

An *Arcadia* Glossary

Anchorite

An anchorite is a hermit who has retired to a solitary place for religious seclusion.

Arcadia

Represented as an Edenic paradise in Greek and Roman bucolic poetry and in literature of the Renaissance, Arcadia was a mountainous region of the central Peloponnesus of ancient Greece. In Roman times, Arcadia fell into decay. It was a scene of conflict during the War of Greek Independence (1821–29), in which Lord Byron was a key player.

Archimedes (287–212 BCE)

An ancient Greek mathematician, inventor, and physicist, Archimedes is credited with calculating pi, devising exponential numbers, developing formulas for calculating the area and volume of geometric figures, discovering the principle of buoyancy, and inventing a hydraulic screw that raises water from a lower to a higher level.

Sir Joseph Banks (1743–1820)

Sir Joseph Banks was a baronet, naturalist, and patron of science preoccupied with botany. Banks was elected president of the Royal Society

(the leading national organization for the promotion of scientific research in Britain) in 1778.

Bathos

In writing or speech, bathos is an abrupt change in style from the elevated to the commonplace or ordinary, producing a ludicrous or anticlimactic effect.

Beaters and Butts

This term refers to the members of a shooting party who drive wild game from under cover for the hunters.

Blackguard

A blackguard is a contemptible scoundrel or fourmouthed person.

Broadwood Pianoforte

John Broadwood & Sons is the world's oldest piano company; "pianoforte" is the full term for "piano." The terms "piano" and "forte" also mean "quiet" and "loud."

Brocket Hall and Caroline's Garden

Brocket Hall was built by renowned architect James Paine for Sir Matthew Lamb in 1760. Sir Matthew's grandson was William Lamb, second Viscount Melbourne and the husband of Caroline

Stoppard's Muse?

Augusta Ada Byron was born December 10, 1815; five weeks later, her mother, Annabella Milbanke, separated from Lord Byron and took Ada with her. Worried her daughter would become a poet like her father, Lady Byron raised Ada to be a mathematician and scientist, but she could not suppress her daughter's inherited poeticism. Professor of mathematics at Agnes Scott College Larry Riddle writes, "In her 30s [Ada] wrote her mother, 'If you can't give me poetry, can't you give me "poetical science?'" Her understanding of mathematics was laced with imagination, and described in metaphors."

When Ada was 19, she learned of Charles Babbage's ideas for a new calculating engine, the Analytical Engine, a mechanical general-purpose computer. He wrote in his *Passages from the Life of a Philosopher*, "As soon as an Analytical Engine exists, it will necessarily guide the future course of science. Whenever any result is sought by its aid, the question will then arise—By what course of calculation can these results be arrived at by the machine in the *shortest time*?"

Ada was touched by the "universality of his ideas"; in 1843, she translated a French article about Babbage's plans, and when she showed Babbage her translation he suggested that she add her own notes. Her notes were three times the length of the original article. Riddle writes, "Letters between Babbage and Ada flew back and forth filled with fact and fantasy. In her article, published in 1843, [her] prescient comments included her predictions that such a machine might be used to compose complex music, to produce graphics, and would be used for both practical and scientific use. She was correct."

SOURCE Larry Riddle, "Ada Byron, Lady Lovelace," *Biographies of Women Mathematicians*, www.agnesscott.edu/lriddle/women/women.htm

and self-conscious personal record of his unique world view, at once satanically dark and smartly satirical. Consider this excerpt from his *Detached Notes*, written in 1821:

I have written my memoirs, but omitted all the really consequential and important parts, from deference to the dead, to the living, and to those who must be both. I sometimes think that I should have written the whole as a lesson, but it might have proved a lesson to be learnt rather than to be avoided; for passion is a whirlpool, which is not to be viewed nearly without attraction to its Vortex. I must not go on with these reflections, or I shall be letting out some secret or other to paralyze posterity.

As he would be for generations of avid biographers, clearly Byron was Byron's favorite subject.

Lamb. Lady Lamb was reported to be very fond of Bocket Hall and lived there even after her husband's political career took him to London.

