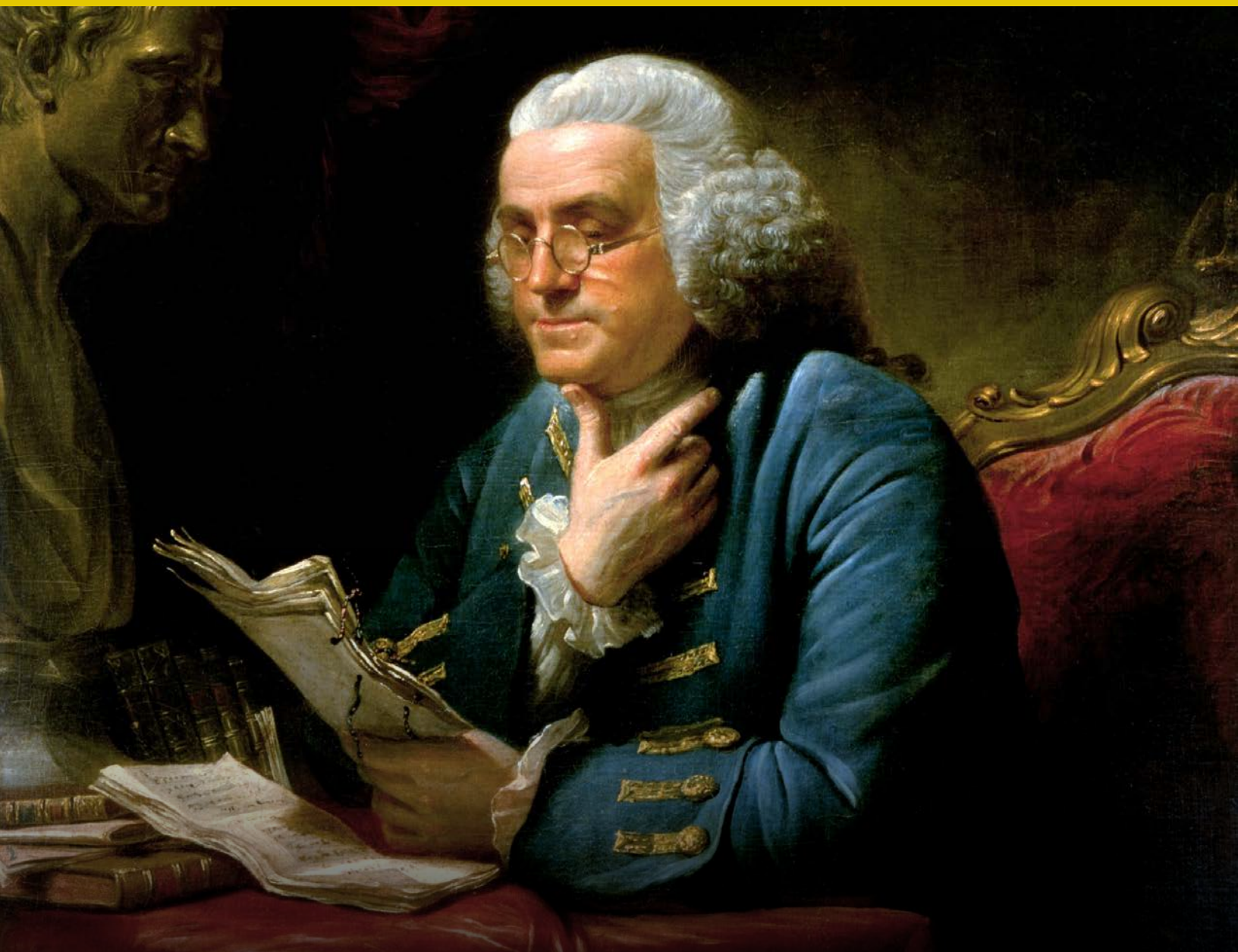


AMERICAN LITERATURE

COURSE MANUAL

ENG312_18A



LESSON PLANS - TESTS - ANSWER KEYS - QUARTER REPORT FORMS

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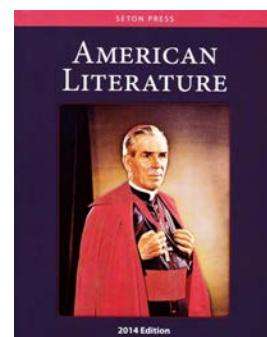
AMERICAN LITERATURE

