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القسم او الفرع : اللغة الإنكليزية

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اسم المادة باللغة العربية : الشعر

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اسم المحاضرة الأولى باللغة العربية: حياة الشاعر ادmond سبنسر

The life of Edmond Spencer: اسم المحاضرة الأولى باللغة الإنكليزية

Edmund Spenser, *His life and his poetry*

He was born in 1552-1553, London, England.

he died in January 13, 1599, London.

He is English poet whose long allegorical poem *The Faerie Queene* is one of the greatest in the English literature. It was written in what came to be called the Spenserian stanza.

Youth and education

Little is certainly known about Spenser. He was related to a noble Midlands family of Spencer, whose fortunes had been made through sheep raising. His own immediate family was not wealthy. He was entered as a “poor boy” in the Merchant Taylors’ grammar school, where he would have studied mainly Latin, with some Hebrew, Greek, and music.

His works

The Shepheardes Calender can be called the first work of the English literary Renaissance. It is more concerned with the bishops and affairs of the English church than is any of his later work.

Following the example of Virgil and of many later poets, Spenser was beginning his career with a series of eclogues (literally “selections,” usually short poems in the form of pastoral dialogues), in which various characters, in the guise of innocent and simple shepherds, converse about life and love in a variety of elegantly managed verse forms, formulating weighty—often satirical—opinions on questions of the day. The paradoxical combination in pastoral poetry of the simple, isolated life of shepherds with the

sophisticated social ambitions of the figures symbolized or discussed by these shepherds (and of their probable readership) has been of some interest in literary criticism.

The *Calender* consists of 12 eclogues, one named after each month of the year. One of the shepherds, Colin Clout, who excels in poetry but is ruined by his hopeless love for one Rosalind, is Spenser himself. The eclogue “Aprill” is in praise of the shepherdess Elisa, really the queen (Elizabeth I) herself. “October” examines the various kinds of verse composition and suggests how discouraging it is for a modern poet to try for success in any of them. Most of the eclogues, however, concern good or bad shepherds—that is to say, pastors—of Christian congregations. The *Calender* was well received in its day, and it is still a revelation of what could be done poetically in English after a long period of much mediocrity and provinciality. The archaic quality of its language, sometimes deplored, was partly motivated by a desire to continue older English poetic traditions, such as that of Geoffrey Chaucer. Archaic vocabulary is not so marked a feature of Spenser’s later work.

Characteristics of Edmund Spenser poetry

The main qualities of Spenser's poetry are

(1) **a perfect melody**; (2) a rare sense of beauty;

(3) a splendid imagination, which could gather into one poem heroes, knights, ladies, dwarfs, demons and dragons, classic mythology, stories of chivalry,

and the thronging ideals of the Renaissance,—all passing in gorgeous.

Spenser used a distinctive verse form, called **the Spenserian stanza**,

Spenserian stanza, verse form that consists of eight iambic pentameter lines followed by a ninth line of six iambic feet (an alexandrine); the rhyme scheme is *ababbcbcc*. The first eight lines produce an effect of formal unity, while the hexameter completes the thought of the stanza. Invented by Edmund Spenser for his poem *The Faerie Queene* (1590–1609)

The Spenserian sonnet is a sonnet form named for the poet Edmund Spenser. A Spenserian sonnet comprises three interlocked quatrains and a final couplet, with the rhyme scheme ABAB BCBC CDCD EE.