

Why should we study American Literature?

We want to learn.

Lit. reflects our culture (past, present, + future?).

↳ So we study to learn from the past

↳ to learn how God ^{has} worked in our nation

↳ to see how far we
Strayed



Who am I?

- *I am often made fun of in modern day movies and literature.
- *In the 1920s and 1930s, I was made a whipping boy for all the weaknesses in American society and was often equated with the worst parts of Victorianism.
- *H.L. Mencken defined me as "the haunting fear that someone somewhere might be happy."
- *In actuality, I am a realist. I planned for the worst and expected no better.
- *I believed that it was my job to be a "city on the hill," an example for the world to follow.
- *Every minute of my existence was charged with meaning. (I saw God in every situation.)
- *I used the Bible to educate my children in their English studies.
- *I did, at times, have some pretty strange laws: a man may not kiss his wife in public.
- *I prefer the plain style of writing to the ornate style.
- *I helped found America and traces of my beliefs are still seen in its government.
- *Who am I with the letter "P"?

Answer: Puritans

What skills must a good reader possess?

Understanding language

↳ interpret from context

↳ slow down

↳ reread

↳ process think about it

↳ annotate

Grammar:

- comma - brief pause

- period - stop

- ; - in btwn

- ! - show excitement

- ? - voice should go up

Outline / Reviewed

- Outline:
- ## AN ERN OF CHANGE
- ### I. Introduction: These Periods themes
- The role of the nation
 - The role of the Christian
- ### II. European to American: Social Change
- The early immigrants
 - Charlestown
 - Plymouth Plantation
 - Massachusetts Bay Colony
 - The motivation of the immigrants
 - Religious Reasons for immigration
 - To escape persecution
 - To realize ideals
 - Secular reasons for immigration
 - For adventure
 - For national pride
 - For self-improvement
 - The Transitional Colonists
 - The Americans
- ### III. Puritanism to Deism: The Religious Change
- The Essence of Puritanism
 - The origin and growth of Puritanism
 - Elizabeth I's reign
 - Purification of English Church from non-Scriptural elements
 - The influence of John Calvin
 - Institutions
 - Five Points of Calvinism
 - The creation of a theocracy
 - The Causes of Puritanism's Decline
 - Rising secularization
 - The Halfway Covenant
 - The revivals of the eighteenth century (1700s)
 - The Great Awakening
 - The Second Great Awakening
 - The rise of deism
 - Beliefs
 - No intervention of God in world
 - Unfallen man
 - Reward/Punishment in afterlife
 - Elevation of man by de.
 - Influence in documents
- ### IV. Colonies to Nation: The Political Change
- Political Foundations
 - The limited rights of immigrants
 - The first govt by compact
 - Colonial Unrest
 - Political restrictions in the colonies
 - Change in economic issues
 - American Independence
 - Sovereign individuals states
 - Constitution (1789)
- ### V. Imitation to Maturity: The Literary Change
- Literary Form
 - Imitative
 - Name
 - Subject Matter
 - Personal
 - Religious
 - Political
 - World View
 - Spiritual Interpretation
 - Scientific Observation
 - Literary Purpose
 - Religious Instruction
 - Secular Instruction
 - Style
 - Qualities of Style
 - Clarity
 - Similarity of word choice + organization
 - Sparing of elaborate expressions
 - Neatness
 - Criticism of Style
 - Religious Subject Matter
 - Didactic Purpose
 - Plain Style