“Capability” Brown (1716–83)

Considered the master of English landscape architecture, Lancelot “Capability” Brown was an avid disciple of the “picturesque” style of garden design, characterized by a natural, unplanned appearance. He disliked carved stone and architectural shapes. Instead he used only natural elements in his designs: turf; mirrors of still water; a few species of trees used singly, in clumps, or in loose belts; and the natural undulating contours of the ground. His nickname is derived from his habit of saying that each estate he was asked to redesign had “capabilities.”

Beau Brummel (1778–1840)

English socialite George Bryan “Beau” Brummel, a close companion of the Prince of Wales, became famous for his wit, manners, and flamboyant style of dress. So great was his influence on British society that his name has become synonymous with the English dandy or man of fashion.

Canard

A canard is a false or unfounded report or story.

Caro

Caro is Latin for “meat” and Italian for “dear.” It was also Lord Byron’s nickname for Lady Caroline Lamb, which she adopted publicly.

“*Ce soir, il faut qu’on parle français, je te demande.*”

“Tonight, we must speak French, I ask you.”

Channel Tunnel

Also known as the “Chunnel,” the Channel Tunnel is a rail tunnel beneath the English Channel at the Strait of Dover. It links Folkestone, Kent, in the United Kingdom with Coquelles, Pas-de-Calais, in northern France. Tunneling commenced in 1988, and the tunnel was opened in 1994.

Charles II (1630–85)

Charles II was the king of Great Britain and Ireland (1660–85), restored to the throne after years of exile during the Puritan Commonwealth. The years of his reign are known in English history as the Restoration period.

Childe Harold

Childe Harold’s Pilgrimage is a lengthy narrative poem in four parts written by Lord Byron, published between 1812 and 1818. The poem describes the travels and reflections of a world-weary young man who, disillusioned with a life of pleasure and revelry, looks for distraction in foreign lands. The title comes from the term *childe*, a medieval title for a young man who was a candidate for knighthood.

Thomas Chippendale (1718–79)

Chippendale was a British cabinetmaker who created a furniture style defined by flowing lines and rococo ornamentation.

Christie's

Founded in London in 1766, Christie's is the world's largest fine arts auction house.

Cleopatra (70–30 BCE)

Cleopatra was an Egyptian queen, the lover of Julius Caesar, and later the wife of Mark Antony. After the Roman armies of Octavian (the future emperor Augustus) defeated their combined forces, Antony and Cleopatra committed suicide, and Egypt fell under Roman domination.

Samuel Taylor Coleridge (1772–1834)

Coleridge was an English poet, critic, philosopher, and leader of the British Romantic movement. He is most famous for his unfinished poem *Kubla Khan* (1816) and *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner* (1798).

Cornhill Magazine (1860–1975)

Founded by publisher George Smith, *Cornhill Magazine* was a popular literary journal that published criticism and serial novels. Many well-known writers, including its first editor, William Thackeray, graced its pages until it closed.

Corsican Brigands

An island in the Mediterranean, Corsica has spent the better part of its pre-twentieth-century history in turbulence due to wars over its territory and long-standing family vendettas.

Coterie

A coterie refers to an intimate and often exclusive group of persons with a unifying common interest.

Curio

A curio is something novel, rare, or bizarre.

Cycle Clips

Cycle clips may refer to clips that attach a cyclist's shoe to the bicycle pedal, or to the ankle bands worn to keep a cyclist's pant legs from being caught in the chain.

Derbyshire

A county in the East Midlands of England, Derbyshire was where Tom Stoppard lived when he moved to England at the age of nine and is the home of *Arcadia's* fictional Sidley Park. Derbyshire shares its western border with Nottinghamshire, where Lord Byron's Newstead Abbey stands.

