



الآداب	كلية
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Literary Criticism	اسم المادة باللغة الإنجليزية

### 1- Plato

was an ancient Greek philosopher who lived from approximately 428/427 BC to 348/347 BC. He is widely regarded as one of the most important and influential philosophers in Western thought. In addition to his philosophical works, Plato also wrote extensively on literary criticism and theory.

One of Plato's most famous works on literary criticism is the "Republic," in which he discusses the role of literature in society and the ways in which it can be used to promote virtue or lead people astray. He is particularly critical of poetry and drama, which he believed could have a harmful influence on people's moral character.

Plato's ideas about literature were shaped by his broader philosophical views, including his belief in the existence of an objective reality and his emphasis on the importance of reason and rationality. He argued that literature should be judged not only on its aesthetic qualities, but also on its ability to convey moral and philosophical truths.

Overall, Plato's contributions to literary criticism were significant in shaping the way that subsequent generations of writers and thinkers approached the study of literature.

Plato's theory of imitation, also known as mimesis, is a key aspect of his views on art and literature. In his works, Plato argues that art is essentially an imitation or copy of reality, and as such, it is always a step removed from the truth.

Plato believed that there were two types of imitation: the first is when an artist creates a work that is an imitation of the physical world, such as a painting of a tree or a sculpture of a human figure. The second type of imitation is when an artist creates a work that is an imitation of an imitation, such as a play or a novel.

Plato was critical of the second type of imitation, arguing that it is inherently flawed and leads people further away from the truth. He believed that art should aim to represent the ideal forms and ideas that exist in the realm of the Platonic Forms, rather than simply imitating the physical world.

In "The Republic," Plato argues that poetry and drama are particularly problematic forms of imitation because they often portray immoral or irrational

behavior in a positive light, thereby leading people astray. He suggests that such works should be censored or even banned in order to protect society from their harmful effects.

Overall, Plato's theory of imitation reflects his broader philosophical views on the nature of reality and the importance of reason and rationality in human life. His ideas have had a lasting impact on the study of aesthetics and continue to be debated by scholars today.

## **2- Aristotle**

Aristotle's theory of imitation, also known as mimesis, is the idea that art imitates life. According to Aristotle, all art is a form of imitation or representation of the world, whether it be through literature, visual art, or performance. He believed that the purpose of art was to represent reality and to evoke emotions in the audience.

Aristotle identified three types of imitation:

1-Imitation of the natural world - this includes the physical appearance of things such as landscapes, animals, and people.

2-Imitation of human action - this includes the portrayal of human behavior, emotions, and interactions between people.

3-Imitation of abstract ideas - this includes the portrayal of abstract concepts such as justice, love, and courage.

Aristotle believed that the artist's job was to create a work of art that accurately represented the world and evoked emotions in the audience. He also believed that the audience had a responsibility to engage with the work of art and to use their own powers of observation and reasoning to understand and appreciate it.

Overall, Aristotle's theory of imitation was influential in the development of Western art and aesthetics, and it remains an important concept in the study of art today.

Aristotle's theory of poetry, also known as his Poetics, is a work of literary criticism in which he analyzed the nature of poetry and drama. According to Aristotle, poetry is a form of imitation that is distinct from history and philosophy. He believed that poetry was a way of representing the world through language, and that it had the power to evoke emotions in the audience.

Aristotle identified several key elements of poetry, including plot, character, language, and spectacle. He believed that a good work of poetry should have a well-constructed plot with a beginning, middle, and end, and that the characters

should be well-developed and believable. He also emphasized the importance of language, arguing that the language used in poetry should be clear, concise, and appropriate to the subject matter.

Aristotle distinguished between two types of poetry: epic poetry and dramatic poetry. Epic poetry, according to Aristotle, was a form of narrative poetry that told the story of heroic deeds and great events. Dramatic poetry, on the other hand, was a form of poetry that was meant to be performed, such as tragedy and comedy.

Aristotle believed that the purpose of poetry was to teach and to entertain. He argued that poetry had the power to teach moral lessons and to provide insight into human nature. At the same time, he believed that poetry should be entertaining and enjoyable to the audience.

Overall, Aristotle's theory of poetry had a significant influence on the development of Western literature and drama. His ideas about the importance of plot, character, language, and spectacle continue to be influential in the study of literature and theater today.

