

Honors Essay Assignment for the Industrial Revolution

A Study of Romanticism in Poetry

Reading

Read pages 30-43 from “Romanticism and Revolution” chapter from *European Intellectual History Since 1789* (Roland N. Stromberg). Make notes on the reading where you notice references to elements of romanticism in literature.

Also, read all of the poems listed below (they can be found in many poetry anthologies or online). You should print out copies of the poems for yourself so that you can mark them up with notes.

“The Chimney Sweeper” (William Blake)

“We Are Seven” (William Wordsworth)

“To Autumn” (John Keats)

“Darkness” (Lord Byron)

“Ode to the West Wind” (Percy Bysshe Shelley)

“To a Skylark” (Percy Bysshe Shelley)

“Ode on a Grecian Urn” (John Keats) (we will discuss this on Dec. 1)

Essay Topic

Show how well the romantic elements used contribute to the meaning of a well-known poem from the Romantic Era. Use specific references from the Stromberg book and from the poem itself as you discuss the poem. Two or three elements is sufficient for your discussion.

Lunch Meeting Dates

Get your lunch first. Meeting will start at 11:30.

Tuesday, Nov. 28 – discussion of the Stromberg writing

Friday, Dec. 1 – discussion of “Ode on a Grecian Urn” and how to approach the essay

Essay Format and Deadline

This is an in-class essay. You will write your essay on Wednesday, Dec. 6. We will ask you to write on one of the six poems listed above (you will not write on “Ode on a Grecian Urn”). Your topic is the essay topic described above. We will give you a copy of the poem you will write on in class on Dec.6. Bring with you to class the Stromberg reading. Use parenthetical page references where appropriate. For example, (*Stromberg*, 39) or (“*Ode*”, line 14).