Deterministic Universe

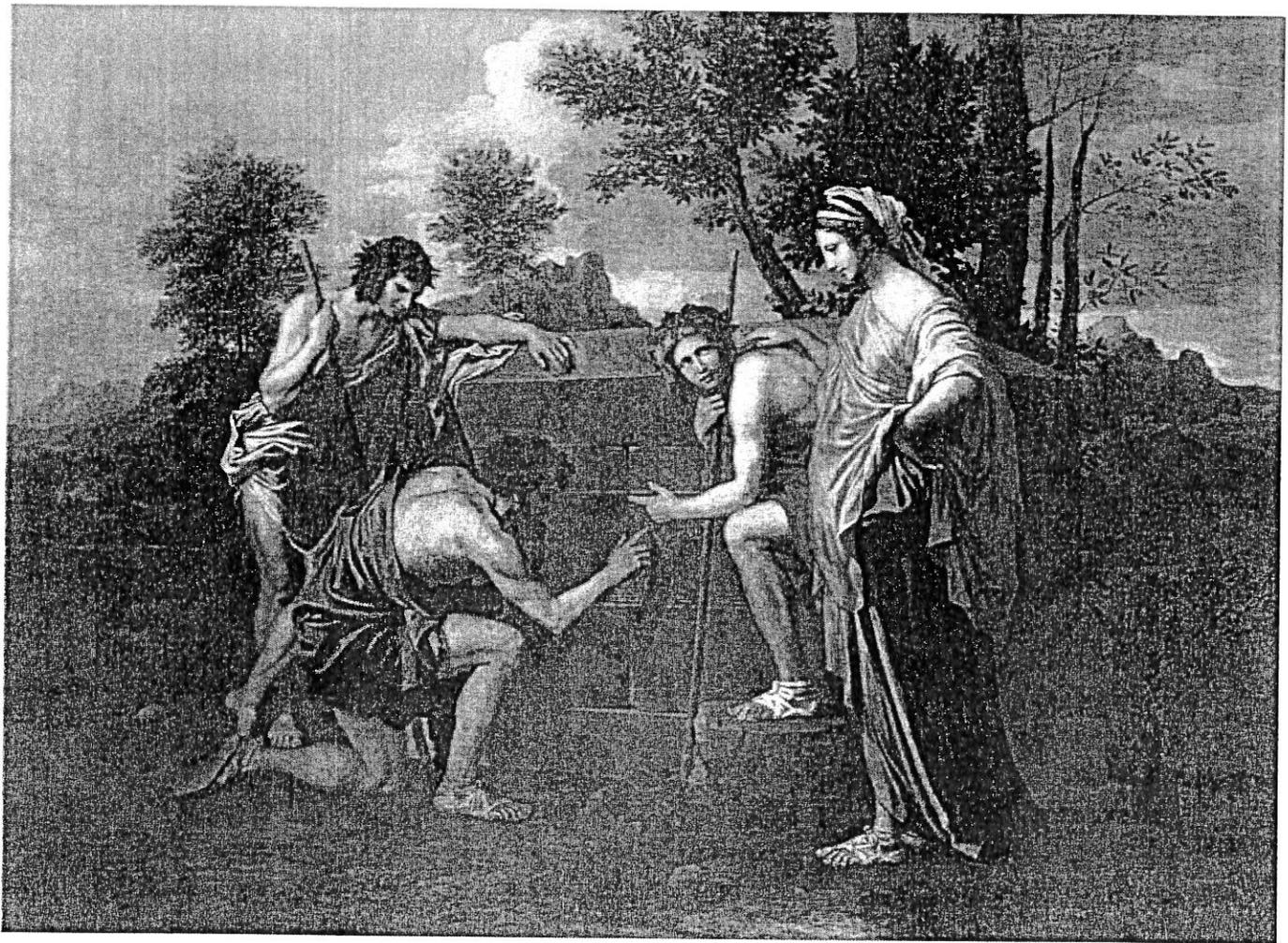
Determinism is the theory that, in our completely rational universe, all events, including moral choices, are determined by previously existing causes and not by free will.

DNB

The Oxford Dictionary of National Biography is a print and online national record of influential British people who lived between 500 BCE and the present.

Don

A don is a senior member of a college at a British university, especially at Oxford or Cambridge. This is not the title of a position (like lecturer, reader, or professor) but a term of respect deriving from the Latin *dominus* ("master").



Arcadian Shepherds, by Nicolas Poussin (Louvre, Paris, France/Giraudon/The Bridgeman Art Library)

Dwarf Dahlia

Diverse and versatile, dahlias are flowers prized for their large, often spectacularly-colored and shaped blooms. Dwarf dahlias are the smallest members of the family, standing at about 8" tall.

"English Bards"

"English Bards and Scotch Reviewers" is a satirical poem by Lord Byron first published anonymously in 1809. It was written in response to the *Edinburgh Review's* unfavorable review of Byron's first volume of poetry, *Hours of Idleness*. The poem went through several editions, but Byron came to regret his vitriol and suppressed the fifth edition in 1812.