## محتوى المحاضرة الثانية

### 3- Horace

Horace was a Roman poet and literary critic who lived from 65 BC to 8 BC. He is best known for his "Ars Poetica," a treatise on the art of poetry that has had a lasting impact on literary criticism.

Horace believed that the purpose of poetry was to delight and instruct its readers. He argued that a poet must have both natural talent and technical skill in order to create works that are both beautiful and meaningful. He emphasized the importance of clarity, concision, and simplicity in poetry, and urged poets to avoid overly ornate or obscure language.

Horace also believed that poetry should be useful, and that it should have a moral purpose. He argued that poetry should teach its readers how to live well, and that it should promote virtuous behavior. He believed that poetry could serve as a form of social critique, and that it could be used to promote political and moral reform.

Overall, Horace's theory of poetry emphasizes the importance of both form and content. He believed that poetry should be aesthetically pleasing, but also intellectually and morally meaningful. His ideas have had a lasting influence on the development of Western literature and literary criticism.

#### **4- Longinus**

Longinus was a Greek literary critic who lived in the 1st century AD. He is best known for his treatise "On the Sublime," which is a seminal work of literary criticism that focuses on the qualities of great writing.

Longinus believed that the goal of great writing was to inspire and elevate the reader. He argued that truly great writing, or the sublime, had the power to transport the reader out of themselves and into a realm of awe and wonder. This was achieved through the use of a number of techniques, including figurative language, vivid imagery, and rhetorical devices such as repetition and antithesis.

According to Longinus, the sublime was not just a matter of style, but also of content. He believed that great writing should be morally uplifting and should inspire the reader to virtuous action. He also believed that the sublime could be found in works of different genres, including poetry, prose, and drama.

Longinus believed that the ability to write sublimely was a natural gift, but also that it could be developed through practice and study. He encouraged writers to read widely and to study the works of great writers in order to learn from their techniques.

Overall, Longinus's theory of poetry emphasizes the power of language to inspire and elevate the reader. He believed that great writing should be morally uplifting and should aim to inspire virtuous action. His ideas have had a lasting impact on the development of literary criticism and continue to influence writers today.

### **محتوى المحاضرة الثالثة**

#### **5- Dante**

Dante Alighieri was an Italian poet and philosopher who lived in the 13th and 14th centuries. His most famous work is the "Divine Comedy," a three-part epic poem that describes Dante's journey through Hell, Purgatory, and Paradise.

Dante's theory of poetry was rooted in his belief that poetry was a means of communicating spiritual truths. He believed that poetry could convey insights that were not accessible through reason alone, and that it could help readers to understand the nature of God, the human condition, and the afterlife.

Dante believed that poetry should be written in the vernacular language of the people, rather than in the classical languages of Latin or Greek. He believed that by writing in Italian, he could reach a wider audience and communicate his ideas more effectively.

Dante's approach to poetry was highly structured and carefully crafted. He used a variety of poetic devices, such as rhyme, meter, and alliteration, to create a musical and rhythmic quality to his work. He also used symbolism and allegory to convey deeper meanings and spiritual truths.

Overall, Dante's theory of poetry emphasizes the power of poetry to communicate profound truths about the human condition and the nature of the divine. His ideas about the importance of writing in the vernacular language and his use of poetic devices have had a lasting impact on Italian literature and continue to influence writers today.

## محتوى المحاضرة الرابعة

### 6- Sir Philip Sidney

Sir Philip Sidney was an English poet, courtier, and diplomat who lived in the late 16th century. He is best known for his sonnet sequence, "Astrophil and Stella," and for his influential work of literary criticism, "The Defence of Poesy."

Sidney's theory of poetry was shaped by his belief that literature should serve a moral purpose. He argued that poetry should not only be aesthetically pleasing, but also instructive, teaching readers about virtue, wisdom, and moral behavior.

Sidney believed that poetry should be written in a way that is both beautiful and clear. He emphasized the importance of using language that is natural and accessible, rather than overly ornate or artificial. He also argued that poetry should be characterized by a unity of form and content, with each aspect of the poem contributing to its overall meaning and effect.

According to Sidney, poetry could serve as a powerful means of emotional expression, allowing writers to convey the depth and complexity of human experience. He believed that the best poetry was characterized by a sense of sincerity and authenticity, reflecting the writer's own thoughts and feelings.

