

name: _____

class: _____

date: _____

Wit and Literature in the 18th Century



The 18th century was a time of _____ growth in England. It was known as the Age of _____, where _____ and reason played significant roles. Famous writers like _____ and _____ were known for their sharp wit. This era's literature often used satire to criticize _____ and politics. _____ became a powerful tool, using humor to convey serious messages. The novel also began to rise in _____, with authors like _____ and _____ pioneering this form. These novels often featured _____ that used wit to navigate complex social situations. Plays were another popular _____ . Playwrights like _____ used clever dialogue to entertain and critique. The _____ of this era also reflected wit. Poets like _____ and _____ mastered the art of witty, insightful verse. This period was marked by a focus on _____ thought and a move away from the emotional excess of the previous era. In essence, the 18th century redefined _____ literature, making it more reflective, critical, and, of course, witty.

poetry Swift Pope popularity English Dryden characters
Enlightenment wit medium Pope society Defoe Satire
intellectual rational Richardson Sheridan