Enlightenment

The European cultural and intellectual movement known as the Enlightenment occurred during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Central to Enlightenment thought was the use and the celebration of reason. Ancient Greek and Roman civilizations were considered ideal and feature prominently in the art, architecture, and philosophy of the period. This period produced Europe's first modern secularized theories of psychology and ethics.

Et in Arcadia ego!

This phrase appears in two paintings from the mid 1600s, both titled *Arcadian Shepherds*, by Nicolas Poussin (1584-1665).

They depict three shepherds and a woman gathered around a tomb with the inscription "*Et in Arcadia ego*," alternately translated as "I, who am now dead, also lived once in Arcadia" or, "I, Death, exist even in Arcadia." It serves as a reminder that death exists in even apparently idyllic circumstances.

Eton

Eton College, near Windsor, Berkshire, is one of England's largest independent secondary schools.

Euclid (325–265 BCE)

Euclid was a Greek mathematician who applied deductive principles of logic to elementary plane geometry and used this method (Euclidean geometry) to derive statements from clearly defined axioms.

European Journal of English Studies

The highly regarded *European Journal of English Studies* is dedicated to scholarly research and criticism of English literature, linguistics, and cultural studies.

Fermat's Last Theorem

Pierre de Fermat (1601–65) was a French mathematician. Fermat's last theorem holds that "it is impossible to separate a cube into two cubes, a fourth power into two fourth powers, or, generally, any power above the second into two powers of the same degree." Fermat claimed to have found "a remarkable proof which the margin is too small to contain." Mathematicians sought to find this proof for more than 350 years. Many thought it was impossible, until Princeton University-based British mathematician Andrew Wiles solved it

in 1993 after seven years of concentrated effort. His discovery was announced two months after *Arcadia* debuted in London; Stoppard insisted the performance program be reprinted to include an article about the finding.

Henry Fuseli (1741–1825)

Henry Fuseli was a Swiss-born artist who is famous for his paintings and drawings of nude figures caught in strained and violent poses.

Galileo (1564–1642)

Galileo, the father of modern physics and observational astronomy, was the first scientist to study the stars using a telescope. His support of Copernicus's theory that the earth revolves around the sun led to his persecution and imprisonment during the Inquisition. His experiments dealing with gravity challenged the teachings of Aristotle and anticipated Newton's laws of motion.

Gallic Wars (50–58 BCE)

The Gallic Wars were series of offensives waged against Celtic tribes by the Roman Empire. "The Britons live on milk and meat" is a quotation from Julius Caesar's book of commentaries on the Gallic Wars.

Gothic Novel

The European Gothic novel is characterized by its atmosphere of mystery and terror. The term "Gothic" is derived from the genre's preoccupation with medieval architecture: ruins, castles, and monasteries, often with subterranean passages, hidden panels, and trapdoors. Iconic examples include

Horace Walpole's *Castle of Otranto* and Ann Radcliffe's *Mysteries of Udolpho* and *Italian*. The style's heyday was the 1790s, but many Gothic revivals followed.

Grouse

A grouse is a brown bird slightly larger than a partridge found primarily in the heathers of northern England and Scotland. The British shoot thousands each autumn; the shoots, particularly in the late Victorian and Edwardian eras, were massive social affairs.

Guinea

A guinea was a gold British coin that was in circulation from 1663 to 1813.

Ha-ha

A fundamental element of picturesque English garden design, a ha-ha is a sunken barrier along the perimeter of one's property meant to keep farm animals and wildlife out without disrupting the scenery with obtrusive fences or hedges. It was invented by eighteenth-century landscape designer William Kent. The term comes from the exclamation one makes when one comes upon one unexpectedly—and falls in.

Harrow

The prestigious Harrow School, founded by Queen Elizabeth in 1571, is widely considered one of the best secondary schools in the United Kingdom, along with its rival Eton, against which it played an annual cricket match at Lord's Cricket Grounds. Byron, who attended Harrow, played in the match in 1805.

Heat Exchange

This refers to the second law of thermodynamics, which states, in essence, that some of the energy extracted from a body to do some kind of work will not be available to do that work again: i.e., some of it will be lost.

