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# 18th Century English Literature



18th Century English literature was a \_\_\_\_\_ of significant evolution and experimentation. It began with a continuation of the late \_\_\_\_\_ century's focus on satire and wit. Writers like Jonathan Swift and Alexander Pope were masters of this \_\_\_\_\_, using their works to critique society. During this time, the novel emerged as a prominent form, with \_\_\_\_\_ like Daniel Defoe and Samuel Richardson crafting stories that explored \_\_\_\_\_ psychology and morality. In the mid-century, literature took a turn towards a more sentimental style.

\_\_\_\_\_ like Richardson's "Pamela" and Henry Fielding's "Tom Jones" offered a mix of humor and \_\_\_\_\_, painting complex portraits of everyday life. Meanwhile, poetry saw the rise of lyrical ballads, which focused on \_\_\_\_\_ and the human experience.

The latter part of the century saw the emergence of the Gothic novel, with Horace Walpole's "The Castle of Otranto" introducing elements of \_\_\_\_\_ and the supernatural into English literature. This period also witnessed the early \_\_\_\_\_ of Romantic poets like William Wordsworth and Samuel Taylor \_\_\_\_\_, who would later dominate the early 19th century.

In non-fiction, essays and periodicals \_\_\_\_\_, with writers like Samuel Johnson and Lady Mary Wortley Montagu contributing to the \_\_\_\_\_ of English prose. Johnson's "A Dictionary of the English Language" was a monumental \_\_\_\_\_, providing a comprehensive resource for the \_\_\_\_\_ language.

Overall, the 18th century in England was a time of great literary diversity and \_\_\_\_\_, setting the stage for the Romantic era that followed. It reflected the social, political, and \_\_\_\_\_ shifts of the time, creating a rich tapestry of literary works that continue to be celebrated today.

Coleridge

horror

Novels

period

development

works

nature

17th

innovation

flourished

authors

style

philosophical

human

pathos

English

achievement