

## Introduction to Romantic Poetry

Welcome to the world of Romantic poetry! This worksheet is designed to introduce you to the key features of Romantic poetry and to help you develop your critical thinking, reading, and writing skills. Romantic poetry is a type of poetry that emphasizes emotion, nature, and the human experience. It is characterized by its use of literary devices such as imagery, symbolism, and emotional language.

## Key Features of Romantic Poetry

Read the following poem by William Wordsworth:

"I wandered lonely as a cloud  
That floats on high o'er vales and hills,  
When all at once I saw a crowd,  
A host, of golden daffodils;  
Beside the lake, beneath the trees,  
Fluttering and dancing in the breeze."

What are the key features of this poem that make it a Romantic poem?

- Use of nature imagery
- Emphasis on emotion
- Use of symbolism
- Use of emotional language

## Imagery in Romantic Poetry

*Read the following poem by John Keats:*

"My heart aches, and a drowsy numbness pains  
My sense, as though of hemlock I had drunk,  
Or emptied some dull opiate to the drains  
One minute past, and Lethe-wards had sunk:  
'Tis not through envy of thy happy lot,  
But being too happy in thy happiness,—  
That thou, light-winged Dryad of the trees,  
In some melodious plot  
Of beechen green, and shadows numberless,  
Singest of summer in full-throated ease."

*What images does the poet use to describe his emotions?*

- Use of sensory details (e.g. "my heart aches", "drowsy numbness pains")
- Use of natural imagery (e.g. "beechen green", "shadows numberless")
- Use of metaphor (e.g. "my heart aches")

## Symbolism in Romantic Poetry

*Read the following poem by Samuel Taylor Coleridge:*

"The Rime of the Ancient Mariner"

*What does the albatross symbolize in the poem?*

- Guilt and responsibility
- Good luck and prosperity
- Freedom and adventure
- Nature and the supernatural

## Emotional Language in Romantic Poetry

Read the following poem by Percy Bysshe Shelley:

"Ozymandias"

What emotional language does the poet use to describe the statue of Ozymandias?

- Use of words with negative connotations (e.g. "decay", "ruin")
- Use of words with positive connotations (e.g. "grandeur", "beauty")
- Use of metaphor (e.g. "round the decay")
- Use of personification (e.g. "the statue speaks")

## Writing in the Romantic Style

Write a short poem in the style of the Romantic poets. Use sensory details, natural imagery, and emotional language to describe a personal experience or emotion.

## Extension Task

*For advanced learners, write a comparative analysis of two Romantic poems. How do the poets use literary devices such as imagery, symbolism, and emotional language to convey their messages? What themes and ideas do the poems explore?*

## Reflection Questions

*What did you learn about Romantic poetry from this worksheet?*

- How do the key features of Romantic poetry contribute to its overall effect?
- What are some challenges and opportunities of writing in the Romantic style?

## Glossary

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*Imagery: the use of language to create vivid sensory experiences for the reader*

*Symbolism: the use of objects, colors, or other elements to represent abstract ideas or concepts*

*Emotional language: language that evokes emotions or describes emotional states*

*Metaphor: a comparison between two unlike things without using "like" or "as"*

## Conclusion

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*Congratulations on completing this worksheet on Introduction to Romantic Poetry and its Key Features! We hope you have developed a deeper understanding of the key features of Romantic poetry and have enjoyed exploring the world of Romantic poetry. Remember to keep practicing your critical thinking, reading, and writing skills, and to always keep a sense of wonder and curiosity about the world around you.*

