

## 20<sup>th</sup> Century Lecture: Student Notes

- I. Great Achievements of America Pre-WWI
  - a. 1913 Henry Ford's Assembly Line
  
  - b. 1914 Panama Canal completed— colossal task thought impossible
  
  - c. Immigration caused country's population to skyrocket—79 million in 1900 to 103.5 million in 1918
  
- II. 1914-1918 World War I "The Great War"
  - a. dubbed "the war to end all wars"—to this point, nothing as large, brutal or all-encompassing had been seen in history (8 million killed)
    - i. new methods/tools for warfare
      - 1. trench warfare
  
      - 2. machine guns, tanks, planes
        - a. poison gas (mustard gas)
  
      - 3. shell shock
  
    - ii. survivors came back with a sense of disillusionment—saw horrors of war and the "promise" (protecting democracy) simply didn't seem worth the cost (utter and total destruction of most of western Europe)

**Around the World: 1917 Russian revolution takes place in which the Bolsheviks (Communists) take control of the country (beginnings of the USSR) 1922 Benito Mussolini establishes a fascist dictatorship in Italy**

- III. The Roaring 20's
  - a. 1919 18<sup>th</sup> Amendment: Prohibition—makes production, sale, and consumption of alcohol illegal
  
  - b. 1920 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment: Women's Suffrage—women are allowed to vote
    - i. "modern" women were dubbed "flappers" by the press because of the way their dresses (long, sack-like dresses) flapped when they danced

- IV. Great Depression
  - a. Tuesday October 29, 1929 "Black Tuesday"

- b. The Dust Bowl

### **Around the World: 1933 Adolf Hitler and the Nazi party come to power in Germany**

- V. World War II 1939-1945
  - a. Hitler's Nazi Germany invades Poland to begin the greatest war ever fought
    - i. "Blitzkrieg" which Germany instituted destroyed entire cities, wiping out many of their inhabitants
    - ii. Germany's concentration camps and "Final Solution" exterminated over 8 million people, 6 million of whom Jews
    - iii. Good portion of western Europe, including most of France and Germany, were completely obliterated
  
  - b. December 7, 1941 Pearl Harbor is bombed by the Japanese
  
  - c. June 6, 1944—D-Day—Invasion of Normandy
  
  - d. August 6, 1945 "Little Boy" is dropped on Hiroshima, Japan

- e. August 9, 1945, "Fat Man" is dropped on Nagasaki
- f. August 15, 1945, Hirohito announces surrender; September 2, 1945, Japan officially surrenders ending WWII

VI. Literary History

- a. Charles Darwin's *Origins of the Species* (1859) and *Descent of Man* (1871) along with developments in sociology by Immanuel Kant, and psychological by Sigmund Freud, Carl Jung, and William James caused great changes in the way people understood the working of the world, social systems, and human beings
- b. Regionalism—movement in late 1800s (circa 1850s) focusing not on universality of people, but the characteristics, customs, and dialect of a particular geographical area

CHARACTERISTICS:

- c. Realism—movement in late 1800s (circa 1880s) attempting to depict life as it really was without idealizing or romanticizing it

CHARACTERISTICS:

EXAMPLE: *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* 1884

- d. Naturalism—movement in late 1800s (circa 1890) as an evolution of realism to display life in “microscopic terms” with scientific detachment to characters and events

CHARACTERISTICS:

EXAMPLE: *Maggie: A Girl of the Street* 1893

- e. Modernism—broad movement in early 1900s (circa 19-teens) that emphasized changes and experimentation in form, subject matter, and treatment of subjects

CHARACTERISTICS:

# Modern Literary Terms: Student Notes

Literary Grotesque:  
(Sherwood Anderson)

Minimalism:  
(Ernest Hemingway)

Hemingway Code Hero:

Characteristics

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

The Nada Concept:  
(Ernest Hemingway)

Southern Grotesque:  
(William Faulkner)

- Vernacular:

Stream of Consciousness:  
(Katherine Anne Porter)