McKay, “The Harlem Dancer” (1922) (sonnet)
27. W. H. Auden, “September 1, 1939” (1940) (lyric)

Poetics
Primary Texts to 1945
3. Bede, *De Schematibus et Tropis* (circa 701)
5. John Milton, Preface to *Paradise Lost* (1674)
6. Samuel Johnson, from *Preface to Shakespeare* (1765) and from *Lives of the Poets* (1779) ("Thomas Gray" and "John Milton")
7. William Wordsworth, Preface to *Lyrical Ballads* (1802)
8. Ralph Waldo Emerson, “Circles” (1841) and “The Poet” (1844)
9. Edgar Allan Poe, “The Philosophy of Composition” (1846) and “The Poetic Principle” (1850)
10. Walt Whitman, Preface to *Leaves of Grass* (1855)
11. Oscar Wilde, “The Critic as Artist” (1891)
12. W. B. Yeats, “The Symbolism of Poetry” (1900)

Primary Texts Post-1945
3. Seamus Heaney, “Feelings into Words” (1979)

Secondary Texts
1. *Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetry and Poetics* entries:
   b. Other entries: Harlem Renaissance, Gender and Poetry, Cultural Studies and Poetry, Politics and Poetry.
2. Additional selections: