



**a.s. 2023/2024**

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**Classe 50 SU**

Libro di testo Letteratura *Literary Journeys Concise*

## **I - THE VICTORIAN AGE (1837-1901)**

### **History and Society**

- The British Empire and the Commonwealth. Internal, European, and colonial policies.
- The Age of industry and reforms. Chartism, Reform Bills, and social reforms.
- The Second Industrial Revolution.
  - Analysis of the painting 'Iron and Coal' by W.B. Scott
- The 'Victorian Compromise' and Victorian values.

### **Literary context**

- Victorian poetry: the pre-Raphaelite brotherhood and the Aesthetic movement
- Victorian novel

### **Authors and texts**

#### **Theme 1: Childhood and Education**

- Victorian Education
  - Video: 'Another Brick in the Wall', Pink Floyd
- Child labour
  - Dickens and Verga

#### ***Hard Times*, Charles Dickens (1854)**

- Coketown (extra text)
- A classroom definition of a horse

#### ***Oliver Twist*, Charles Dickens (1837)**

- Oliver asks for more

#### ***Jane Eyre*, Charlotte Bronte (1847)**

- Punishment (extra text)

#### **Theme 2: The double**

- Decadent art and Aestheticism
  - Aesthetes: Wilde and D'Annunzio
- The pressure to be perfect (extra text)
- Double lives: Stevenson and Pirandello

#### ***The Strange case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde*, Robert Louis Stevenson (1886)**

- The story of the door (extra text)
- Dr Lanyon's narrative (extra text)
- The experiment (extra text)
- Jekyll can no longer control Hyde

#### ***The Picture of Dorian Gray*, Oscar Wilde (1891)**

- Preface (extra text)
- I have put too much of myself into it (extra text)

- In the painter's studio – New Hedonism (extra text)
- Dorian kills the painting

## **II – The Modern Age**

### **History and society**

- The turn of the century and the First World War
  - Listening: Propaganda for Patriotism and Nationalism
- The Second World War
  - The birth of the United Nations
- The Twenties and the Thirties
- The Modernist Revolution
- Insight into the USA: The growth of the USA (p.280), The turn of the century (p.370)

### **Literary Context**

- Modern poetry: The first and the second generation of Modernists
- Modern novel

### **Authors and texts**

#### **Theme 3: The world at war**

- Modern war
  - Analysis of the painting 'Gassed' (1918)
  - Women in World War I
  - Changing perspectives: The soldier

**'The Soldier', Rupert Brooke (1915)**

**'Dulce et Decorum Est', Wilfred Owen (1917) (extra text)**

**'Glory of Women', Siegfried Sassoon (1916)**

**'Refugee Blues', W.H. Auden (1940)**

#### **Theme 4: Exploring the mind**

- The stream of consciousness
- Joyce and Svevo

***Dubliners*, James Joyce (1914)**

- Eveline
- The Dead: extract 'The Memory of the Dead' (extra text)

#### **Theme 5: 'Man's dominion over man'**

- Modern myths: Big Brother
- Mass media and popular culture
- Living in cyberspace

***Animal Farm*, George Orwell (1945)**

- All animals are comrades (extra text)
- More equal than others (extra text)

***1984*, George Orwell (1949)**

- Big Brother is watching you
- Winston and Julia are finally caught