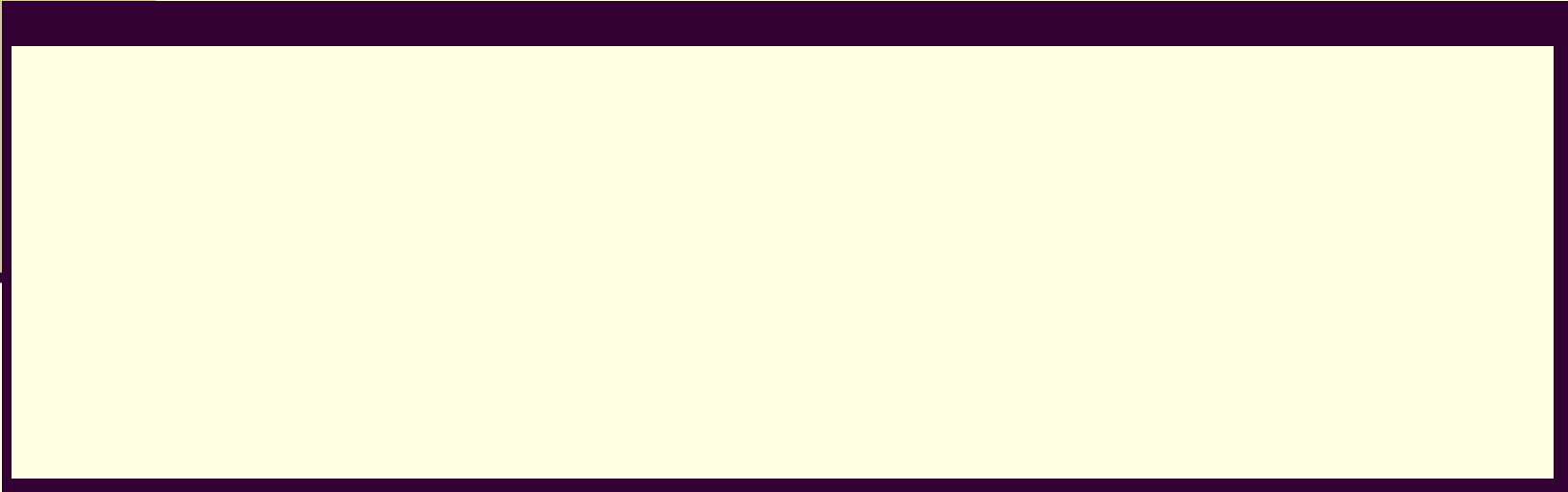


Restoration (1660-1800)



Beginning of an Era

- In 1660, England was utterly exhausted from nearly 20 years of civil war. By 1700, it had lived through a devastating plague and a fire that left more than two thirds of Londoners homeless.
- What is restored during the Restoration? Peace.
- When Oliver Cromwell died in 1658, Parliament contracted Charles II, who was in exile, and sent him ships to return to England.
- The common people welcome the return of the Stuarts in the form of Charles II.
- When Charles II died, his brother James II (Roman Catholic) became King. Fearing Catholic rule, his daughter Mary and her husband, William of Orange, attacked England and forced James to flee. Parliament invited William and Mary to assume the throne. There was no blood shed (known as The Bloodless Revolution).

Fun Facts

- **Oliver Cromwell died of syphilis. The English hated him so much they dug up his corpse, cut off his head, and put it on a spike in front of The Tower of London.**

What Else Was Restored?

- **Sense of itself as a nation and who they really were – artists, philosophers, writers, industrialists, etc.**
- **Also referred to as the Augustan Age**
 - **Why? Reflected the time that Octavian Augustus restored peace and order to Rome after the assassination of Caesar.**
- **Neoclassical Age – modeled writing on the Latin classics – the classics represented what was permanent and universal in human experience.**
 - **“Neoclassical” means “new classical.” All educated people knew the Latin classics better than English literature.**

What Else Was Restored?

- **Age of Reason and Enlightenment.**
 - **People stopped asking “why” things happen and started asking “how?”**
 - **What will this lead to? Science, math, etc.**
 - **Haley figured out the time it took a comet to orbit – 76 years.**
 - **Sir Isaac Newton discovered the concept of universal gravitation and motion.**
- **What does this do to the psyche of the people? (In your notebook, 5 min)**

What Does This Lead To?

- **Things can be figured out!! Not everything is mysterious. Foreboding events are now explained.**
- **Deism was a spiritual belief based on reason and the observation of nature. God creates the world, starts it, then leaves it to itself. What does this do to people?**
 - **Greater freedom, less conscience.**
 - **Though many still remained devout Christians.**

So What?

- **Theaters reopened – plays became vulgar and bawdy**
 - **female actresses allowed**
 - **play topics – sexual relations between men and women, adultery, etc.**
- **Fashion became very important – incredibly ornate makeup, clothing, and accessories for both men and women!!**
- **Indulging in food and drink and excess living became very popular!!!**

Restoration Literature

- **Writing – all this gave great fodder for writers of this time:**
 - **Satire – saying the worst things about someone or something in a witty, indirect way in order to bring about change.**
 - **Jonathan Swift – Gulliver’s Travels and A Modest Proposal. He was disgusted with the moral corruption.**
 - **Alexander Pope – “The Rape of the Lock.” He condemned the excess attitude of the time.**
- **Elegies – saying the best things about a dead person at their funeral**
- **Ode - a poetic speech or poem expressing a public emotion**
- **The first English novels were written at the end of the 18th century.**

What is Satire?

- **The point was to make the reader feel critical of themselves and society. Provides laughter and bitterness.**
- **Devices used in satire:**
 - **Exaggeration – Speaking in absolutes.**
 - **“All are bad” “All are corrupt” Extremes.**
 - **Understatement – a matter of fact tone about something horrific or extreme**
 - **Irony – Can overlap understatement**
 - **saying one thing and meaning another**