Hermit

A hermit is someone who lives in solitude, especially in an ascetic manner for religious or spiritual purpose. Hermits were popular fixtures in Romantic English gardens, and many estate owners hired hermits or found suitable volunteers.

Thomas Hobbes (1588–1679)

Hobbes was an English political philosopher who, in his book *Leviathan* (1651), declares that humans are fundamentally brutish, selfish creatures.

Lord Holland (1773–1840)

Henry Vassall-Fox, third Baron Holland, was an English politician. His mansion in Wiltshire became a prestigious social, literary, and political center with many celebrated visitors, referred to as "The Holland House Set." In 1809, Lord Byron attacked Holland and his circle in "English Bards and Scotch Reviewers."

"I had a dream . . ."

This is a quote from Lord Byron's "Darkness," written in 1816: the Year Without a Summer. Mount Tambora had erupted in the Dutch East Indies the previous year, casting enough ash into the atmosphere to block out the sun and cause abnormal weather across much of northeast America and northern Europe.

“Darkness” is referred to as a “last man” poem: one which narrates the apocalyptic story of the last man on earth.

Iterated Algorithm

An iterated algorithm is a procedure that is repeated in order to solve a mathematical problem.

Francis Jeffrey, the *Edinburgh Review*
Edinburgh’s oldest literary journal, the *Edinburgh Review* was established in 1802 in the home of its founding editor, Oxford-educated Francis Jeffrey (1773–1850). Jeffrey, a staunch opponent of Romanticism, printed numerous critical attacks on Wordsworth and Byron.

Just William Books

Written by Richmal Crompton in 1922, *Just William* is the first in a series of children’s books about a young school boy named William Brown. The books are the basis for numerous television, film, and radio adaptations.

Kew

The garden at Kew House became the Royal Botanic Gardens in 1759; it is home to a five-story Chinese pagoda, a Chinese house, and a Chinese bridge.

Caroline Lamb (1785–1828)

Lady Lamb was a British aristocrat and novelist. Though married to politician William Lamb, she embarked on a well-publicized affair with Lord Byron in the spring and summer of 1812. Byron ended the relationship in August of that year, and Lamb suffered a series of emotional breakdowns that led to her ostracization from fashionable society. Nonetheless,

each writer continued to influence and appear in the other’s work. Lamb’s most famous work is the 1816 novel *Glenarvon*. At the time, her writing was widely dismissed as pulp fiction, but after Lamb’s death, scholars began to consider her gifted in her own right.

Latin Unseen

Latin unseen refers to a translation exercise from Latin to English that a student must perform without the assistance of a dictionary.

D. H. Lawrence (1885–1930)

A prolific English author, Lawrence is famous for his exploration of human instinct, love, and vitality in opposition to modernity and industrialization. His best-known work is *Lady Chatterley’s Lover*, a novel about an upper class woman who has an affair with her husband’s gamekeeper.

Baron von Gottfried Wilhelm Leibnitz

Leibnitz (1646–1716) was a German philosopher and mathematician who, independently of Newton, invented differential and integral calculus.

Lesbos

An island off eastern Greece in the Aegean Sea near Turkey, Lesbos was a cultural center of ancient Greece known for its lyric poets, including Sappho. It was also home to Aristotle.

Library of Alexandria

The Alexandrian library and museum were founded and maintained by the long succession of Ptolemies—rulers of Egypt from 323 to 30 BCE (ending with

Ptolemy XV, who reigned alongside his mother, Cleopatra). The library housed mainly Greek-language texts, including the work of many famous Greek poets. Its keepers pioneered the division of works into bound books (as opposed to scrolls) and introduced systems of punctuation. There were four possible occasions for the partial or complete destruction of the Library of Alexandria: Julius Caesar's fire in the Alexandrian War in 48 BCE; the attack of Aurelian in 270–75 CE; the decree of Coptic Pope Theophilus in 391 CE; and the Muslim conquest in 642 CE.

Linnean Society

An English scientific society organized in 1788, the Linnean Society is dedicated to the promotion of the study of natural history.

“Look to the mote in your own eye.”

A mote is a small particle, a speck. Luke 6:41 warns against criticizing others before reflecting on one's own flaws: “And why seest thou a mote in thy brother's eye, and considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye?”

