**William Shakespeare (1564-1616).**

William Shakespeare was born in Stratford on about April 23rd 1564. His father William was a successful local businessman and his mother Mary was the daughter of a landowner. Relatively prosperous, it is likely the family paid for Williams education, although there is no evidence he attended university.

In 1582 William, aged only 18, married an older woman named Anne Hathaway. Soon after they had their first daughter, Susanna. They had another two children but William’s only son Hamnet died aged only 11.

After his marriage, information about the life of Shakespeare is sketchy but it seems he spent most of his time in London writing and performing in his plays. It seemed he didn’t mind being absent from his family – only returning home during Lent when all theatres were closed. It is generally thought that during the 1590s he wrote the majority of his sonnets. This was a time of prolific writing and his plays developed a good deal of interest and controversy. Due to some well timed investments he was able to secure a firm financial background, leaving time for writing and acting. The best of these investments was buying some real estate near Stratford in 1605, which soon doubled in value.

**Shakespeare the Poet**

William Shakespeare wrote 154 Sonnets mostly in the 1590s. Fairly short poems, they deal with issues such as lost love. His sonnets have an enduring appeal due to his characteristic skill with language and words.

“Let me not to the marriage of true minds  
Admit impediments. Love is not love  
Which alters when it alteration finds,  
Or bends with the remover to remove:”

**Walter Scott (1771-1832)**Walter Scott was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, on August 15, 1771. His father, also called Walter, was a solicitor. He was educated at Edinburgh High School and studied law at Edinburgh University.

Young Walter apprenticed to his father in 1786, and became a solicitor in 1792. In 1797 he married Margaret Charpentier, with whom he had five children.

Walter Scott was fascinated by the culture and traditions of the Scottish Borders, and in 1802 he published his first literary work, *Minstrelsy of the Scottish Borders*. It was his second work which made his name, however; *The Lay of the Last Minstrel* (1805) was an immensely successful poem. Scott followed this with further romantic poems, such as *Marmion* (1808) and *The Lady in the Lake* (1810)

In the decade between 1810 and 1820 Walter Scott published a succession of hugely popular historical novels, beginning with *Waverly* (1810), *Guy Mannering* (1815), and Ivanhoe (1819). These books, and others that followed in the 1820s, were published anonymously or under pseudonyms.   
Lady Margaret Scott died in 1826, and Walter Scott followed her in 1832. He was buried at [Dryburgh Abbey](http://www.britainexpress.com/attractions.htm?attraction=967). Though he struggled against debt his whole life, the proceeds from his writings eventually repaid his obligations in full. He helped popularize the historic novel as a literary genre, and influenced generations of future writers.

**A Serenade by Sir Walter Scott**

Ah! County Guy, the hour is nigh   
The sun has left the lea,   
The orange-flower perfumes the bower,   
The breeze is on the sea.

The lark, his lay who trill’d all day,   
Sits hush’d his partner nigh;   
Breeze, bird, and flower confess the hour,   
But where is County Guy?

 **Oscar Wilde (1854-1900)  
Oscar Wilde** was born in Dublin on 16 October 1854 to Sir William Wilde and his wife Jane. Oscar's mother, Lady Jane Francesca Wilde (1820-1896), was a successful poet and journalist. Oscar's father, Sir William Wilde (1815 - 1876), was a leading ear and eye surgeon, a renowned philanthropist and gifted writer, who wrote books on archaeology and folklore. Oscar had an elder brother, Willie, and a younger sister. He was educated at Portora Royal School (1864-71), Trinity College, Dublin (1871-74), and Magdalen College, Oxford (1874-78). Whilst at Magdalen, he won the 1878 Newdigate Prize for his poem Ravenna. After he graduated, he moved to Chelsea in London (1879) to establish a literary career. In 1881, he published his first collection of poetry - *Poems*. He worked as an art reviewer (1881), lectured in the United States and Canada (1882), and lived in Paris (1883).

On May 29, 1884, Oscar married Constance Lloyd (died 1898), daughter of wealthy Queen's Counsel Horace Lloyd. They had two sons. To support his family, Oscar accepted a job as the editor of Woman's World magazine, where he worked from 1887-1889.   
Wilde's greatest talent was for writing plays. His first successful play, [Lady Windermere's Fan](http://www.wilde-online.info/lady-windermeres-fan.html), opened in February 1892.   
He spent the rest of his life wandering Europe, staying with friends and living in cheap hotels. He died of cerebral meningitis on November 30, 1900, penniless, in a cheap Paris hotel.

I never saw a man who looked  
With such a wistful eye  
Upon that little tent of blue  
Which prisoners call the sky,  
And at every drifting cloud that went  
With sails of silver by.

I walked, with other souls in pain,  
Within another ring,  
And was wondering if the man had done  
A great or little thing,  
When a voice behind me whispered low,  
“*That fellow’s got to swing*.”

