

Essay Assignment

Option 1

Write an essay that classifies Théodore Géricault's painting *The Raft of the Medusa* and William Wordsworth's poem "The World Is Too Much With Us" as Romantic by identifying and explaining how specific examples from both works reflect three different characteristics of the Romantic period.

Option 2

Write an essay that classifies the William Wordsworth poem "Composed Upon Westminster Bridge" as Romantic by identifying and explaining how specific examples from the poem reflect three different characteristics of the Romantic period.

"Composed Upon Westminster Bridge, September 3, 1802"

Earth has not anything to show more fair:
Dull would he be of soul who could pass by
A sight so touching in its majesty:
This City now doth, like a garment, wear
The beauty of the morning; silent, bare,
Ships, towers, domes, theatres, and temples lie
Open unto the fields, and to the sky;
All bright and glittering in the smokeless air.
Never did sun more beautifully steep
In his first splendour, valley, rock, or hill;
Ne'er saw I, never felt, a calm so deep!
The river glideth at his own sweet will:
Dear God! the very houses seem asleep;
And all that mighty heart is lying still!

Option 3

Write an essay that classifies a Romantic painting and the poem "Composed Upon Westminster Bridge" as Romantic by identifying and explaining how specific examples from both works reflect three different characteristics of the Romantic period.

The following is a short list of suggested Romantic paintings that could be used for this essay:

- *Wanderer Above The Sea Of Fog* by Caspar David Friedrich
- *Man and Woman Contemplating the Moon* by Caspar David Friedrich
- *Fighting Temeraire* by J.M.W. Turner
- *Liberty Leading the People* by Delacroix