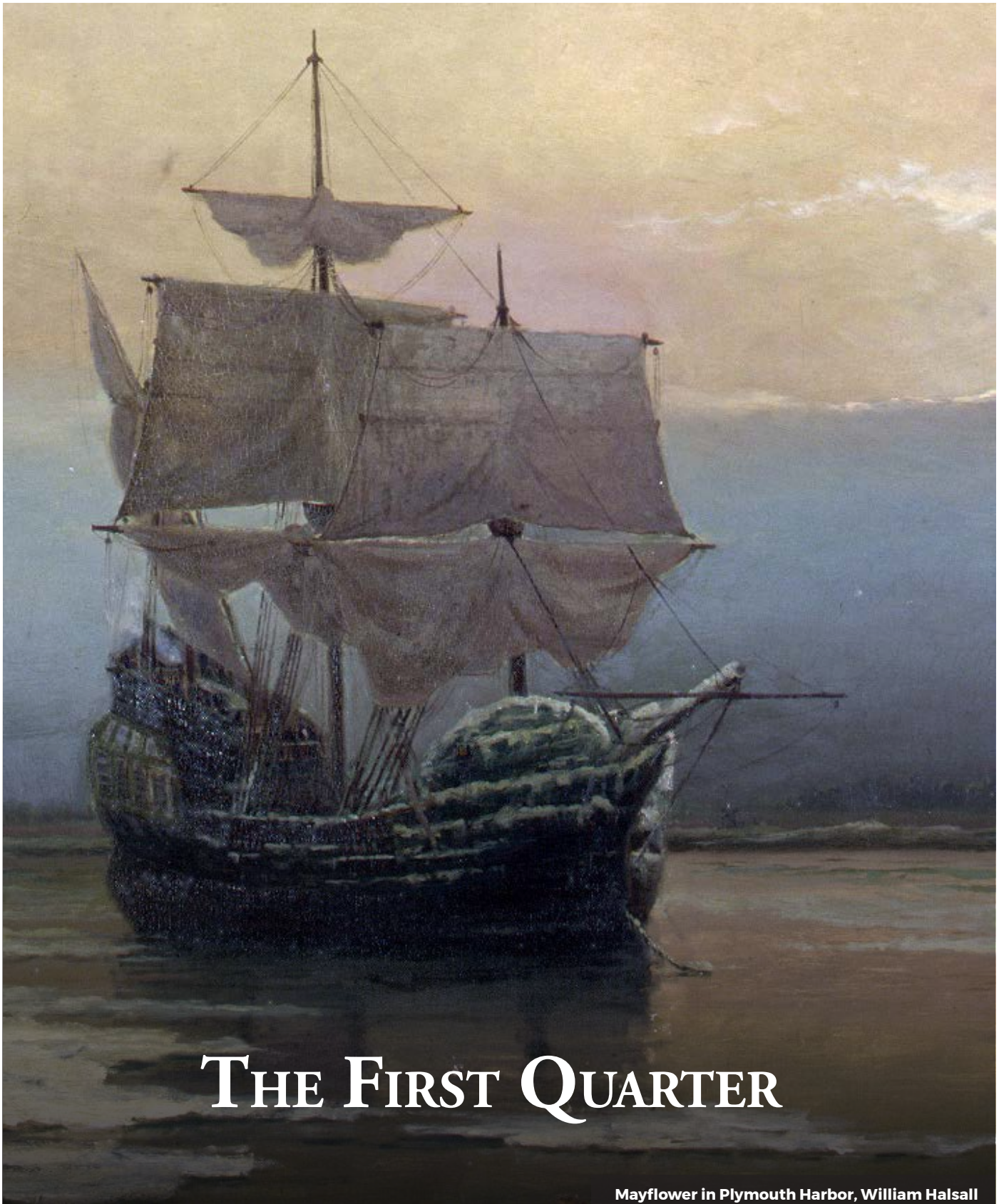
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INCLUDED TEXTBOOK

This course includes the *American Literature* textbook, originally published in 1944.

