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Modern British Poetry
Quiz 1

William Butler Yeats

Write TWO essays by selecting TWO of the following groups.

Your essays should discuss important themes and ideas in one or several poems within these groups and provide evidence in the form of direct quotes and references to specific lines, images, and poetic techniques to support your observations and analyses. Remember to divide your time equally since you will be graded on BOTH essays. Send your answers to my e-mail.

1. "Ego Dominus Tuus" (1914) and "The Tower" (1925) as expressions of the transcendent double or anti-self
2. "On Woman" and "The Phases of the Moon" as expressions of a belief in reincarnation.
3. "Meditations in Time of Civil War" (1922) of Yeats's analysis of being a poet during political turmoil in Ireland.
4. The Crazy Jane Poems (7 poems written between 1929 and 1932) in terms of the values that Jane embodied throughout her life.
5. "A Dialogue of Self and Soul" in terms of an argument between desire for rebirth and escape from the cycle of birth.
6. "1900 and Nineteen" and/or "Leda and the Swan" and/or "The Second Coming" in terms of Yeats's cyclical view of history.
7. "The Second Coming" and/or "A Prayer for My Daughter" as before and after accounts of a turbulent period in Ireland.
8. "All Soul's Night" and/or "Byzantium" in terms of contact with and knowledge of the realm of the departed.
9. "Under Ben Bulbin" as Yeats's last will and testament and the role the artist can play.