

Modern Drama

Generally speaking, the modern dramatists make us intimately acquainted with life. there is no lovemaking, jesting, and singing of Shakespearean comedy, but we find anxiety and worries and conflicts of life. middle and lower classes are treated. The modern drama is marked in the seriousness and gravity. There is an attempt to find solution to the various problems of life. the reader and audience are set thinking about the possible solutions. Characters in modern drama are types rather than individuals. They are representatives of their classes. They do not seem to develop or grow. The modern plays are almost written in prose and the dialogue is thus devoid of poetic beauty and charm. The motive of the modern dramatist is to make propaganda for his own ideas. Drama becomes the vehicle of ideas which are discussed thoroughly.

Modern American Drama

1-It deals with subjects in scientific manner to reflect the unique assumption and idea. The American dramatists suggest variety of subjects, social and cultural issues.

2- Not only social issues are tackled but political matters are taken to make people aware from sensitive matters that showed the American political system in late 19th century.

3-The provoke theoretical discussion about modern tragedy and the good example is Miller's *Death of a Salesman*.

4-The modern American drama is influenced by the economic depression as a result of World War 1& 2. They used to deal with symbolism

5- Modern American drama is concerned with realism movement in depicting life as it is.

6- Most of the modern dramatists are motivated by the political issues as freedom, injustice, poverty, democracy, and exploitation in all its types.

7- Away from politics, they tend to display the people's interest specially the jazz music and the role of the American dream for those who pursued the earthly paradise and neglecting the practical side of life.

8- like the old Shakespearean drama, they used to delay the appearance of the main characters, but it is not a habit.

9-The role of woman has gained a considerable domain and scope different from that of old periods.

10- Like the British and other European dramatists, the American dramatists have used stage direction to give its real function. They are concerned with lighting, music,

furniture, fourth wall, and inanimate objects to give a sort of an impression for the readers and audience that these objects are necessary to join the acts and sometimes to link the character one to another.

11- They propose to use **flashback technique** to connect the character with his or her past. This device means that “ any scene in a play introduced to show events that happened at an earlier time, by following the style of explanation or comment.

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