

Core English 302

UNIT 01

B. Write a detailed note on the growth and development of the Nineteenth Century Novel.

01. Introduction:

The Nineteenth century saw the process and development of novel further, nineteenth century novelists produced number of novels which enrich the novel form.

02. Jane Austen as Pioneer:

*-She discarded a sensationalism which had come in during the last half of eighteenth century with *'Gothick'.**

*-She also discarded writers like Horace Walpole(*The Castle of Otranto*), William Beckford (*Vathek*), Mrs.Redcliffe(*The Mysteries of Udolpho*), Matthew Lewis(*The Monk*).*

*-She satirized their supernatural terrors, her *Northanger Abbey* paved the way for detailed studies of respectable English country Society.*

*-Her novels like **Pride and Prejudice, Emma, sense and sensibility, Mansfield park & persuasion** show all the foibles and absurdities as well as the graces of a miniature world strictly dominated by convention.*

03. Outputs of Bronte Sisters & Others:

-Jane Austen died in 1817, after 30 years of her death Charlotte Bronte (1816-1855) *Jane Eyre*, Emily Bronte (1818-1848) in *Wuthering Heights*, showed the novel of the terror could be taken & used to heighten a human story of passion without any trace of absurdity.

- Sir Walter Scott who was contemporary & friend of Lord Byron, inaugurated the historical novel.

- Sir Walter Scott in his novels the primary aim was to tell his story with all the picturesque detail & romantic feeling.

- He contributed some **famous novel like *Waverly, Guv Mannering, Old Mortality, Ivanhoe, Kenilworth, & The Tailsman.***

- He said himself, in paying homage to Jane Austen, that could, do *“the big bowwow strain.”**

04. Literary Contributions of Charles Dickens(1812-1870):

-With Charles, who was born in 1812, the novels enters a new phase in its history.

- He was almost the first to develop a more complex plot.

- for Complex Plot he says in his own words,

“consists in going round and round the idea, as you see a bird in his cage go about and about his sugar before he touches it.”

-He often incorporates the painful experience of his youth in London, particularly in ***David Copperfield, Nicholas Nickleby& Great Expectations.***

- In depicting the life of London in the early 19th century, with its swarm/group of odd characters, he was supreme, as a painter of individual portraits, he is second only to Shakespeare.

05. Literary Outputs of Thackeray(1811-1863):

-Thackeray, who was regarded as Dickens’ great rival, excelled in the novel of ideas, in which the plot is subordinated to the philosophy or life which it’s intended to convey.

- ***Vanity Fair***, in many ways his masterpiece, shows him in the role of fashionable preacher moralising the follies of society, while in ***Henry Esmond***, he brought a new depth, Feelings and realism to the historical novel.

- His chief weapon was Irony, and like other authors of his day.

- He was not afraid to drive home a lesson even if he had to interrupt the action of the story to do so.

06. George Eliot's Contributions(1819- 1890):

-George Eliot(Mary Evans) widened the scope of the Novel yet further to include philosophical dissertations on current topics.

- Particularly she deals with religious politics & the social conventions in her novels.

- She stands midway between Thackeray & Henry James, that is to say, between the old and New Novel.

- At least four of **her books are still read today Viz Adam Bede, The Mill on the Floss, Silas Manner & Middle March.**

07. George Meredith(1828-1909) & Thomas Hardy(1840-1928):

-In the later nineteenth century, two novelists stand out George Meredith & Thomas Hardy.

***Δ George Meredith:** is frankly a satirist with a reformer's purpose.

- He has been called a pagan, but he teaches that the spiritual growth of man comes with the help of courage & self-restraint in his many novels like **The Ordeal of Richard Fernal, The Egoist, Evan Harrington & Diana of the Crosswings.**

- His style is indirect, epigrammatic, and sometimes irritating.

***Δ Thomas Hardy:**

- Hardy attempt no *"harmonious philosophy,"* but he found small cause for rejoicing in the scheme of things, and his comments on human life and Destiny are somber and disillusioned.

- Taking his characters from the farmers and peasantry, and some of the gentlefolk, of his native *'Wessex'*, he evolves from the simplest causes *"a general drama of pain."*

- Probably the four tragedies novels, **The Return of the Native, The Mayor of Catsterbridge, Yess of the D'urbervills & Jude the Obscure**, contain his best works.

08. Henry James(1843-1916) & Others:

The most **important late Victorian novelist,**

- As an American he spent **most of his life in Europe,**

- James was in **unique position to observe the sensitive adjustment between individual and classics,**

- His **3 works** - **The Portrait of the Lady, The Golden Bowl The Wings of the Dove.**

Δ Conclusion:

To conclude we may say that the genre of Novel fully flourished in the Nineteenth century. Many novelists put best in their literary works for according the requirements of those days.

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