

Scavenger Hunt

Romanticism, Realism, and Naturalism in American Fiction

<http://www.csustan.edu/english/reuben/home.html>

Note: the purpose of this exercise is to help you explore the information available to you at this website and to introduce / review the elements of Romanticism, Realism, and Naturalism.

USE YOUR OWN PAPER!

1. Go the web site listed above. Who is the author of this web page? Where does he teach?
2. Click on <http://www.csustan.edu/english/reuben/pal/table.html>.
3. Scroll down and click on “Appendices.”
 - Which *ones* have useful definitions of literary terms?
4. Click on Appendix D: “Writing Assignments.”
 - What kind of writing assignments does Dr. Reuben detail?
 - What are the characteristics of the critical paper?
 - Which writing assignment interests you the most? Why?
5. Return to the *Table of Contents*. You will use chapters 3, 5, and 6 in the *Table of Contents*.
6. Click on Chapter 3: “Nineteenth Century Romanticism” which takes you to “Chapter 3: Nineteenth Century to 1865 and Romanticism.”
 - Click on “Introduction” which takes you to “Early Nineteenth Century: Romanticism - A Brief Introduction.” Print a copy of the page to be included with your answers to this Scavenger Hunt.
 - Scroll down to “Romantics Subject Matter” and list the major topics.
7. Return to the *Table of Contents*. Click on Chapter 5: “Late 19th C Realism” which takes you to “Late Nineteenth Century and Realism.”
 - Click through the group of writers on this page. Give details about one whose works you might find interesting to read.
 - Click on “The Local Color Movement” and write a brief definition / description of local color writing.
8. Click back one page to the listings for Chapter 5. Click on “Selected Bibliography.”

- What is the earliest published work in the bibliography?
 - How many of the referenced works in the bibliography are from Southern universities or colleges?
 - What Southern state has the most published works in the list?
9. Return to the previous page to the listings for Chapter 5 and click on “Introduction.” How, according to Reuben, does the Realists’ concept of morality differ from the Romantics’ concept of morality?
10. Go back to the *Table of Contents*. Click on “Appendix C”: “American Fiction.”
- Click on “Comments on the American Novel.” What is Crane’s response in #8 to psychologists who say, “a fellow can’t comprehend a condition that he has never experienced”?
11. Return to the *Table of Contents* and click on Chap. 6: Late 19th C Naturalism to get to the page for “Chapter 6: Late Nineteenth Century: 1890-1910: American Naturalism.” Click on “Introduction.”
- During what era are most of the works listed for the authors of the period published?
 - What are the two approaches to Naturalism that Reuben explores?
 - Scroll down to the “Subject Matter” section. Use the thesaurus in Word to locate the meaning of “milieu” and “hubris.” Rewrite the sentence where these words occur inserting the meaning.
 - Scroll on down the page. Frank Norris advocated that Naturalism was an attention to the “smaller details of everyday life.” How did Lars Ahenbrink differ?
12. Return to the *Table of Contents*. Go to the links in the Realism and Naturalism chapters (5 and 6) and write one piece of additional information about an author we have not read and which you find interesting.
13. Go to several of the sites on the different authors. Explore. Look at pictures.
14. Go to “Appendices”: what one additional area on this page will be of particular use to you?