This text is an overview of American Literature from the Colonial period (1492-1775) to the time the book was originally published in 1944. Selections from Capt. John Smith, St. Isaac Jogues, Benjamin Franklin, George Washington, Ralph Waldo Emerson, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Edgar Allan Poe, Walt Whitman, Emily Dickinson, Mark Twain, Robert Frost, and TS Eliot.





THE FIRST QUARTER

Mayflower in Plymouth Harbor, William Halsall

Week Four

Day 1



Answer the Questions for Review on pp. 59 and 60 (up to Questions for Written or Oral Discussion). An auto-graded version of this review is available on SetonOnline. ☐

Day 2

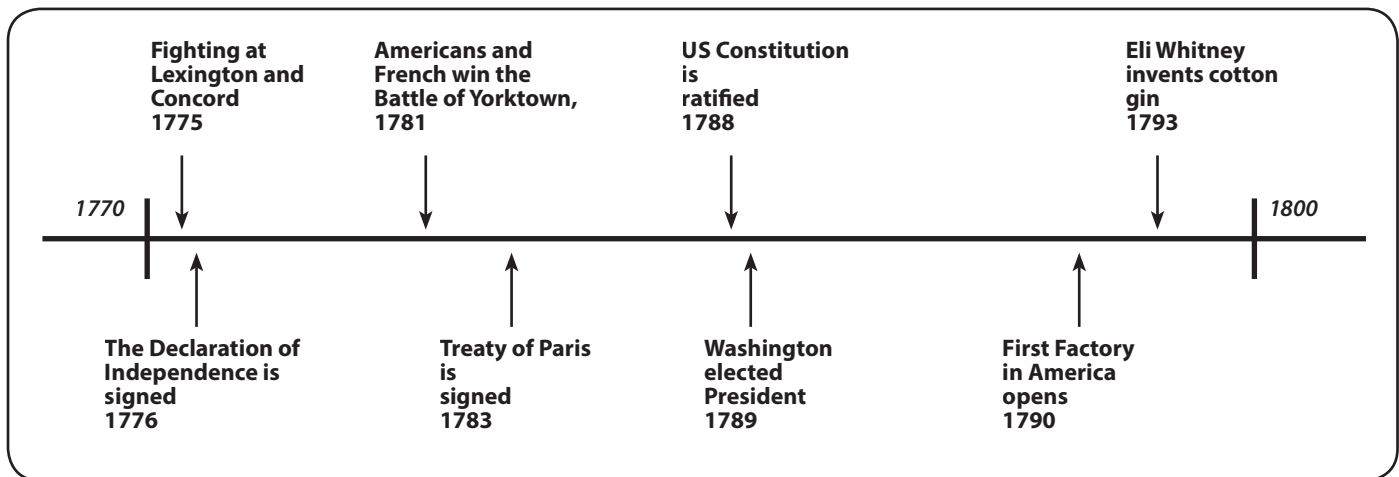
Study for a quiz on the literature studied since Week One. Review the notes in your notebook and the material in this course manual. The quiz is to be completed without use of the textbook, notes, or manual.



Once you have finished studying, **complete Quiz 1**, which is ten multiple-choice questions. The quiz is graded at home. An auto-graded version of this quiz is available on SetonOnline. ☐

Day 3

REVOLUTIONARY DESIGNS, 1775-1800





Origins of the Revolution

During the eighteenth century in America, the different nationalities with their own customs and religious beliefs continued to exist within the colonies. The British policy of controlling the daily lives of the American colonists with laws and taxes seemed unjust to the colonists. Despite their different backgrounds, the colonists realized that they would have to unite if they were to successfully revolt against England and gain freedom from British rule. Catholics and Protestants united as Americans against the British.

The Age of Reason in America

TERMS:

Rationalists believe that reason and what reason tells you is the “sole source of truth” (p.65).

Reason, as defined by the rationalists, means, “applying the results of scientific investigation and laboratory experiment to [explain] the whole sphere of man’s activity.” (p. 65)

Deists rejected “religious authority and substituted the conclusions of their own minds.” They saw man as “naturally good and capable of unlimited improvement.” It was a “worldly view of life” with no spirituality. (pp. 65-66)

Humanitarianism, as defined by the deist, is doing something for another man for the good of the man. It is not the same as “supernatural charity” which is done for the love of another. (p.66)



Read and study pp. 63 to 78.



