

**Paper I – Modern Literature I (English Literature from 1400 to 1660)**

**Objectives :**

To give the student a firsthand knowledge of the major literary works of the period.

To provide the student with a knowledge of the political, economic, social and intellectual background so as to enable him to study works as representative of the age.

To acquaint the student with the literary movements, favoured genres and the evolution and development of literary forms, and to encourage further reading so as to obtain a fuller understanding of these.

**Course Description :**

Political background : Tudor monarchy, the end of feudalism and the growth of the nation state, the struggle for Europe; hegemony and the beginning of the Empire, the struggle between king and parliament under the Stuarts; the Civil War; the Commonwealth.

**Economic background**

The transition from feudal to mercantile economy, the growth of trade, banking, mining and other industries.

**Social background**

The rise of the gentry; the ideal courtier, the position of women; the impact of Puritanism on day-to-day living.

**Religious background**

The Reformation, religious conflict the sixteenth and seventeenth century.

**Intellectual background**

The Renaissance – individual study of the Classics, exploration, discovery, Continuity with medieval thought, Elizabethan world picture scientific, revolution of the seventeenth century, reason and faith.

**Literary background**

The Elizabethan theatre-rise of the drama, Miracle and Morality Plays, Interludes, Classical Influence, Interludes, Classical influences, first experiment, the University wits, revenge tragedy, romantic comedy.

Satirical comedy, history play, tragicomedy, sonnet and lyric in the sixteenth century, the long poem, allegory, the metaphysicals; the Cavalier lyricists; the Tudor humanists; the fictional and non-fictional prose in the Elizabethan period; religious prose in the seventeenth century.

### **Modern Literature – I**

#### FOR DETAILED STUDY:

Chaucer	: Prologue to the Canterbury Tales
Spenser	: Prothalamion and Epithalamion
Donne	: Extasie, the Good-morrow, Death, Be not proud.

Bacon	: Four essays from Bacon's Essays Ed.F.G.Selby (Macmillan)
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1. Of Truth
2. Of Death
3. Of Revenge
4. Of Adversity

Kyd, Thomas	: The Spanish Tragedy
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#### **For Non-Detailed Study :**

Wyatt	: Selection – Peacock Vol-I
Surrey	” ”
Sidney	Sonnets – Peacock Vol-I
Drayton	Peacock Vol-I
Bellads	Peacock Vol-II
Herbert	1. Affliction 2. The Pulley

Marvel	: Thoughts in a Garden
Jonson	: The Alchemist
Marlowe	: Dr.Faustus
John Webster	: The Duchess of Malfi
The Bible	: The Book of Job