Neoclassical Period

Sir Christopher Keller and Reginald Noah Eblin
Neoclassical Period

- Took place from 1660-1798
- Broken down into Restoration period, Augustan period, and Age of Johnson
- Much of art and society imitated the Romans and Greeks
- Rejection of Rococo and Baroque Styles
American Revolution (1775 - 1781)
- Boston Tea Party (1773)
- Continental Congress (1774)
- Declaration of Independence (1776)
- Britain Surrenders in Yorktown (1781)
- Treaty of Paris (1784)
- Constitution and Bill of Rights (1787)
History

Tensions in Europe

● Seven Years War (1756 - 1763)
● Britain gains Florida, France Loses Louisiana Territory
● Bastille - French Revolution 1789
● New Constitution & Parliament in France (1791)
● Napoleon becomes First Consul of France (1799)
New Ideas

- Scientific and Industrial Revolutions
- Sir Isaac Newton - Motion & Gravity (1687)
- British Parliament creates Bill of Rights (1689)
- John Locke’s ideas of Science and Religion (1689)
- Eli Whitney - Cotton Gin (1793)
- Edwin Jenner - Cure for Smallpox (1796)
Philosophical Context: The Beginning of “Modern Philosophy”

Age of Reason

- End of Medieval approach
- John Locke taught all knowledge can be gained through reason
- Mathematics became the model for knowledge
Age of Enlightenment

- Emphasized reason, analysis and individualism
- Challenged authority and teachings of religious institutions
- Reformed Society with toleration, science, and skepticism
Scientific and Technological Context

**Industrial Revolution**

- Began around 1760-1840
- Brought inventions like the Spinning Jenny, Cotton Spinning Mill, Reverberatory Furnace, and Steam Power
Scientific and Technological Context

Agricultural Technology

- Jethro Tull invented the Seed Drill (1701)
- The Rotherham Plough invented (1730)
Scientific and Technological Context

*Philosophiæ Naturalis Principia Mathematica*

- Published by Sir Isaac Newton (1687)
- Lays out the terms for Newton’s Three Laws of Motion
- Speaks of Universal Gravitation
- Groundbreaking for the time, made Newton famous worldwide
Literary Context

Types of Literature
- Parodies
- Essays
- Letters
- Fables
- Rhyming with Couplets
- Adventure Novels

Stylistic Characteristics
- Satire
- Melodrama
- Order
- Accuracy
- Structure
- Conservatism- (religion)
- Common Sense
Author To Know
- Jonathan Swift (1667-1745) - Gulliver’s Travels
- Daniel Defoe (1660-1731) - Robinson Crusoe
- John Milton (1608-1674) - Paradise Lost
- Jonathan Edwards (1703-1758) - Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God