

# THE LONG 18TH CENTURY

## 1660-1820

The Long 18th Century in British literature begins shortly before the ascension of William and Mary to the throne in 1688, called the Glorious Revolution, and ends after England's defeat of Napoleon at Waterloo in 1815. Also known as the Age of Enlightenment, the century pioneered rational philosophy, social and political satire, travel and adventure writing, and gothic horror fiction.

**1688:** Ascension of William and Mary

**1776:** Declaration of Independence

**1815:** Napoleon defeated

1820

1660

*highlights*

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# REPRESENTATIVE LITERARY WORKS

*Oroonoko*, Aphra Behn, 1688

*Fables Ancient and Modern*, John Dryden, 1700

*Robinson Crusoe*, Daniel Defoe, 1719

*Gulliver's Travels*, Jonathan Swift, 1726

*The Beggar's Opera*, John Gay, 1728

*Castle of Otranto*, Horace Walpole, 1764

*Elegiac Sonnets*, Charlotte Smith, 1783

Scottish Ballads, Robert Burns, 1786

*Essays*, Samuel Johnson, 1794

Lyrical Ballads, Wordsworth and Coleridge 1798

*Songs of Innocence and Experience*,  
William Blake, 1789

*The Mysteries of Udolpho*, Ann Radcliffe, 1813

*Pride & Prejudice*, Jane Austen, 1813

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