Overall, Sidney's theory of poetry emphasized the importance of poetry as a means of moral and emotional expression. He believed that poetry should be both beautiful and meaningful, and that it could be used to promote virtuous behavior and inspire readers to lead better lives. His ideas have had a lasting impact on the development of English literature and continue to influence writers today.

## محتوى المحاضرة الخامسة

### 7- Alexander Pope

Alexander Pope was an 18th-century English poet, translator, and critic, best known for his satirical works such as "The Rape of the Lock" and "An Essay on Criticism."

Pope's theory of poetry emphasized the importance of reason and good sense in writing. He believed that poetry should be clear and concise, using language that was natural and precise, rather than flowery or ornate. He argued that poetry should be characterized by a unity of form and content, with each element of the poem working together to create a coherent whole.

Pope believed that the purpose of poetry was to instruct and delight its readers. He argued that poetry could be used to teach moral and philosophical truths, but that it should do so in a way that was accessible and entertaining. He believed that good poetry should appeal to both the intellect and the emotions, balancing reason and passion in a way that was pleasing to the reader.

According to Pope, the best poetry was characterized by wit and humor, using irony and satire to expose the follies and vices of society. He believed that poetry should be based on observation and experience, reflecting the realities of the world around us.

Overall, Pope's theory of poetry emphasized the importance of clarity, reason, and good sense in writing. His ideas have had a lasting impact on English literature, particularly in the fields of satire and poetic technique.

## محتوى المحاضرة السادسة

### 8- William Wordsworth

William Wordsworth was a 19th-century English poet who was a central figure in the Romantic movement. His theory of poetry was closely tied to his belief in the power of nature and the importance of individual experience.

Wordsworth believed that poetry should be a natural and spontaneous expression of the writer's emotions and experiences. He emphasized the importance of using simple, everyday language to convey complex ideas and feelings, rather than relying on the ornate and artificial language favored by many poets of his time.

Wordsworth believed that poetry should be grounded in the natural world, and he celebrated the beauty and power of nature in much of his work. He believed that through close observation of the natural world, we could gain a deeper understanding of ourselves and our place in the world.

Wordsworth's theory of poetry emphasized the importance of individual experience and subjective emotion. He believed that poetry should be a reflection of the writer's own feelings and experiences, rather than an attempt to conform to established literary conventions or social norms.

According to Wordsworth, poetry had the power to awaken and inspire the imagination, and to help readers see the world in a new and more meaningful way. He believed that poetry could be used to express universal truths and to promote social and political change.

Overall, Wordsworth's theory of poetry emphasized the importance of individual experience, the natural world, and the power of imagination and emotion. His ideas have had a profound influence on English literature and continue to shape the way we think about poetry today.

## محتوى المحاضرة السابعة

### 9- Percy Bysshe Shelley

Percy Bysshe Shelley was an English poet who lived in the 19th century and was one of the leading figures of the Romantic movement. His theory of poetry was closely tied to his beliefs about the role of art and the imagination in society.



Shelley believed that poetry should be a form of social and political commentary, reflecting the writer's beliefs about the world and advocating for change. He argued that poetry should be characterized by a sense of idealism and moral conviction, and that it should be used to promote the values of justice, liberty, and equality.

According to Shelley, the purpose of poetry was to inspire the imagination and to awaken the reader's sense of wonder and awe. He believed that poetry could be used to explore the mysteries of the natural world and to capture the sublime beauty of the universe.

Shelley's theory of poetry emphasized the importance of individual creativity and the power of the imagination. He believed that poetry should be free from the constraints of tradition and convention, allowing writers to express themselves in their own unique way.

Shelley also believed that poetry should be characterized by a sense of fluidity and openness, with meanings and interpretations that could evolve over time. He argued that poetry should be free from the limitations of language and that it should be able to convey ideas and emotions that could not be expressed in any other way.

Overall, Shelley's theory of poetry emphasized the importance of poetry as a means of social and political commentary, as well as a tool for exploring the mysteries of the natural world and the power of the imagination. His ideas have had a profound influence on English literature and continue to inspire writers today.

## محتوى المحاضرة الثامنة

### 10- Matthew Arnold

Matthew Arnold was an English poet and critic who lived in the 19th century. His theory of poetry was closely tied to his beliefs about the role of culture and education in society.

Arnold believed that poetry should be a reflection of the writer's own experiences and observations, but that it should also have a broader social and cultural relevance. He argued that poetry should be used to explore and critique the values and beliefs of society, and to promote a more enlightened and cultured way of life.