Day 4

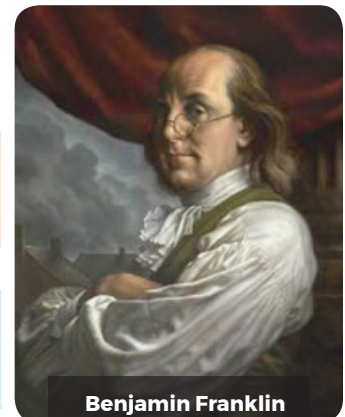
Benjamin Franklin



Read “Training for Writing” by Benjamin Franklin on pp. 79 to 81. This selection is part of Franklin’s own autobiography.



Answer the Viewing questions 1 to 5 on p. 81. Read and think about the Evaluating questions on p. 81.



Benjamin Franklin

Day 5



Read “To Madame Helvétius” by Benjamin Franklin on pp. 81 and 82.



Listen to the
Lecture available on
SetonOnline



Answer the Viewing questions 1 to 3 on p. 82.



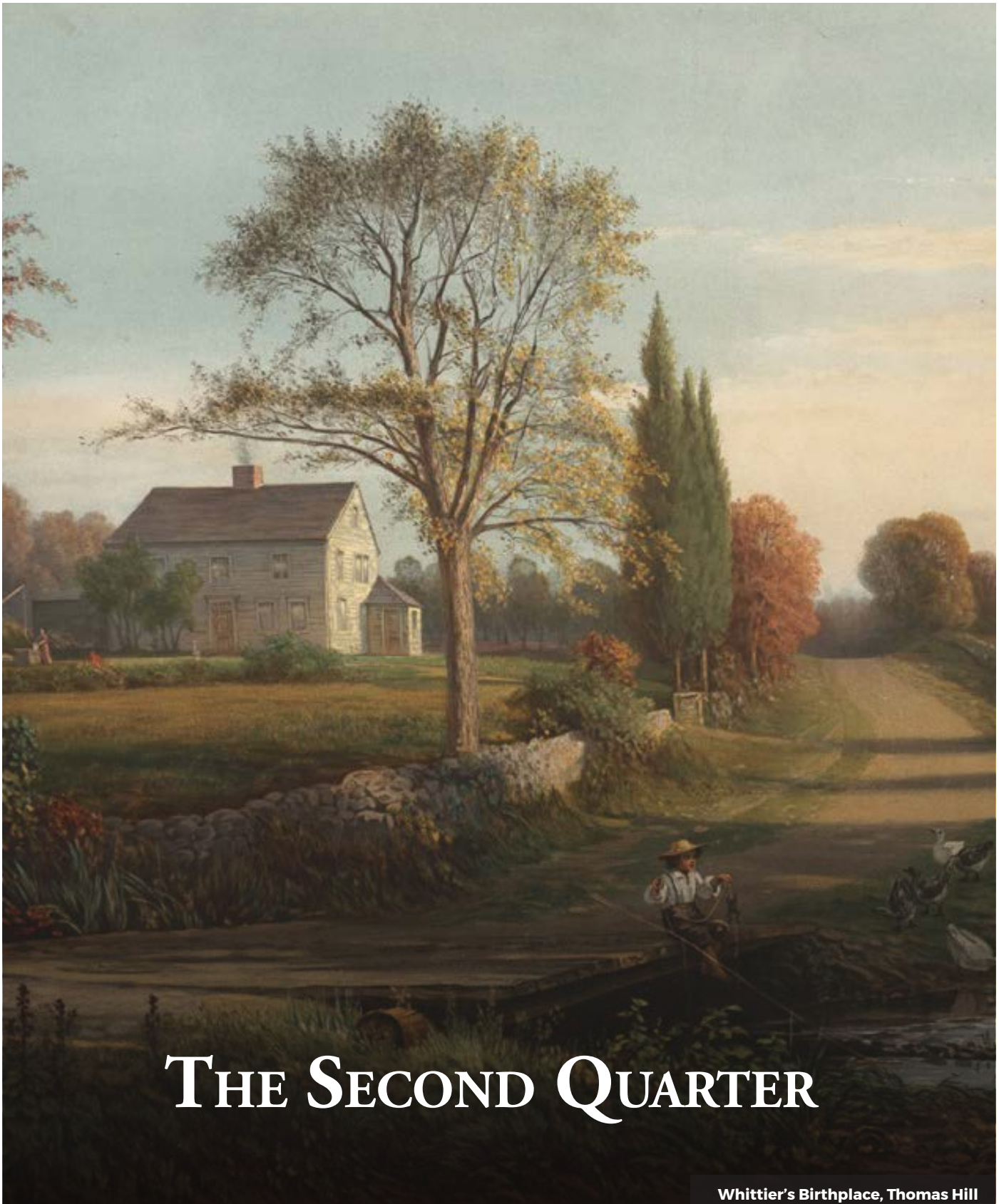
Biographical information about Franklin is on pp. 66 to 67. Additional information can be read in the encyclopedia or on the Internet.

