

Eras/Periods

- Old English (600-1100)
- Middle English (1100-1500)
- Elizabethan Era (Renaissance) (1558-1603)
- Jacobean Era (1603-1625)
- Caroline Era (1625-1642)
- English Civil War (1642-1651)
- English Interregnum (1651-1660)
- Restoration Era (Age of Reason) (1660-1714)
- Georgian Era (1714-1830)
- Victorian Era (Romanticism) (1837-1901)
(1642 closing down of the theaters)

- Elizabethan Era (1558-1603): Lyrical + Pastoral Poetry - Christopher Marlowe and William Shakespeare
- Jacobean Era: (1603-1625): Metaphysical Poetry - John Donne. Satirical works- Ben Jonson.
- Caroline Era (1625-1642): Metaphysical Poetry and the flourishing of Cavalier Poets. (a period of growing religious, political, and social conflict between the King and his supporters, termed the Royalist party, and the Puritan opposition)

Caroline Era

- Cavalier Poets: 17th century poets who supported King Charles I and his supporters (Royalists) during the English Civil War. Some poets are:
 - Robert Herrick: considered at his time to be the best living lyrical poet.
 - Richard Lovelace
 - Sir John Suckling: wrote poetry using wit.
- Cavalier poetry were light in style and secular (worldly) in subject.

John Milton and his time

- John Milton (1608-1674): Second poet after Shakespeare who influenced the Victorian Age and Romanticism Movement (1820-1900)
- Works divided into three categories:
 1. Shorter poems
 2. Prose (mainly concerned with church affairs, divorce, and freedom)
 3. Greater poems such as his 1652 famous sonnet (Sonnet 18 – *On His Blindness*)

John Milton and his time

- ◎ Greatest lyrical epic poem: *Paradise Lost* (1667)
 - written in 12 books (blank verse) about a scene of the whole universe including Heaven and Hell
 - contains hundreds of remarkable thoughts put into musical verse

The mind is its own place, and in itself

Can make a heaven of hell, a hell of heaven. (Book 1, 254)

Better to reign in hell than to serve in heaven. (Book I, 263)

- ◎ *Paradise Regained* (1671): is more severe.