**British Literature Final Exam Study Guide—Fall 2015**

\*\*The final exam will cover all periods of English literature that we have discussed this semester. You will be required to define and identify the literary terms, authors, characteristics, and historic events listed below. Additionally, you will have a reading passage from each time period and will be asked a variety of questions about each passage.\*\*

**Anglo-Saxon:**

**Terms/Topics:**

**-** Alliteration

-Kenning

-Caesura

-Comitatus

-Anglo-Saxon Values/Culture

**Texts:**

-*Beowulf*

^characteristics of epic poem and the epic hero

**Medieval:**

**Terms/Topics:**

-Geoffrey Chaucer

-frame narrative

-direct characterization

-indirect characterization

-allegory

-imagery

-code of chivalry

-feudalism

-father of English poetry

-heroic couplet

**Texts:**

-*The Canterbury Tales (*including “The Pardoner’s Tale” and “The Wife of Bath’s Tale”)

^Characteristics of Medieval Romance and Allegory

**Renaissance:**

**Terms/Topics:**

**-**Meaning of and characteristics of the Renaissance period.

**-**William Shakespeare

-aside

-monologue

-soliloquy

-dramatic irony

-foil

**Texts:**

*Othello*

^The Moors, racial tension, the power of language, the outsider archetype, the cuckold, the motif of black (dark) & white (light)

**17th and 18th Centuries-Age of Reason and Romantic Period**

**Terms:**

-Sonnet

-Petrarchan/Shakespearean Sonnets

-Iambic Pentameter

-Conceit

-Metaphysical

-Lyric Poem

-Carpe Diem

-Internal Rhyme

-Inflation

-Caricature

-Parody

**Texts:**

^ “A Modest Proposal” by Jonathan Swift (satirical essay)

^“A Valediction Forbidding Mourning” by John Donne(metaphysical poem)

^“To His Coy Mistress” by Andrew Marvell (cavalier poem)

**Victorian:**

**Terms:**

-Industrial Revolution

-realism

**-**expectations of women

-conflict between classes (old vs. new $)

-the struggle of the individual

-the novel

-double standards for men and women

**Texts:**

*Tess of the d’Urbervilles*

^characteristics of the Victorian novel

^reflection of characters on the time period

**Modern/Postmodern:**

**Terms:**

^The impact of the World Wars

^Impact of psychology (Freud)

^Disillusionment with traditional classist society and the monarchy.

^New roles for women

^ Byronic Hero

^Postmodern influence of technology

**Texts:**

*^A Study in Scarlet* by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

^”A Study in Pink” episode of BBC series *Sherlock*