

Core V

1. When did the Romantic literary movement take place in Britain?
2. What were some key historical events that influenced the emergence of Romanticism in Britain?
3. Which major social and political changes occurred during the Romantic period in Britain?
4. Who were some of the prominent poets and writers associated with British Romanticism?
5. Who is the speaker of the poem "Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard"?
6. What does Gray mean by the phrase "mute, inglorious Milton" in the poem?
7. Explain the significance of the epitaphs?
8. What is the central emotion conveyed in "A Poison Tree"?
9. How does the speaker deal with anger in "A Poison Tree"?
10. Explain the meaning of "deceitful" in the final stanza.
11. What role does religion play in the poem "The Chimney Sweeper"?
12. What message or moral lesson does "The Chimney Sweeper" convey to the reader?
13. How does the poem depict the healing and soothing power of nature on the human spirit in "Tintern Abbey"?
14. What is the significance of the river Wye in the poem "Tintern Abbey"?
15. What does the speaker mean when he describes "a sense sublime of something far more deeply interfused" in nature?
16. What historical figure does "Kubla Khan" refer to?
17. What is the significance of the river Alph in the poem's landscape?
18. What is the significance of the image of leaves and clouds in the poem's description of the wind's actions?
19. How does the poem "Ode to a Nightingale" explore the idea of escape?

20. What is the purpose of the preface to the second edition of "Lyrical Ballads"?

Long questions

1. What were the major historical events leading up to the emergence of the Romantic literary movement in Britain in the late 18th century? How did these events shape the cultural and intellectual climate of the time?
2. Discuss the impact of the French Revolution on British society and its influence on Romantic writers. How did the ideals of the French Revolution affect the themes and political engagement of Romantic literature?
3. Explain the social and economic changes brought about by the Industrial Revolution in Britain during the Romantic era. How did these changes inspire or inform the works of Romantic poets and writers?
4. Describe the setting of the poem, particularly the churchyard in a rural village. How does this setting contribute to the overall mood and themes of the poem?
5. Identify the speaker in the poem and discuss their perspective on the churchyard and its inhabitants. How does the speaker's viewpoint evolve as the poem progresses?
6. Examine how Gray describes the lives, occupations, and virtues of the people buried in the churchyard. What picture does he paint of these ordinary individuals?
7. Explore the theme of suppressed anger in "A Poison Tree." How does the speaker's approach to dealing with anger differ when it is communicated and when it is kept hidden?
8. Examine how "A Poison Tree" explores the dynamics of interpersonal relationships. How does the poem suggest that honest communication can prevent conflict and resentment?
9. Discuss how "The Chimney Sweeper" sheds light on the issue of child labor and exploitation during the time of William Blake. How does it serve as a critique of societal norms and practices?
10. Analyze how "The Chimney Sweeper" functions as a form of social commentary and protest. What aspects of child labor practices and societal injustices does it highlight?
11. Identify the speaker in the poem and discuss their perspective on revisiting Tintern Abbey after five years. How does the speaker's viewpoint evolve as the poem progresses?
12. Explore how "Tintern Abbey" addresses the themes of the passage of time and the inevitability of mortality. How does the poem convey a sense of the transitory nature of human life?

13. Discuss the importance of the imagination in "Tintern Abbey." How does the speaker's imagination shape their perception of the landscape and their emotional response to it?
14. Provide some background information about Kubla Khan and the historical context in which he lived. How does this context relate to the poem?
15. Explain the role of the nightingale as a symbol in the poem. How does Keats use the bird to represent different ideas and emotions throughout the ode?
16. Explore the theme of escapism in the poem. How does the speaker long to escape from the world of reality and mortality into the realm of the nightingale's song?
17. Analyze how the poem explores the themes of change and regeneration, both in the natural world and in the poet's creative process. How does the west wind serve as a catalyst for these changes?
18. Interpret the symbolism of the "shook from the tangled boughs of heaven and ocean" leaves in the poem. What do they represent, and how do they relate to the poem's themes?
19. Explain the primary purpose of the preface. Why did Wordsworth feel the need to write this preface for the second edition of "Lyrical Ballads"?
20. Explore how the preface reflects the broader ideals and characteristics of the Romantic literary movement. How do Wordsworth and Coleridge's views align with Romantic principles?