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Horace Walpole and English Literature



Horace Walpole was a _____ who lived during the 18th century. He was born in 1717 and became famous for his _____, "The Castle of Otranto." This book is often considered the first _____ novel, a genre that combines horror, romance, and mystery. Walpole's father was Sir Robert Walpole, a well-known _____ and the first Prime Minister of Great Britain. Growing up in a political family, Horace had access to high society and influential _____. This exposure influenced his writing style and themes.

Walpole's education at _____ and later at King's College, Cambridge, helped him develop a love for literature and history. His novel, set in medieval Italy, reflects his fascination with the _____. "The Castle of Otranto" was initially published anonymously in 1764. It was a huge _____, leading Walpole to reveal himself as the author in later editions. The novel's blend of supernatural elements and realistic settings was innovative for its _____.

Besides writing, Walpole was known for his extensive _____. He wrote thousands of letters, which provide valuable insights into 18th-century society and politics. His _____ Hill House, which he transformed into a Gothic-style castle, is another testament to his love for the Gothic aesthetic.

Walpole's influence on literature extends beyond his own works. He inspired a generation of writers, including Mary Shelley and Edgar Allan _____. His blend of the real and the supernatural laid the groundwork for future _____, like horror and fantasy. Despite facing criticism in his time for his ornate style, today Horace Walpole is celebrated for his contribution to English literature and for pioneering the Gothic _____.

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