 **Robert Burns (1759-1796)**Robert Burns (January 25, 1759 – July 21, 1796) is the best known of the poets who have written in Scots. His poem Auld Lang Syne is often sung at Hogmanay.

Born in Alloway, Ayrshire, Scotland to a poor farming family, his parents made sure that he was well educated as a child. In 1783 he started composing poetry in a traditional style using the Ayrshire dialect of Scots. These poems were well received locally and in 1786 they were published in the volume, Poems, Chiefly in the Scottish dialect by a local printer in Kilmarnock. This volume made him famous in Scotland overnight and as a result he spent several years in Edinburgh society.

However the fame was not accompanied by money and he found it necessary to return to farming. However that too proved unprofitable and in 1789 he entered government service working for the Customs and Excise service.

He died at the age of 37 as a result of a weak heart brought on by years of poor working conditions on the farm dating back to his childhood. Within a short time of his death, money started pouring in from all over Scotland to support his widow and children.

He write so popular poems as: [A Red, Red Rose](http://www.poemhunter.com/poem/a-red-red-rose/) , [A Fond Kiss](http://www.poemhunter.com/poem/a-fond-kiss/) **,** [A Man's a Man for A' That](http://www.poemhunter.com/poem/a-man-s-a-man-for-a-that/) ,[A Winter Night](http://www.poemhunter.com/poem/a-winter-night/) ,[To A Mouse](http://www.poemhunter.com/poem/to-a-mouse/), [Auld Lang Syne](http://www.poemhunter.com/poem/auld-lang-syne/) ,[A Bottle And Friend](http://www.poemhunter.com/poem/a-bottle-and-friend/), [Address To A Haggis](http://www.poemhunter.com/poem/address-to-a-haggis/),[My Heart's In The Highlands](http://www.poemhunter.com/poem/my-heart-s-in-the-highlands/) and other.

**A Red Red Rose**

O my Luve’s like a red, red rose  
That’s newly sprung in June;  
O my Luve’s like the melodie  
That’s sweetly play’d in tune.

As fair art thou, my bonnie lass,  
So deep in luve am I:  
And I will luve thee still, my dear,  
Till a’ the seas gang dry:

Till a’ the seas gang dry, my dear,  
And the rocks melt wi’ the sun:  
I will luve thee still, my dear,  
While the sands o’ life shall run.

**Charles Dickens (1812- 1870)**

Charles Dickens was born in Portsmouth on 7 February 1812, to John and Elizabeth Dickens. As a child, Charles experienced the fickle hands of fate; he was first taught at a private school before being removed because of his family’s financial hardship. In fact, his father’s debts were so bad, the whole family (apart from the young Charles was sent to the debtor’s prison at Marshallsea. However, although Charles escaped detention in the debtors prison, he was made to work long, 10 hour days, at a local boot blacking factory. The hard and dangerous work left a lasting impression on Charles Dickens, who would later incorporate in his writings a sense of social injustice that was endemic in. His first book proved to be a great seller, and this enabled him to become a full time writer. As well as writing popular novels, Charles Dickens took great interest in the social issues of the day. He even founded his own paper – The Daily News.

Charles Dickens has become one of the most popular writers in English. Charles Dickens had ten children with his wife, but, became estranged from her and ended his life living with his mistress Ellen Ternan. Dickens died on June 8th, 1870 after a stroke. He was writing a book ‘Edwin Drood’. He had wished to be buried at Rochester Cathedral in a simple and private manner, but contrary to his wishes, he was buried at Poet’s Corner, Westminster Abbey.

**OUT OF THE DUST**  
Out of the dust of all the past I came:  
     My body is compact of memories  
Of other lives in other forms than this,  
     And I am kin to birds and beasts and trees.  
  
Out of the dust of fairer things I came --  
     Some ancient flower whose name we do not know,  
Some fallen tree that saw strange altars lit  
     With sacrificial fires of long ago.  
  
Some humble moth that scorned the candle's flame  
     And dared to set the far-off moon its goal,  
Has left to me the lure of moonlit skies  
     And all the futile yearning of its soul.

 **Daniel Defoe** (**1660 – 1731**)

**Daniel Defoe** the English writer, gained fame for his novel Robinson Crusoe.  
Born Daniel Foe, the son of James Foe, a butcher in the Stoke Newington neighbourhood of London, England, he would later add the aristocratic sounding "De" to his name as a nom de plume. He became a famous pamphleteer, journalist and novelist at a time of the birth of the novel in the English language.  
Defoe's pamphleteering and political activities resulted in his arrest and placement in a pillory on July 31, 1703, principally on account of a pamphlet entitled "The Shortest Way with Dissenters", in which he ruthlessly satirised the High church Tories, purporting to argue for the extermination of dissenters.   
Defoe's famous novel Robinson Crusoe (1719), tells of a man's shipwreck on a desert island and his subsequent adventures. The author may have based his narrative on the true story of the shipwreck of Alexander Selkirk.1  
Defoe's next novel was Captain Singleton (1720), amazing for its portrayal of the redemptive power of one man's love for another.   
He also wrote Moll Flanders (1722), a picaresque first-person narration of the fall and eventual redemption of a lone woman in 17th century England.   
Daniel Defoe died on April 21, 1731 and was interred in Bunhill Fields, London, England.