SUGGESTION:

Read selections from the Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin and Poor Richard’s Almanac. While the sayings in Poor Richard’s Almanac are clear, simple, and without hypocrisy, they show how worldly he was and how lacking in inspiration for the higher things in life.

Something to think about: Compare the meanings of Franklin’s maxims with the sayings of Jesus. Consider, for instance, Franklin’s “Love your enemies, for they tell you your fault.”





THE SECOND QUARTER

Whittier's Birthplace, Thomas Hill

Week Fourteen

Day 1


Listen to the
Lecture available on
SetonOnlineWalt Whitman

Read “I Hear America Singing” by Walt Whitman on pp. 265-266. Read the Viewing questions 1 to 3 on p. 266. ☐

FOR DISCUSSION:

How does Whitman present a love of life in the ordinary enjoyment of work in “I Hear America Singing”?



Read “When I Heard the Learn’d Astronomer” by Whitman on p. 266. ☐



Read “Aboard at a Ship’s Helm” by Whitman on p. 267. Read the Evaluating question on p. 267. ☐

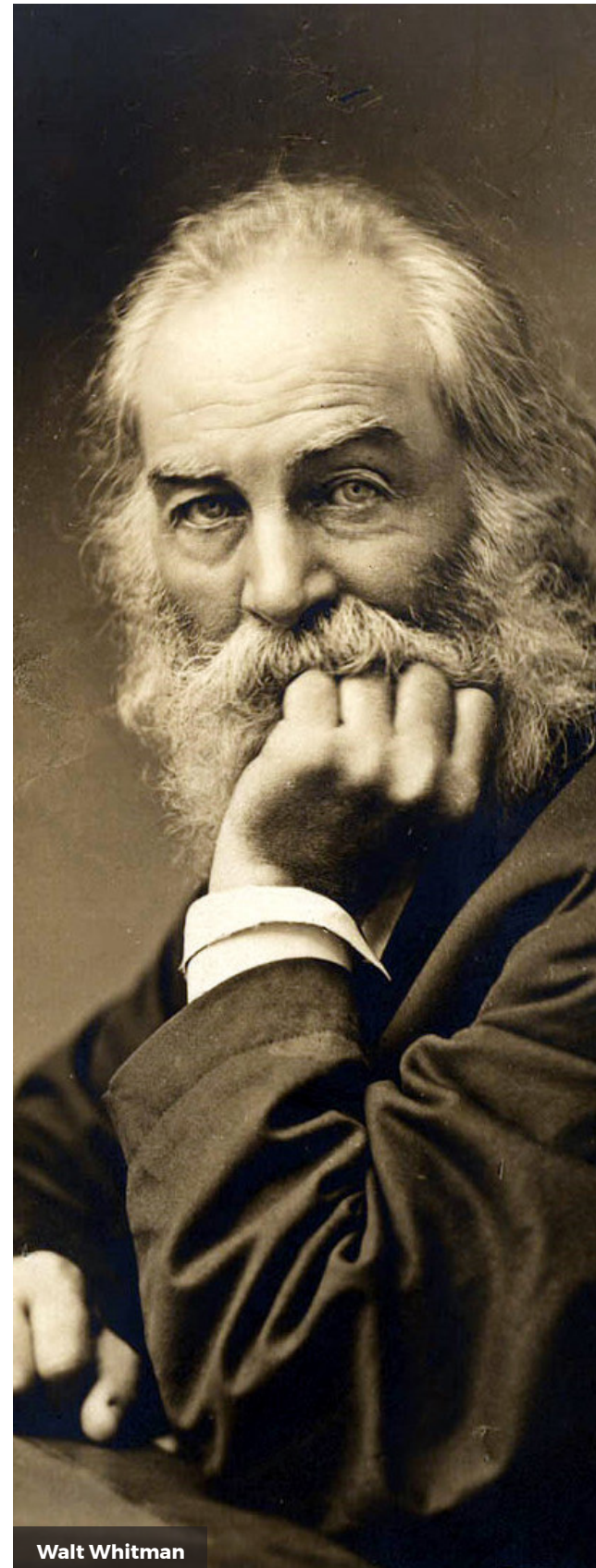


Read “A Noiseless, Patient Spider” by Whitman on pp. 267-268. Read and think about the Viewing questions on p. 268. ☐

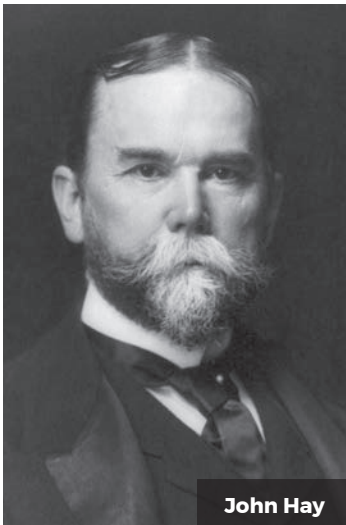


Reread p. 245 under “Leaves of Grass.” ☐

Biographical information about Whitman is on pp. 244-245. Additional information can be read in the encyclopedia or on the Internet.



Walt Whitman



John Hay

Day 2**John Hay**

Read “Jim Bludso” by John Hay on pp. 268 and 269.
Read the Viewing question on p. 269.

☐

Biographical information about Hay is on p. 246. Additional information can be read in the encyclopedia or on the Internet.

Joaquin Miller

Read “Kit Carson’s Ride” by Joaquin Miller on pp. 269 to 271. Read and Think about Viewing questions 1 to 4 on p. 271.

☐

Read “Columbus” by Miller on pp. 271-272. Read and think about Viewing question 2 on p. 272.

☐

Biographical information about Miller is on pp. 246 and 247. Additional information can be read in the encyclopedia or on the Internet.