According to Arnold, the purpose of poetry was to provide a source of moral and intellectual guidance for society. He believed that poetry could be used to

encourage individual growth and self-realization, as well as to foster a sense of social and cultural unity.

Arnold's theory of poetry emphasized the importance of clarity and simplicity in writing. He believed that poetry should be accessible to all, and that it should be written in a language that was clear, direct, and easy to understand.

Arnold also believed that poetry should be free from the constraints of genre and form, and that it should be able to adapt to the changing needs and values of society over time. He argued that poetry should be characterized by a sense of "sweetness and light," a phrase that he used to describe the ideal combination of intellectual clarity and moral insight in literature.

Overall, Arnold's theory of poetry emphasized the importance of poetry as a means of social and cultural critique, as well as a tool for promoting individual and collective growth and enlightenment. His ideas have had a lasting impact on English literature and continue to shape the way we think about poetry today.

## محتوى المحاضرة التاسعة

### 11- Henry James

Henry James was an American novelist and critic who lived in the 19th and early 20th centuries. While he is best known for his novels, he also wrote extensively about literature and art, and his theory of poetry was closely tied to his broader beliefs about the role of art in society.

James believed that poetry should be characterized by a sense of aesthetic and emotional intensity, and that it should be written in a language that was precise, subtle, and nuanced. He argued that poetry should be used to capture the essence of human experience, and to explore the complex and often contradictory emotions and motivations that underlie human behavior.

According to James, the purpose of poetry was to provide a window into the inner lives of human beings, and to reveal the deeper truths and insights that could be found beneath the surface of everyday experience. He believed that poetry had the power to transport readers to other times and places, and to create a sense of intimacy and connection between writer and reader.

James's theory of poetry also emphasized the importance of the writer's own individual perspective and style. He believed that writers should be free to

experiment with different forms and genres, and to develop their own unique voices and approaches to writing.

Overall, James's theory of poetry emphasized the importance of poetry as a means of exploring the complexities of human experience, and of capturing the essence of individual thought and emotion. His ideas have had a lasting impact on the development of modernist literature and continue to influence writers and critics today.

## محتوى المحاضرة العاشرة

### 12- Mikhail Bakhtin

Mikhail Bakhtin was a Russian philosopher, literary critic, and semiotician who lived in the 20th century. His theory of poetry was closely tied to his broader ideas about language, meaning, and communication.

Bakhtin believed that poetry should be characterized by a sense of polyphony, or a diversity of voices and perspectives. He argued that poetry should be seen as a form of dialogue, in which different perspectives and viewpoints are brought into conversation with each other.

According to Bakhtin, the purpose of poetry was to create a space for the expression and exploration of different social and cultural perspectives. He believed that poetry had the power to transcend the limitations of individual experience and to connect people across different social and cultural boundaries.

Bakhtin's theory of poetry also emphasized the importance of the reader's own interpretive role in the process of meaning-making. He argued that poetry should be open to multiple interpretations, and that readers should be free to engage with the text in their own unique way.

Overall, Bakhtin's theory of poetry emphasized the importance of dialogue and polyphony in literature, and the role of poetry in creating a space for the expression and exploration of different social and cultural perspectives. His ideas have had a lasting impact on the development of literary theory and continue to shape the way we think about poetry and language today.

### **13- Modern literary criticism**

Modern literary criticism refers to the various approaches and methods used by scholars to analyze and interpret literature. It encompasses a wide range of theories, including structuralism, post-structuralism, feminism, queer theory, postcolonialism, and more.

One of the key features of modern literary criticism is its emphasis on the text as a complex and multi-layered object that can be interpreted in multiple ways. Critics often use close reading techniques to analyze the language, style, and form of a text, as well as the cultural and historical contexts in which it was produced.

Modern literary criticism also places a strong emphasis on the reader's own interpretive role in the process of meaning-making. Critics often explore the ways in which readers engage with and respond to literature, and how this interaction shapes our understanding of the text.

Another important aspect of modern literary criticism is its focus on issues of identity, power, and representation. Critics often explore how literature reflects and shapes social and cultural norms, and how it can be used to challenge or reinforce dominant ideologies.

Overall, modern literary criticism is a diverse and dynamic field that continues to evolve and adapt to new social and cultural contexts. Its various approaches and methods offer rich insights into the complexities of literature and its role in shaping our understanding of the world.