Istituto d'Istruzione Superiore "Vincenzo Benini"
Programma effettivamente svolto

1 The Romantic Age (1798-1837)

1. Historical Background
1.1 Napoleonic Wars
1.2 William IV and the First Reform Bill

2. Literary Production
2.1. Pre-romanticism and Gothic Fiction
• Matthew Gregory Lewis (1775-1818)
The Monk (literary references)

POETRY
2.2 Features of English Romantic poetry
• William Blake (1757-1827)
Song of Innocence and Songs of Experience
Text 1: "The Lamb"
Text 2: "The Tyger"

2.3 The First Generation of Romantic Poets
• William Wordsworth (1770-1850)
Lyrical Ballads
Text 3: "The Solitary Reaper"
• Samuel T. Coleridge (1772-2834)
Text 4: *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner*
        (part I - II - VII)
Text 5: *Christabel*
        (part I - II)

2.4 The Second Generation of Romantic Poets
• George Gordon, Lord Byron (1792-1822)
Text 6: *Childe Harold's Pilgrimage*
• John Keats (1795-1821)
Text 7: *La Belle Dame Sans Merci*

PROSE
2.5 The Evolution of Gothic Fiction
• Mary Shelley (1797-1851)
Frankenstein
Text 8: "What was I"
Text 9: "The Creation of the Monster"
Text 10: "This was then the reward"
Literary connections:
Ahmed Saadawi - *Frankenstein fi Baghdad*

2.6 The Historical Novel
• Walter Scott (1771-1832)
Waverley
Text 11: "Edward Waverley"

2.7 The Domestic Novel
• Jane Austen (1775-1817)
Pride and Prejudice
Text 12: "Mr. Collins's proposal"
Text 13: "Mr Darcy's first proposal of marriage"
Text 14: "No more prejudice"

2 The Victorian Age (1837-1901)

1. Historical Background
1.1 Queen Victoria
1.2 Chartism Movement
1.3 Second and Third Reform Bills
1.4 British Empire

2. Social Background
2.1 The Victorian Compromise
2.2 The Position of Women
2.3 Sport in the Victorian Age

3. Literary Production
3.1 Fiction in the 19th century
3.2 Early Victorian fiction

PROSE
3.3 Social Novel
• Charles Dickens (1812-1870)
Oliver Twist
Text 15: "Lunch Time"
Text 16: "Jacob's Island"
Hard Times
Text 17: "Coketown"
Pickwick Papers

3.4 Late Romantic Novel
• Charlotte Brontë (1816-1855)
Jane Eyre
Text 18: "Bertha Mason is my wife"
Insights: Madness in the Victorian Age

3.5 Late Realistic Novel
• George Eliot (1819-1880)
Middlemarch (ch. 20)

3.6 Non-sense Literature
• Lewis Carroll (1832-1898)
Alice's Adventures in Wonderland
Text 19: "The Rabbit's Hole"
Text 20: "A Mad Tea Party"

3.7 The Late Victorian Period
3.8 Late Victorian Novelists

3.9 Fiction of Crime, Mystery and the Supranational
• Robert L. Stevenson (1850-1894)
The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde
Text 21: "Jekyll and Hyde"
Text 22: "Dr Jekyll's First Experiment"
• Bram Stoker (1847-1912)
Dracula (ch. I - II - III - VIII - XII - XIII)
Text 23: "The Origin of Dracula"
Insight: The origin of the myth of the vampire between history and literature

3.10 Detective Novel
• Arthur Conan Doyle (1859-1939)
A Study in Scarlet
Text 24: "The Science of Deduction"
Insight: Jack the Ripper

3.11 Aesthetic Novel
• Oscar Wilde (1854-1900)
The Picture of Dorian Gray
Text 25: "Preface"
Text 26: "Perfumes"
Text 27: "I Would Give My Soul for That"

POETRY
3.12 The Pre-Raphaelite Movement
• Christina Rossetti (1830-1894)
Goblin Market

THE AMERICAN RENAISSANCE
3.13 American Voices in the 19th Century
• Herman Melville (1819-1891)
Moby Dick
Text 28: "Call me Ishmael"
Text 29: "The Genesis of Ahab's Obsession"

3 The Age of Modernism (1901-1945)

1. Historical Background
1.1 The beginning of the century
1.2 World War I and the Windsors
1.3 The Irish Question
1.4 Britain after World War I
1.5 World War II and the post-war period
1.6. Propaganda posters

2. Social Background
2.1 Women in the first half of the 20th century

3. Literary Production
3.1 Poetry in the first half of the 20th century

POETRY
3.2 Edwardian Poetry
• Rudyard Kipling (1865-1936)
The White Man's Burden
Text 30: "The Mission of the Coloniser"

3.3 War Poetry
• Rupert Brooke (1887-1915)
The Soldier
• Wilfred Owen (1893-1918)
Futility

3.4 Irish Poetry
• William B. Yeats (1865-1939)
A Vision
Text 31: "The Second Coming"
Text 32: "Easter, 1916"

PROSE

3.5 The Novel in the Modern Age

3.6 The Evolution of Psychological and Social Novel
• David H. Lawrence (1885-1930)
Lady Chatterley's Lover
Text 33: "Tevershall"

3.7 Dystopian Novel
• George Orwell (1903-1950)
Animal Farms
Text 34: "Old Major's Speech"
Text 35: "The Execution"
Text 36: "The Final Party"
1984
Text 37: "The Object of Power is Power"
Text 38: "Room 101"
Text 39: "Big Brother is watching you"
Text 40: "We are destroying words"

4 The Present Age (1945 - today)

1. Historical Background
1.1 Elizabeth II
1.2 Britain and the Empire after the War
1.3 Partition of Pakistan
1.4 The Process of Decolonisation

2. Social Background
2.1 The Rise of Thatcherism
2.2 The Troubles in Northern Ireland

3. Literary Production
3.1 The post-war English novel

PROSE

3.2 Women Writers
• Doris Lessing (1919 - 2013)
The Sweetest Dream
Text 41: "AIDS, a curse on us"

3.3 Atonement
• Ian McEwan (1948 -)
The Child in Time
Text 42: "Lost in the supermarket", ch. I

3.4 Different Voices (South Africa)
• Nadine Gordimer (1923-2014)
July's People
Text 43: "A Crude Awakening", ch. I

POETRY

3.5 Poetry in the post-war period
3.6. The Movement: 1950
• Philip Larkin (1922-1985)
How to Sleep

3.7 The Group: 1950
• Ted Hughes (1930-1998)
The Thought-Fox

3.8 The Confessional Poetry: 1960-1970
• Sylvia Plath (1931-1963)
Mirror

3.9 The New Poets: 1980
• Seamus Heaney (1939-2013)
Death of a Naturalist
Text 44: "Digging"