# &Dcy;&zhcy;&ocy;&ncy;&acy;&tcy;&acy;&ncy; &Scy;&vcy;&icy;&fcy;&tcy; &Dcy;&zhcy;&ocy;&ncy;&acy;&tcy;&acy;&ncy; &Scy;&vcy;&icy;&fcy;&tcy; Jonathan Swift  (1667 - 1745) Jonathan Swift was born in Dublin. His father died before he was born, and his nurse, who had become very fond of her young charge, took him at the age of one year old to Whitehaven in Cumberland, where he remained with her until the age of 3.  On his return to Ireland his education was paid for by his uncle, [Godwin](http://www.adnax.com/notes/418notes.htm#Swift), first at Kilkenny School (1673, 6) and then at [Trinity College](http://www.adnax.com/notes/418notes.htm#Trinity%20College), Dublin (1682, 15).  His first major work, *A Tale of a Tub*, and completed *The Battle of the Books*, a satire concerning whether ancient or modern authors were to be preferred, which was the continuation of a debate begun by Temple in his *Essay upon Ancient and Modern Learning* of 1692. Both works were published anonymously in 1704 (37).  From 1719 (52) he wrote a series of poems to Stella, usually on the occasion of her birthday.  In 1723 (56), Esther Vanhomrighe died, having cancelled a will in favour of Swift just before, and leaving *Cadenus and Vanessa* for publication.  His pamphlet *A Proposal for the Universal Use of Irish Manufacture etc* (1720, 53) won him great popularity in Dublin in response to the attempts of the authorities to protect their vested interests by suppressing it and imprisoning the printer. *The Drapier’s Letters* (1724, 57), which exposed a shoddy plan to float a debased currency in Ireland for the benefit of an ‘ironmonger’ called Wood and [George I’](http://www.adnax.com/notes/418notes.htm#George%20I)s favourite, the [Duchess of Kendal](http://www.adnax.com/notes/418notes.htm#Von%20Schulenberg), who between them had secured a patent from the Crown, added to his popularity.

He probably began writing *Gullivers’ Travels* in 1721 (54), finishing the work in 1725 (58). When published anonymously in 1726 (59) it was an immediate success.

In the same year he stayed with Alexander Pope in Twickenham, and between 1727 (60) and 1736 (69) five volumes of *Swift-Pope Miscellanies* were published.

**He Lady's Dressing Room by Jonathan Swift**

Five hours, (and who can do it less in?)  
By haughty Celia spent in dressing;  
The goddess from her chamber issues,  
Arrayed in lace, brocades, and tissues.

Strephon, who found the room was void  
And Betty otherwise employed,  
Stole in and took a strict survey  
Of all the litter as it lay;

Whereof, to make the matter clear,  
An inventory follows here.  
And first a dirty smock appeared,  
Beneath the arm-pits well besmeared.

# [Lewis Carroll](http://www.biography.com/people/lewis-carroll-9239598) Lewis Carroll (1832-1898)

# Born on January 27, 1832 in Daresbury, Cheshire, England, Charles Dodgson wrote and created games as a child. At age 20 he received a studentship at Christ Church and was appointed a lecturer in mathematics. Dodgson was shy but enjoyed creating stories for children. His books including "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland" were published under the pen name Lewis Carroll.

# Charles Lutwidge Dodgson, best known by his pseudonym, Lewis Carroll, was born in the village of Daresbury, England, on January 27, 1832. The eldest boy in a family of 11 children, Carroll was rather adept at entertaining himself and his siblings. His father, a clergyman, raised them in the rectory. As a boy, Carroll excelled in mathematics and won many academic prizes. At age 20, he was awarded a studentship (called a scholarship in other colleges) to Christ College. Apart from serving as a lecturer in mathematics, he was an avid photographer and wrote essays, political pamphlets and poetry. "The Hunting of the Snark" displays his wonderful ability in the genre of literary nonsense.

Carroll published several other nonsense works, including *The Hunting of the Snark* (1876), *Sylvie and Bruno* (1889), and *Sylvie and Bruno Concluded* (1893). He also wrote a number of pamphlets poking fun at university affairs, which appeared under a fake name or without any name at all, and he composed several works on mathematics under his true name. In 1881 Carroll gave up his lecturing to devote all of his time to writing. From 1882 to 1892, however, he was [curator](http://www.notablebiographies.com/knowledge/Curator.html) of the common room (manager of the staff club) at Christ Church. After a short illness, he died on January 14, 1898.

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*** Нестандартный урок по английскому языку:***

**проведенный в 11 А классе**

**Учит.по английскому языку**

**Курбанова Зухра К.**