Claude Lorrain (1604–82)

Born Claude Gellée, Lorrain was a French artist and one of the earliest European painters of landscapes. He was famous for scenes containing both urban and pastoral elements—e.g., rolling hillsides with a city visible in the background, an ocean horizon from the perspective of a busy port.

Malta Packet

A packet is a boat that travels a regular

passenger route; a Malta packet is a passenger ship that sails between England (in *Arcadia*, it starts from Falmouth, a town on the south coast of Cornwall) and the country of Malta (three islands in the Mediterranean Sea south of Sicily that were under the sovereignty of the United Kingdom from 1800 to 1964).

Marie of Romania (1875–1938)

The wife of King Ferdinand of Romania, Marie was queen consort from 1914 to 1927. She appears in Dorothy Parker's poem “Comments” (1937): “Oh, life is a glorious cycle of song, / A medley of extemporanea; / And love is a thing that can never go wrong; / And I am Marie of Romania.”

John Milton (1608–74)

Regarded as one of the greatest English poets, Milton is best known for his epic *Paradise Lost* (1667).

Thomas Moore (1779–1852)

Moore was an Irish Romantic poet and friend and biographer of Lord Byron. He is famous for his major poetic work, *Irish Melodies* (1807–34).

Sir James Murray (1837–1915)

Sir James Augustus Henry Murray was a Scottish lexicographer and first editor of *A New English Dictionary on Historical Principles*, now known as *The Oxford English Dictionary*.

Improved Newcomen Steam Pump

The atmospheric engine invented by Thomas Newcomen in 1712 was the first practical device to harness the

power of steam to produce mechanical work. Newcomen engines were used throughout Britain and Europe, principally to pump water out of mines, starting in the early eighteenth century. It worked by converting heat energy into mechanical energy: when water boils into steam its volume increases, producing a force that is used to move a piston back and forth in a cylinder. The piston is attached to a crankshaft, which converts the back-and-forth motion into a rotary motion for driving machinery.

While working at the University of Glasgow in 1763, Scottish inventor James Watt was asked to repair the school's Newcomen Pump. He realized the design wasted a great deal of energy by repeatedly cooling and reheating the cylinder; by 1776, he had improved upon Newcomen's design with a steam engine of his own.

Newstead Abbey, Nottinghamshire

Newstead Abbey was the ancestral home of the Byron family beginning in 1163. Byron spent much of his youth there; the estate featured a wine cellar, a library, a large menagerie (including a bear), and grounds for fencing, boxing, and shooting. Today it is a museum.

Sir Isaac Newton

In 1687, English mathematician and physicist Sir Isaac Newton published his seminal *Philosophiae Naturalis Principia Mathematica*, which describes universal gravitation (the gravitational attraction between bodies with mass) and the three laws of motion. Newton's laws state that every object in motion will stay in motion until acted upon by an

outside force, that force equals mass times acceleration ($F = ma$), and that every action causes an equal and opposite reaction. Newton's work proved that both the motion of celestial bodies and objects on earth could be predicted through the same series of equations. Newton also made significant contributions to mathematics (including the development of calculus) and to the studies of light and sound. His empirical law of cooling, cited by Valentine in *Arcadia*, states that all objects will eventually cool or warm to the temperature of their surroundings.

Onan

In Genesis, Onan was ordered to take his brother's widow in marriage. Resenting that the children she bore him would be his brother's legal heirs, Onan withdrew before climax to avoid impregnating her. "Onanism," therefore, is any "spilling of the seed" that is not meant to produce children, i.e., masturbation.

Ovid (43 BCE–17 CE)

Ovid was a great Roman poet known for his erotic and mythological poems, including *The Art of Love* and *Metamorphoses*. He originally trained for a career in law.

Pall Mall

Pall Mall is a fashionable London street.

Parterre

A parterre is an ornamental garden with paths between the beds.

Thomas Love Peacock (1785–1866)

A British satirical novelist and poet and contemporary of Percy Shelley.

Peking Bridge

The solid granite Peking Bridge (Marco Polo Bridge) is located in what is now Beijing, China. It is decorated with hundreds of stone lions from various dynasties and bookended by ornamental columns and white marble steles.

Pericles (495–29 BCE)

Pericles was a statesman noted for advancing democracy in Athens. He was a great patron of the arts, encouraging music and drama, and ordered the construction of the Parthenon.

