



Know it...

1. A **literary movement** is the name given to a collection of writing that is similar in topic, philosophy or style. It is a way of categorising literary texts
2. The **Romantic poetry movement** was around the beginning of the 19th Century and was based around a desire to encourage **freedom** of thought and imagination.
3. The **key poets** of the Romantic movement are generally considered to be Wordsworth, Coleridge, Keats, Shelley, Byron and Blake.
4. The **freedom of expression** which underpinned Romantic poetry set the foundations for a lot of subsequent poets and writers.
5. **Nature** played an important role in Romantic poetry, with some poets believing nature was a manifestation of God. This can be seen in Ailsa Rock and Hymn before Sunrise
6. Romantic poetry was inspired by the egalitarian movement of the **French revolution** which aimed to take away the power of the ruling elite, close the social divide and improve the lives of the working class. This can be seen in The Mask of Anarchy, The Convict and The Chimney Sweeper
7. The Romantic Movement was also a reaction to the **industrial revolution** in which technological developments had good and bad consequences.
8. Romantic poets were concerned with **corruption** in society and how this limited freedom, so the Romantic Revolution made people want to focus on themselves and their own ideas, not on the way they were told to behave. This can be seen in The Chimney Sweeper.
9. The system of choosing a government (**democracy**) was unfair at the time.
10. There was much **unrest** at the time the Romantics were writing, as people fought to claim the rights of humans and women, and get these recognised in law. The **Peterloo Massacre in Manchester** is one such example in which working class people were killed for demanding fairer representation in elections.
11. Some **religious beliefs**, such as the idea of Original sin, were contradicted by a Romantic idea of the natural goodness of humanity, particularly the innocence of children
12. One of the common features of Romantic poems is the desire to express 'the best words in the best order', using the **vernacular language** of man. This is a reaction to the heavily artificial and elaborate poems of the 18th Century
13. One way in which Romantic poets expressed ideas of freedom was through their choice of **poetic form** to rebel or protest against restrictions
14. It can be helpful to look at the **interactions between ideas** in Romantic Poetry. Some of the key pairings are freedom and anarchy; rights and justice; goodness and corruption; society and the individual; nature and solitude; self-reflection and awe of the world; imagination and God.

Grammar – putting sentences together



Prove it...

- 1) Multiple choice questions
- 2) Analyse how the poet uses language to explore ideas about goodness and corruption in The Chimney Sweeper.
- 3) Compare the ways poets explore ideas about the liberty of man in two poems you have studied.
- 4) Writing a letter/email to Amnesty International about an abuse of human rights



Say it... liberty, anarchy, justice, rights, corruption, goodness, society, individual, solitude, awe, self-reflection, imagination, revolution, inspiration, Pantheism, egalitarian, enlightenment, beauty, sublime, terror, concept, labour, aspect, impact, institute, restrict, philosophy, principal, fundamental, liberal, reject, underlie.



Link it...

Previous poetry study, Power and Rights in In the Sea, Romantic Poetry as part of the Year 10 anthology

