

Modernism: Introduction and historical Background

- The literary movement called Modernism started in 1908 and continued up to the 1960s of the 20th century. It rejected Romantic ideas of Post-Victorianism and preferred a more realistic, hard core portrayal of reality.

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- It grew out of the philosophical, scientific, political, and ideological shifts that followed the Industrial Revolution and scientific progress through the shock of World War I, and its aftermath.

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- Modern writers broke with the past and rejected literary traditions that seemed outmoded.
- They were keen on embracing innovations in style and language.
- They also rejected diction that seemed too conservative and archaic to suit an era of technological breakthroughs .

Factors behind the Emergence of Modernity

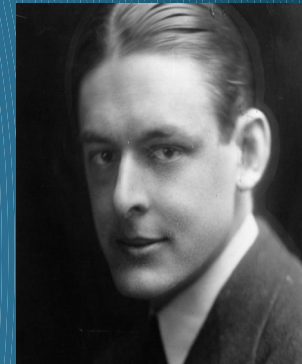
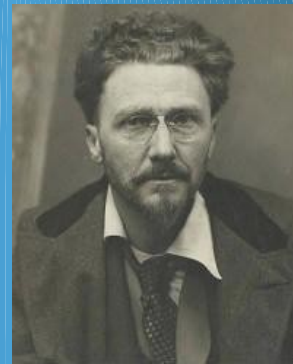
- **The death of the last great Victorians: Swinburne and Meredith.**
- **Symbolism and *The Symbolist Movement in Literature***
- **The Revolution in art and music. The expressionist Exhibition and the performance of Russian Ballet group in London triggered a revolution in change and readiness to embrace difference.**

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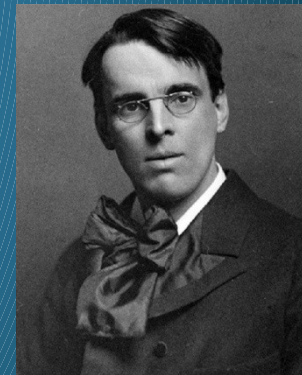
• **The foreign Influences represented by:**

a. American Influence:

Ezra Pound and T.S. Eliot



b. British influences: W.B. Yeats



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Turbulent political situations represented by the various ideological camps: Fascism, Nazism, Communism, the Bolshevist Revolution, and the outbreak of the first world war in 1914.