Piccadilly Recreation

This is a fictional publication in *Arcadia* that reviews and satirizes literature.

Picturesque Style

By the third quarter of the eighteenth century, the picturesque style of landscape design (which involved imitating paintings, especially those of Claude Lorrain) had established itself as a standard of beauty. It was characterized by its emphasis on disorderliness and roughness: open and irregular views, meandering streams, and rambling wooded hills were complemented by artfully scattered Classical or Gothic temples, bridges, follies, and ruins.

Placeman

A placeman refers to a person appointed to a position, especially in the government, as a reward for political support of an elected official.

Portmanteau

A portmanteau is a large leather case that opens into two hinged compartments.

QED

Quod erat demonstrandum literally translates: “which was to be demonstrated.” The acronym used to convey that a fact or situation demonstrates the truth of one’s theory or claim, especially to mark the conclusion of a formal proof.

Quantum

Quantum mechanics drives modern physics. According to Newton, physical properties are continuously variable and energy travels in the form of waves. Quantum theory is based on the supposition that energy and other physical properties exist in tiny, discrete particles.

Queen Dido

In Roman mythology, Dido is the founder and queen of Carthage, Africa. In Virgil’s *Aeneid*, she falls in love with Aeneas and then kills herself on a burning pyre when he abandons her.

Ann Radcliffe (1764–1823)

Radcliffe was an English novelist who enjoyed popularity in the 1790s. Her work employs the vivid descriptions typical of the Romantic period and pioneers many characteristics of the Gothic novel, most notably supernaturalism. Her *The Mysteries of Udolpho* (1794) is often cited as the quintessential Gothic novel.

Rationalism

Rationalism regards deductive reasoning as the chief source and test of knowledge and discounts sensory experience as unreliably subjective. According to

Rationalist thought, all the truths of physical science and even history are, in principle, consequences of self-evident premises. This view is opposed to systems that regard the mind as a *tabula rasa* upon which the outside world imprints itself through the senses.

Recording Angel

In Judaic, Christian, and Islamic theology, a recording angel is a being charged with tracking the deeds of individuals for future reward or punishment.

Regency Style (1795–1820)

Regency style is a type of decorative arts produced during the regency of George IV and inspired primarily by Greek and Roman antiquity, with motifs borrowed from traditional Egyptian and Chinese design. Clothing during this period was increasingly simple and utilitarian. Women's fashions abandoned full skirts and bustling in favor of the classical ideal of the natural figure.

Relativity

The theory of relativity was introduced by Albert Einstein in 1905. It states that the speed of light remains constant for all observers regardless of the observer's motion or of the source of light. Although the Newtonian laws explain most physical phenomena, they are insufficient at speeds approaching the speed of light—the maximum speed possible, according to the theory of relativity. Other aspects of the theory: mass and energy are equivalent and convertible; objects and time transform with motion.

Humphry Repton (1752–1818) and His Red Books

Humphry Repton was the leading landscape architect of his day, famous for his intricate and eclectic style. He presented his plans to his clients in Red Books, named for their characteristic red leather bindings. A typical album contained his observations on the present state of a client's property and his recommendations on how it might be improved. Watercolor illustrations would accompany the text, some of them furnished with hinged or sliding overlays making it possible to compare before-and-after views of the same scene.

Rill

A rill is a small stream, brook, or rivulet.

Samuel Rogers (1763–1865)

Rogers was an English poet famous for *The Pleasures of Memory*, which he published anonymously in 1792.

Romantic

The Romantic movement in European art occurred between 1800 and 1850. Romantic art gives increased attention to the elements of nature that suggest power, struggle, fear, anguish, horror, frustration, and other intense emotions.

Salvator Rosa (1615–73)

Rosa was a noted Italian Baroque painter, poet, actor, and musician. He is best known for his Romantic landscape paintings, turbulent and rugged scenes peopled with shepherds, brigands, seamen, and soldiers, which supposedly inspired the picturesque movement in English landscape design.

Rota

A rota is a period of work or duty taken in rotation with others.

Royal Academy

Founded in 1768 by George III, the Royal Academy of Arts is a prominent private arts society. Its headquarters, art museum, and educational facilities are located in Burlington House, in the borough of Westminster.

