

The Restoration/Eighteenth Century Period – 1660-1798

- I. Historical background
 - A. Restored monarchy under Charles II
 - B. Puritans out – people tired of restrictions
 - C. Age of Reason (Enlightenment)
 - 1. Science and philosophy important
 - a. Newton, Harvey, Locke, etc.
 - b. Royal Society founded 1662
 - 1.) Scientists, philosophers, scholars
 - 2.) King was patron
 - 2. Deism – religion based on the idea of a benevolent deity who set up the world to run by natural laws and principles (gravity, etc.)
 - 3. Industrial Revolution began after 1750
 - D. Age of Classicism (new-classicism)
 - 1. Modeled ancient Greek and Roman classics
 - 2. Established rules for clarity and form
 - 3. Reason and restraint – standards for prose
 - 4. Common sense, moderation, conformity – ideals of age
- II. Literary Ages
 - A. Age of Dryden – 1660-1700
 - B. Age of Pope and Swift – 1700-1750
 - C. Age of Johnson (Samuel) – 1750-1798
 - 1. Wrote the *Dictionary of the English Language* - 1755