**Decline of Rationalism**

* At its most extreme, Rationalism grew into an \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ following – The Rationalists looked down upon people with little education who refused to “better themselves”
* Things that were not provable by science were believed by Rationalists to not matter, or not exist. This included things like \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* This caused a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_– The Rationalists were seen as \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ by the everyday American

**Historical Context**

* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: Independence from Britain and the Age of Enlightenment’s emphasis on science and technology caused an economic boom – this lead to the Industrial Revolution. Skyscrapers, big cities, and automobiles became commonplace
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: In 1803, the U.S. sealed the Louisiana Purchase, buying all the land between the Mississippi River and the Rocky Mountains.
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: The discovery of Gold in uncharted California pushed hundreds of thousands of Americans westward.

**Rise of Romanticism**

* Amongst the chaos of the Industrial Revolution and the hope of Westward Expansion, a new \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ emerged: Romanticism!
* (Note: Romanticism does NOT mean love stories!)
* Romanticism first began as a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ against the alienating Rationalist philosophies. They thought that by putting so much emphasis on logic and science, the Rationalists were missing out on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ truths. In other words, not just highly educated scientists and politicians have important things to say – the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ do, too!

**Romantic Poetry**

* Romantics thought \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ was the highest embodiment of imagination, the most creative thing one could do.
* Romantics often \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ poetry with science. They saw science as stripping things of their emotional truths.
* Romantic Edgar Allen Poe once called science a “vulture” with wings of “dull realities” which preyed upon the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of poets.

**Romantic Escapism**

* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – Romantic thinkers wanted to escape!
  + They wanted to flee the dull realities of science and logic that had \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the way of thinking for so long
  + They also wanted to escape the cities, which they saw as places filled with disease, corruption, shifting morals, and death, and escape to the “\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,” which was open, free, and full of possibilities
* This positive way of thinking is reflected in “\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.”

**American Romanticism**

* The Romantic period started in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, but it was the first period in which American writers and artists truly developed their own \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* American Romantics had a sense of limitless frontier that inspired them in different ways than the European writers.
* Europeans saw Americans as \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and uneducated, but Americans played this stereotype to their advantage….

**Rationslist Hero vs Romantic Hero**

* Youthful
* Intuitive
* May or may not be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – not important
* Follows his \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, not the laws
* At odds with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Worldly, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Sophisticated
* Educated
* Bent on making a place for himself in civilization
* Follows and creates laws, believes they’re moral

**Characteristics of Romanticism**

* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
  + The natural world = source of beauty and truth
  + Artists sought to capture the drama of natural forms—whether serene and peaceful or twisted and grotesque.
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
  + An individual human is an entire universe.
  + The idea that art should be a form of self-expression first took shape in this era.
  + The way to find universal truths is to express what is within, rather than conform to the outside world of society (Romantic heroes!)
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
  + Rather than using knowledge, facts, and reason like the Rationalists, Romantics thought emotion, intuition, and imagination were the keys to a deeper understanding of the world.
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
  + Romantics loved to hear about faraway lands and times, the supernatural, the mysterious.
  + This could take the form of frontier adventure tales (cowboys and explorers!), or could be creepy horror stories.
  + Whether heroic or horrifying, Romantics thought fantastic tales suggested universal truths about the human heart.
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
  + Romantics also showed a new interest in the common people, rural life, and children.
  + The genuine voice of ordinary people was held to be more authentic than the sophisticated tone of writing and art from the Age of Enlightenment.
  + Children were prized for their innocence and their freedom from the corrupting influence of society.
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
  + Romantic’s goal was to question society!
  + Writers and artists sought to influence the issues of slavery, women's rights, and labor.
  + Romantics were also reformers in their art, seeking new forms of poetry and storytelling, and rejecting the need to follow the examples of earlier masters