

## KEY Age of Romance Study Guide (1785—1875)

Era's characteristics	Poets & Notable Poems	Bio Notes	Romantic Optimists & Their Fiction	Bio Notes
1. beauty & power of nature	1. <b>Edgar Allen Poe</b> --"Raven" --"Annabel Lee"	--Married cousin --found near dead --adopted by Allens	1. <b>Washington Irving</b> --"Rip Van Winkle"	--1 <sup>st</sup> famous Am. writer --opposite of Franklin --Fairytale writer
2. imagination/ intuition	2. <b>Oliver Wendell Holmes *</b> --"Old Ironsides"	--Harvard --Doctor --Product of Age Reason	2. <b>James Fenimore Cooper</b> --Leather Stocking Tales: <i>Deerslayer</i> --& <i>Last of the Mohicans</i>	--Farmer -- Never knew Indians -- Wife challenged
3. individuality	3. <b>John Greenleaf Whittier *</b> --"Proem" --"Snowbound"	--Quaker --Abolitionist --No formal education	<b><u>Romantic Pessimists &amp; Their Fiction</u></b>	him to write
4. passionate nationalism	4. <b>James Russell Lowell *</b> --"Auspex" --"May is a Pious Fraud"	--Harvard --Abolitionist		1. <b>Nathaniel Hawthorne</b> -- <i>Scarlet Letter</i> --"Young Goodman Brown"
5. supernatural/ gothic	5. <b>William Cullen Bryant*</b> --"Thanatopsis"	--Read before he was 2 --Ed. of <i>NY Evening Post</i>	2. <b>Herman Melville</b> -- <i>Moby Dick</i> --"Bartleby of the Scrivener"	--Educated on a ship --Found tribe Christian --Abolitionist
6. beauty of the exotic	6. <b>Henry Wadsworth Longfellow*</b> --"Psalm of Life" --"Song of Hiawatha"	--Most popular --Harvard teacher --Lost wife to fire	3. <b>Edgar Allen Poe</b> --"Fall of the House of Usher" --"Tell Tale Heart" --"Black Cat"	--Short stories --Short life --Short on money
<b><u>Characteristics of Fireside Poets</u></b>	7. <b>Walt Whitman</b> -- <i>Leaves ...</i> "Song of Myself" --"O Captain, My Captain"	--New transcendentalist --celebrated sexuality --abolitionist; loved Abe	<b><u>Non-Fiction Writers &amp; Essays</u></b> <b>Transcendentalism:</b> unity of man & nature best, not materialism	
	1. Celebration of ordinary	8. <b>Emily Dickenson</b> --"Because I could not stop"		--Genius --preferred solitude -never planned to publish
2. Honored place in Am. home because they are easy to read.	Put an asterisk by each of the five Fireside poets listed above.		2. <b>Henry David Thoreau</b> -- <i>Walden</i> --"Civil Disobedience"	--Transcendentalist --2.5 years in solitude --Lived w/ Emerson

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Optimists believe conflicts can always be resolved; problems have solutions.

Pessimists believe conflicts might never be resolved; happiness can be a futile or hopeless pursuit.