GEG S3 02 (M)

HISTORY OF ENGLISH LITERATURE

SEMESTER-III

ENGLISH

BLOCK-2

KRISHNA KANTA HANDIQUI STATE OPEN UNIVERSITY

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BACHELOR OF ARTS
HISTORY OF ENGLISH LITERATURE
BLOCK-2

DETAILED SYLLABUS

(Page. No)

Unit 9 : The Romantic Age I **113-125**

Introduction, Literary Forms and Features of the Age, Major Literary Forms: Poetry, Periodical Essay and Literary Criticism, Fiction.

Unit 10 : The Romantic Age II **126-138**

Introduction, Major Romantic Writers

Unit 11 : The Victorian Age I **139-146**

Introduction, Features of the Age, Major Literary Forms: Victorian Novel, Victorian Poetry, Victorian Prose.

Unit 12 : The Victorian Age II **147-158**

Introduction, Major Writers

Unit 13: Imperialism and Colonialism **159-169**

Introduction, Defining of Imperialism and Colonialism, Imperialism and Colonialism in English Literature, Impact on Indian English Literature.

Unit 14 : The Modern Age I **170-189**

Introduction, Literary Characteristics of the Age, Major Literary Forms and Important Writers: Poetry, Non Fiction Prose, Drama, Fiction, Literary Criticism

Unit 15 : The Modern Age II **190-214**

Introduction, Important Writers

BLOCK INTRODUCTION

The second block specifically focuses on the early Romantic Age to the Modern Age in the History of English Literature. The block contains a total of 7 units which delve on the changing literary currents through the ages.

UNIT 9: The unit introduces you to the Romantic Age that extolled the virtues of passion, imagination, freedom, the natural, supernatural and the spiritual. By stirring the imagination and the subjective experience, the Romantic in literature came to be characterised in Victor Hugo's phrase by "liberalism in literature". The English Romantic movement was paved by the two poets, Wordsworth and Coleridge with their publication of the *Lyrical Ballads* in 1798, which became a significant milestone in the development of Romanticism in English literature.

UNIT 10: The unit takes up some of the prominent writers of the Romantic age with a brief highlight on their life and literary contributions that defined the literature of the period. It also highlights the conceptual role of Coleridge's 'fancy and imagination' that literally defined the Romantic imagination, as well as, literary practices of the age. Also, the unit provides a list of some of the other important writers associated with the period.

UNIT 11: The unit introduces you to the Victorian Age, a period under the reign of Queen Victoria when English life had undergone tremendous changes. Although the period was characterised by human progress with the oncoming of the industrial revolution, religious doubt and a loss of faith pervaded the Victorian age. At the same time, Victorian literature in essence moved away from the romantic in literature towards realism.

UNIT 12: The unit takes up some of the major writers of the Victorian age with a brief sketch of their life and contributions to the dominant literary forms of the age namely the Victorian novel, poetry and prose.

UNIT 13: The unit discusses the historical roots and basic characteristics of the ideals and practices in European history which had an extensive conditioning on English literature across the globe. A contextual understanding of these changes is essential in order to grasp the potent factors that defined colonial literature in a major way. It also provides a brief overview on the impact of imperialism and colonialism on Indian English Literature (IEL).

UNIT 14: The unit deals with the context of the Modern Age and the new forms of experimental modes that shaped the literature of the period. The modern men were interested in the close reading of the 'self' and this gets reflected in literature. This unit intends to give you an understanding of the Modern period, laying emphasis on the decadence and isolation that characterised modern literature.

UNIT 15: The unit takes up some of the major writers of the period with a brief idea on their life and literary contributions that defined the emerging literature of the modern age. This is the concluding unit of the block and the course on History of English Literature.

While going through a unit, you may also notice some text boxes, which have been included to help you know some of the difficult terms and concepts. You will also read about some relevant ideas and concepts in "LET US KNOW" along with the text. We have kept "CHECK YOUR PROGRESS" questions in each unit which have been designed to self-check your progress of study. The hints for the answers to these questions are given at the end of the unit. We strongly advise that you answer the questions immediately after you finish reading the section in which these questions occur. We have also included a few books in the "FURTHER READING" which will be helpful for your further consultation. The books referred during the preparation of the units have been added at the end of each Block. However, this SLM is not an end in itself and the learners are strongly advised to consult the books and other resources recommended for reading.