Name:

Mr. Haflin 11(3)

**Background Notes: Romanticism**

**Overview of Romanticism**

* Following the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, democracy in the United States flourished. To escape \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and the hectic pace of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ at the turn of the 19th century, many writers turned to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for simplicity, truth, and beauty

**Characteristics of Romanticism**

* Authors looked to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for inspiration.
* Authors valued the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in their writing
* Authors also valued \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in their writing.
* Authors sometimes explore the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in their work
  + This is a GREAT change from traditional \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ writing!

**Historical Context of Romanticism:** 1800-1855

* America experienced great \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Manifest Destiny).
* 1803: The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ doubled the country’s size.
* 1812: The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ began and the factory system changed many Americans’ way of life.
  + Romantic writing reacted to the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ effects of industrialization (\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ lifestyle, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_).
* Shift in the early 1800s from \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* Romanticism ends in the middle of the 19th century due to the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
  + A literary movement called \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ started after the war.

**Overview of Dark Romanticism:**

* While many Romantics had celebrated the individual through their faith in humankind, others are known as “Dark Romantics”. Dark Romantics focused their works around the individual’s capacity for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Major writers included Herman Melville, Edgar Allan Poe, and Nathaniel Hawthorne. Dark Romantic writers incorporated \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ elements such as **grotesque characters, bizarre situations, and violent events.**

**Traits of Dark Romanticism (American Gothic)**

* Did not believe in the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of people
* Explored the human capacity for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* Probed the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of characters
* Explored characters’ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* Agreed with Romantic emphasis on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, nature, and the individual.
* Included elements of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in their works.

**As we read Dark Romantic works, focus on the following:**

* Symbols
* Imagery
* Motifs
* Supernatural elements
* Conflict: The individual or “the rebel” vs. society
* Themes pertaining to death, sin, guilt, morality, madness, greed, and derangement.