

**PAPER VI – MODERN LITERATURE IV
(Twentieth Century English Literature)**

Objectives : As in paper I

Course Description :

Political Background: Turn of the century, reaction against Victorianism; the fading of liberalism and the rise of militant labour; power rivalry between Britain and Germany; first world war; attempts at a new world order; Bolshevik Revolution, rise of Facism in Italy; rise of Hitler and Nasism, Spanish civil war; Munich Agreement; Nazi Soviet pact; second world war; disintegration of the empire; postwar ennui, Coldwar; Contemporary situation.

Economic Background :

Imperial expansion: pre-world war affluence of the upper middle classes; trade union movement in the twenties; the decay of the aristocracy, the Depression – postwar reconstruction, Marshall plan, social democracy, libertarian socialism and the welfare state.

Intellectual Background :

Rabianism, New Utopianism, Spengler's The Decline of the West; Marxist theory and practices; post world war Waste land, fragmentation, abandonment of the old and search for new beliefs, disillusionment with science and reaction against the machine, Marxist euphoria of the thirties, disillusionment and disbeleief; Freud, Jung and indepth psychology, women's liberation movement.

Literary Background :

Controversy regarding the form and function of the novel poetry of the first world war; problem play; the Irish dramatic movement, poetic drama, stream of consciousness novel; poetry between the two world wars; 'pink Decad' dystopias; theatre of protest;

For Detailed study :

Hopkins	: The Windover, Spring and Fall
Eliot	: The Waste Land
Yeats	: Sailing to Byzantium, Among school children
E.M. Forester	: Selections (Macmillan) (Notes on English character, My Wood, Hymn Before Action)
Eliot	: Cocktail Party

For Non-Detailed study :

Ted Hughes	: Selections from Faber Book of Modern verse
Philip Larkin	: Selections from Faber Book of Modern verse
Francis Thomson	: The Hound of Heaven
Oscar Wilde	: The importance of Being Ernest
John Osborne	: Look Back in Anger
Synge	: Riders to the Sea
Beckett	: Waiting for Godot
Pinter	: The Birthday party
Virginia Woolf	: Mrs.Dalloway
D.H.Lawrence	: Sons and Lovers
Greene G.	: The Power and the Glory
James Joyce	: Dubliners