St. John the Baptist in the Wilderness

St. John the Baptist in the Wilderness is an undated oil painting by Dutch artist Hieronymus Bosch (1450–1516). It depicts John the Baptist with one finger extended towards a lamb, which may symbolize John himself—an innocent victim of the wickedness of mankind—or Jesus Christ.

Sir Walter Scott (1771–1832)

Sir Walter Scott was a Scottish writer, poet, and historical novelist.

“She Walks in Beauty”

Among Lord Byron’s most famous poems, “She Walks in Beauty” appears in *Hebrew Melodies* (1815). The first stanza reads, “She walks in beauty, like the night / Of cloudless climes and starry skies; / And all that’s best of dark and bright / Meet in her aspect and her eyes: / Thus mellow’d to that tender light / Which heaven to gaudy day denies.”

Snipe

The snipe is a small brown wading bird common in Britain. It lives primarily in marshlands or along streams, but occasionally frequents urban areas.

Sod

“Sod” is a common British expletive and insult derived from “Sodomite.” “Sod all” means nothing or none. “Sod’s Law” is the British equivalent of the American “Murphy’s Law.”

Robert Southey (1774–1843)

A contemporary of Coleridge and Wordsworth, Robert Southey was a lesser-known Romantic poet who wrote *Thalaba the Destroyer* (1801) and *Madoc* (1805).

Sub Rosa

A Latin phrase that literally translates as “under the rose,” *sub rosa* is understood to mean “confidentially.”

Sussex/Brighton

The University of Sussex is in a county that neighbors the city of Brighton.

“The barge she sat in, like a burnished throne . . .”

This is a quotation from Act II, Scene 2 of Shakespeare’s *Antony and Cleopatra*.

The Breakfast Hour

This may refer to a fictional version of the popular BBC One morning show *Breakfast Time*, which was on the air 1983–89 and broadcast a mix of news and features.

The Close Season

In hunting and fishing, the close season refers to the period of the year when killing certain game is prohibited.

The Observer

The Observer is liberal British Sunday

newspaper. Its sister daily is *The Guardian*.

The Scientific Academy in Paris

Académie des Sciences was founded in 1666 under the patronage of Louis XIV to advise the French government on scientific matters.

William Thackeray (1811–63)

Thackeray was an English journalist, novelist, and contemporary of Charles Dickens. Famous for his satirical works, particularly the novel *Vanity Fair*, he was also the first editor of the *Cornhill Magazine*.

Theodolite

A theodolite is a sixteenth-century surveyor's instrument for measuring horizontal and vertical angles.

Topped and Tailed

A piece of writing that has been "topped and tailed" has had its beginning and the end cut during the editing process.

Trinity

Trinity College of Cambridge University was attended by the fictitious Septimus Hodge and the actual Lord Byron.

Twickenham, Middlesex

Twickenham is a large suburban town ten miles southwest of central London.

Virgil (70–19 BCE)

Born to peasant farmers, the Roman poet Virgil is credited with establishing Arcadia as a poetic ideal in *Eclogues* (also known as *Bucolics*). Virgil's other major works include the *Georgics* and the *Aeneid*.

Horace Walpole (1717–97)

An English historian, member of Parliament, playwright, and novelist, Walpole wrote *The Castle of Otranto* (1764), often called the first Gothic novel. Walpole also penned the influential essay "On Modern Gardening" (1780), which called for a more progressive and natural approach to garden design.

Waltz

The waltz became popular in the courts of Vienna at the turn of the nineteenth century and quickly spread to France via Napoleon's troops, and onward to the rest of Europe. Its introduction caused quite a stir: other dances of the day favored group dancing to partnered couples and kept significant distance between men and women. The waltz, however, required a man to place his hand on a woman's waist and lead her in a series of twirls. This raised moral objections from the more conservative members of the aristocracy. Nonetheless, the dance became so popular that by 1815 it was widely accepted as an appropriate dance for members of fashionable society.

"When Father Painted the Parlor"

"When Father Painted the Parlor" is a popular song, written and composed by R. P. Weston and Fred J. Barnes in 1910.

William Wordsworth (1770–1850)

Wordsworth was the British poet who, with Coleridge, helped establish Romanticism in England. He wrote *Lyrical Ballads* in 1798 with Coleridge, and in 1843 he was named poet laureate.