

The present age

1. What is the main criticism of dividing literature into separate 'ages'? **It can give the false impression that each age stands apart**
2. What nourishes even the most revolutionary literary works? **Earlier traditions**
3. What classical work is James Joyce's *Ulysses* structured on? **Homer's Odyssey**
4. What poem by T. S. Eliot draws upon classical, biblical, and literary traditions? **The Waste Land (1922)**
5. Whose posthumously published poetry (1918) profoundly influenced twentieth-century verse? **Gerard Manley Hopkins**
6. When did Thomas Hardy die? **1928**
7. What global economic event dominated the early 1930s? **The Great Depression**

8. What did the Great Depression cause in Britain and abroad? **Mass unemployment, industrial decay, and widespread misery**
9. Which book by J. B. Priestley records social distress in Britain during the 1930s? **An English Journey (1934)**
10. Whose rise to power in Germany was aided by unemployment? **Hitler**
11. Which country did Mussolini pursue imperial ambitions in during the 1930s? **Abyssinia and Libya**
12. What did many 1930s writers believe literature must serve? **A social or political purpose**
13. What were writers accused of if they refused political engagement? **Retreating into “ivory towers”**
14. How does the text compare 1930s literature to Victorian humanitarian mood? **More ideologically partisan**
15. What is the key difference between true literature and propaganda? **True literature is a creative vision of truth, not pamphleteering**

16. What is politics described as? **The art of the possible**

17. What is poetry described as? **The art of the desirable**

18. Why did many 1930s writers risk losing imaginative power? **By tying art to immediate politics**

19. When was Gerard Manley Hopkins born? **1844**

20. When did Hopkins die? **1889**

21. What religious order did Hopkins join in 1868? **Jesuit Order**

22. What event inspired Hopkins to write "The Wreck of the Deutschland"?

Shipwreck of five Franciscan nuns (1875)

23. What position did Hopkins hold from 1884 until his death? **Professor of**

Greek at University College, Dublin

24. What metrical system did Hopkins invent? **Sprung rhythm**

25. What term did Hopkins coin for the unique inner essence of objects in

nature? **Inscape**

26. Who first published Hopkins's poetry posthumously in 1918? **Robert**

Bridges

27. Why is Hopkins included in the modern period (1930–1955)? **His**

influence was fully felt only after 1918

28. What did the modern world find in Hopkins's poetry amid

disillusionment? **Profound spiritual intensity**

29. How did Hopkins's poetry differ from typical Victorian verse? **It**

expressed conflict, doubt, and spiritual striving

30. What did many of Hopkins's followers mistakenly imitate? **His difficulty**

and obscurity

31. What is the difference between true and false difficulty in poetry, per the

text? **True difficulty is meaningful; false is empty**

32. Which poets were influenced by Hopkins's innovations? **T. S. Eliot,**

Dylan Thomas, W. H. Auden

33. What does Hopkins's enduring achievement unite in poetry? **Faith,**
intellect, and art

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