

Characteristics of Modern Poetry:

1. Modern poetry is written in simple language, the language of every day speech and even sometimes in dialect or jargon like some poems of Rudyard Kipling (in the jargon of soldiers).
2. Modern poetry is mostly sophisticated as a result of the sophistication of the modern age, e. g. T. S. Eliot's "The Waste Land".
3. Alienation. The poet is alienated from the reader as a result of the alienation of the modern man.
4. Fragmentation: the modern poem is sometimes fragmented like a series of broken images, and a gain like "The Waste Land".
5. Modern poetry is highly intellectual; it is written from the mind of the poet and it addresses the mind of the reader, like the poems of T. S. Eliot.
6. It is interested in the ugly side of life and in taboo subjects like drug addiction, crime, prostitution and some other subjects. Like the poems of Allen Ginsberg.
7. Modern poetry is pessimistic as a result of the bad condition of man in many parts of the world, such as most of the poems of Thomas Hardy.
8. Modern poetry is suggestive; the poem may suggest different meanings to different readers.
9. Modern poetry is cosmopolitan. It appeals to man everywhere and at every time because it deals with the problems of man or humanity.
10. Experimentation is one of the important characteristic feature of modern poetry. Poets try to break new grounds, i. e. to find new forms, new language and new methods of expression.

11. It is irregular, written without metre and rhyme scheme and sometimes written in prose like the prose poem.
12. Interest in politics and the political problems of the age.
13. Interest in the psychology and in the subconscious. Many poets wrote unconsciously under the effect of wine or drugs.
14. Irregularity of form. Modern poetry is mostly written in free verse and prose (the prose poem).
15. Ambiguity: Most of the modern poetry is ambiguous for many reasons.
16. Interest in myth and especially Greek myth.
17. Interest in the problems of the average man and the lower classes of society.