FOR DISCUSSION:

Continue to look at some of the poems in American literature that portray human life as full of excitement, adventure, and colorfulness, not as dull, drab, or routine. How is this spirit of adventure, enjoyment of work, and love of life depicted in “Jim Bludso,” “Kit Carson’s Ride,” and “Columbus”?



Joaquin Miller



Edward Rowland Sill

Edward Rowland Sill

Read “The Fool’s Prayer” by Edward Rowland Sill on pp. 272 and 273. Sill was a writer of the genteel tradition.

☐**TERM:**

Genteel tradition described the writing standards of the old aristocracy that the young cultured writers wanted to continue. They frowned upon the use of dialect and humor that was displayed by the frontier writers. They believed that literature should display “good breeding and cultivated taste.” (p. 247)



Answer Viewing questions 1 and 2 on p. 273.



Biographical information about Sill is on p. 247. Additional information can be read in the encyclopedia or on the Internet.

FOR DISCUSSION:

Poetry is a way of seeing and knowing that makes old truths new and that makes abstract ideas come alive. It offers original comparisons (metaphors) that evoke surprise and wonder in the playful discovery of universal truths. What old truth is discovered in a fresh, surprising way in “The Fool’s Prayer” where the lowliest character is wiser than the highborn kings and nobles?

Day 3

Benjamin Dionysius Hill



Read “To St. Mary Magdalen” by Benjamin Dionysius Hill (Father Edmund of the Heart of Mary) on p. 273. Read and think about Viewing question 1 on p. 273.



FOR DISCUSSION:

Poetry leaves in the mind memorable images and indelible pictures. Why is Mary Magdalen’s hair in “To St. Mary Magdalen” described as golden and as having a radiant halo or aureola when presumably her hair was dark? What did she do with her hair that makes her a saint and that makes her virtue as precious as gold?

