

	Renaissance (1500-1670)	Enlightenment (1700-1800)	Romanticism (1798-1870)	Transcendentalism (1830-1860) **Distinctly an American Movement	Victorian (1837-1901)	Realism (1820-1920)	Modernism (1910-1965)	Postmodernism (1965-Today)/ Existentialism (1850-Today)
Big Names	Shakespeare Spenser Milton Johnson Marlowe Donne Marvell	Franklin, B. Rousseau Voltaire Newton Bacon Hume Kant Locke Pope Swift Wollstonecraft Paine	Wordsworth Coleridge Byron Shelley, P. Shelley, S. Keats Austen Whitman Hawthorne Melville Poe Blake	Emerson Thoreau Fuller Dickinson Peabody Channing Ripley	Bronte, C. & E. Browning, E.B. & R. Carroll Dickens Doyle Hardy Housman Kipling Tennyson Wells Wilde	Twain Eliot, G. Crane, S. Zola Ibsen James Flaubert Dostoyevsky Wharton	Bishop Conrad Eliot, T.S. Joyce Woolf Hemingway Stein Faulkner Pound Fitzgerald Shaw Williams Yeats	Beckett Camus Garcia Marquez Pynchon Vonnegut Morrison Nietzsche Walcott Kafka Sartre
Big Ideas	Rebirth Humanism Optimism Material and spiritual gains Passion Creativity	Science Progress Egalitarian Deism Optimism	Nature Passion Self Individual Spirit	Intuition Spirit Individual Truth/Knowledge Transcend Nature Originality	Change Upheaval Leadership Socially- oriented Global Wealth	Society Progress Science Secular	Decay Disillusionment Alienation Surreal	Chaos Hybridity Existentialism Meaninglessness Interpretation “Cool”
Big Styles	Complex Conventions Drama	Theoretical Mechanistic Satirical	Expressive Emotional Nostalgic	Americanism Abstract Idealistic	Revealing Detailed Sublime	Descriptive Objective Moral	Experimental Interior Fragmented	Nonlinear Self-conscious Absurd
Big Bang	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dark Ages • Black Death • Rise of Nationalism 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Industrial Revolution • Paine’s “Common Sense” • Accelerant to American Revolution 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • French Revolution • U.S. War of 1812 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • American Expansion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steam engine • Factory production • Laissez-faire economics • Emergence of “middle class” • Darwin’s theories 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reform Act (Britain) • Crystal Palace Exhibition • US. Civil War 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World War I 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holocaust • Atomic Bomb

**See <http://www.online-literature.com/periods/> for more detailed information on each of the Literary Time Periods and Movements