

# VAISHALI MAHILA MAHAVIDYALAYA HAJIPUR, VAISHALI

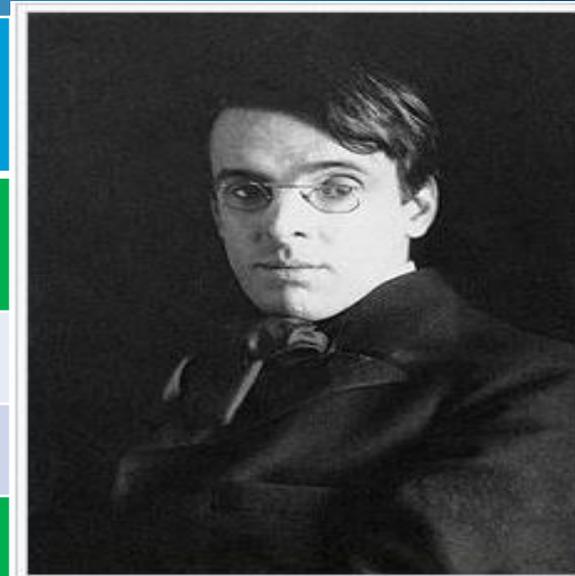
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

Takes you to-

# SAILING TO BYZANTIUM

## William. Butler Yeats

Born	<u>Dublin, Ireland</u> on 13 June 1865.
Died	in <u>Menton, France</u> .1939
Occupation	<u>poet</u> , <u>dramatist</u> and <u>mystic</u> .
Language	English
Nationality	<u>Irish</u>



Education	
Prize	<u>Nobel Prize in Literature.</u> 1923
Literary movement	<u>Irish Literary Revival</u>
Notable works	<u>1916</u> – <i>Easter</i> 1920 – <i>The Second Coming</i> <u>1928</u> – <i>The Tower</i> 1933 – <i>The Winding Stair and Other Poems</i>

# SUMMARY

- A)1)W.B.Yeats(1865-1939) was the one of the most important modern poets.
- 2)He exerted great influence on his contemporaries as well as successor .
- 3)He was an irish and he could never reconcile himself with the English habit.
- 4)He was a dreamer and visionary.
- 5)He was influenced by the superstitions of **Irish** peasantry.
- 6)Like them ,he believed in fairies,demons,gnomas, truth of dreams and in personal immortality.

- 
- 7) With this temperament Yeats, felt a stranger in this modern world of science.
  - 8) Yeats trusted in imagination.
  - 9) He believed that modern civilization effaces our fundamental consciousness.
  - 10) He went deeper in mythology.
  - 11) Yeat's attempt was to revive the beliefs of ancient times.
  - 12) He felt that the modern civilization has tamed it on dry logic and cold reason.
  - 13) He led the revolt of the soul against the intellect.

- 
- 14) He tries to rediscover those symbols which was popular appeal in ancient times.
  - 15) These symbols can even now touch the man's hidden selves.
  - 16) It will awaken his deepest consciousness of love and death.
  - 17) All these and many more factors inclined Yeats towards symbolism.
  - 18) He regarded that both imagery and rhythm can work as incantations of rouse universal emotions.

19)a) One important symbol of Yeats was the 'moon' which stands for life mystery.

b) According to him, a poet is one who tells the most ancient story in a manner that appeals even today.

B)1) The disintegration of modern civilization under the impact of war pained Yeats.

2)a) In his poem The Second Coming he describes what lies at the root of the malady

b) "Things fall apart; the centre cannot hold..."

3)The poem is the agony of old age .

4)The individual wishes to remain even when the heart is  
“fastened to a dying animal”.

5)Yeats solution is to leave the country and sail to Byzantium.

6)a)Sailing to Byzantium is a short poem of thirty two lines  
divided into four numbered stanza.

b)The title suggest and escape to a distant imaginary land where  
the speaker achieve all mystical work of art.

7)Here the sages of the city’s famous gold mosaics would become  
his ‘singing soul’.

8)Here he hopes the sages would come in the fire and take his  
soul away.

9)Their he would exist in , “the artifice of eternity”.

10) At the end the poet says that once out of the body, he would become a golden bird, sitting on a golden tree, singing of past, present and future.

11) Sailing to Byzantium is a poem from his collection 'Tower'.

12) The stanzas we find are in ottava rima consisting of eight lines.

13) Byzantium (Constantinople) is as a metaphor for a spiritual journey.

14) Yeats explores his thoughts and missing on how immortality, art and the human spirit may converge.

- 
- 15) Through various poetic techniques, the poem describes the metaphorical journey of a man, pursuing his own vision of eternal life as well as his conception of paradise.
  - 16) The prayer by the speaker is addressed to holy sages, not knowing where they are.
  - 17) But wherever they are, the prayer will be received.
  - 18) It is a qualified and dignified prayer.

HOPE YOU  
UNDERSTOOD AND  
ENJOYED

THANK YOU