Biographical information about Hill (Father Edmund) is on pp. 247-248. Additional information can be read in the encyclopedia or on the Internet.

Sidney Lanier



Read “A Ballad of Trees and the Master” by Sidney Lanier on p. 274. *As you read the poem out loud, listen to the rhyme and the rhythm. Remember that Lanier was both a musician and poet.* Read and think about the Viewing questions on p. 274. Read the answers in the key.



FOR DISCUSSION:

Continue to examine how poetry leaves in the mind memorable images and indelible pictures. What Biblical truths about Jesus’ life and death do trees and wood in “A Ballad of Trees and the Master” vividly bring to life?



Read “Tampa Robins” by Lanier on pp. 274-275. Read and think about the Viewing questions on p. 275. Read the answers in the key.





Read “The Marches of Glynn” by Lanier on pp. 275 to 277. Read the Viewing questions on p. 277 and the answers in the key. ☐

FOR DISCUSSION:

How does the natural scenery of the marshes in “The Marshes of Glynn” resemble the supernatural world of the Catholic faith?

Biographical information about Lanier is on pp. 248 and 249. Additional information can be read in the encyclopedia or on the Internet.



Sidney Lanier

Day 4**James Jeffrey Roche**

Read “The V-a-s-e” by James Jeffrey Roche on p. 278. ☐

Biographical information about Roche is on p. 249.

James Whitcomb Riley

Read “When the Frost is on the Punkin” by James Whitcomb Riley on p. 279. *Listen to the rhyme as you read the poem out loud.* Read and think about the Viewing and Evaluating questions on p. 280. ☐

The use of dialect has changed the spelling of some words:

“punkin,” line 1 for pumpkin;

“atmusfere,” line 9, for atmosphere;

“blossums,” line 11, for blossoms;

“appetizin’,” line 13, for appetizing.

Biographical information about Riley is on pp. 249-250. Additional information can be read in the encyclopedia or on the Internet.

Eugene Field

Read “Little Boy Blue” by Eugene Field on p. 280. ☐

Biographical information about Field is on p. 250. Additional information can be read in the encyclopedia or on the Internet.



Listen to the
Lecture available on
SetonOnline

Day 5**John Bannister Tabb**

Read "Overflow" by Father John Bannister Tabb on p. 281.

☐

Father Tabb, a religious poet, is called the "poet of the single metaphor" (p. 251).



Answer Viewing questions 1 to 3 on p. 281.

☐

Read "The Peak" by Father Tabb on p. 281.

☐

Answer Viewing questions 1 to 4 on p. 281.

☐

Read "Christ and the Pagan" by Father Tabb on p. 282.

☐

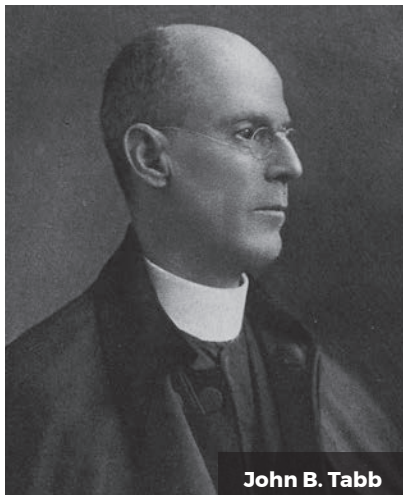
Answer Viewing questions 1 and 2 on p. 282.

☐

Read "Quatrains" by Father Tabb on pp. 282 and 283.

☐

Answer all Viewing questions that follow "Quatrains" on p. 283.

☐**John B. Tabb****FOR DISCUSSION:**

In poetry, simple experiences illuminate divine laws and holy mysteries. Everyday facts and details assume special significance and provide insights into moral truths. What truth about love does the thrush in "Overflow" illuminate? What truth about Heaven does Father Tabb's "Deep unto Deep" and "The Assumption" capture? What truths about man's life does the flower in "The Dandelion" illustrate?

Biographical information about Father Tabb is on pp. 250 and 251. Additional information can be read in the encyclopedia or on the Internet at www.newadvent.org, the Catholic encyclopedia.

AMERICAN LITERATURE

ENG312_18A

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1350 Progress Drive, Front Royal, VA 22630
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