

# [Summary of american literature i works](https://assignbuster.com/summary-of-american-literature-i-works/)

" A Model of Christian Charity" Governor John Winthrop
Ideas about how the Puritans should treat each other
God has made some of mankind poor/rich, powerful/not
1. hold conformity in variation and difference
2. manifest the work of spirit against oppression
3. every man needs the bond of affection
Justice and mercy
Law of Nature vs. Law of Grace
Show kindness or God will ruin the colony
Reason, question, answer, objection, answer
Social contract and social class hierarchy" A Description of New England" Captain John Smith
Using merit to advance - no idleness
Faithful people will waste time converting others
Embrace employment
Raise your kids even if they hate you
If he doesn't execute everything perfectly, you never have to read his work again" What is An American?" J. Hector St. John de Crevecouer
Rejoice that one lived at the time America was founded
" Train of pleasing ideas"
No aristocracy, only fairness - American dream
" American" not just a race but a man that recognizes the wealth of differences
European foreigner - citizen - welcome
Accepting WHITE people without looking at exact race" The Flesh and the Spirit" Anne Bradstreet
2 sisters arguing by a river
Spirit: lives only on meditation, no sinful pleasures
Flesh: values material possession
2 aspects of human nature
Spirit prefers AMBITION
Puritan reassurance in doing the right thing" As Weary Pilgrim" Anne Bradstreet
Listing things the pilgrim will never do again - death" To My Dear and Loving Husband" Anne Bradstreet
Woman's point of view - feminist criticism
Imagery of happy marriage, unification, love> gold
Man is receiver
Marxist- why does the speaker feel the need of reward and repayment, comparing love to material wealth?
Low key insecurity" The Life of Olaudah Equiano" Olaudah Equiano
African in London, autobiography by former-slave
1789: well-known in abolitionist circles
Comes from nation of dancers, musicians, poets
Came from freedom??
Sold over and over again - saw white men as wasteful
Given new names like Gustavus Vassa" To the University of Cambridge in New England" Phillis Wheatley
Recently left shores of Africa - slave poet
Compares herself to Harvard students
Recently brought from " land of errors" ad the students have world's best wisdom and " sons of science"
Race and devout Christian - enslavement is a deadly sin" On Being Brought From Africa to America" Phillis Wheatley
Black slaves can be Christians too
God saved me
Refined" The Power of Fancy" Philip Freneau
Pursue imagination
American quest for freedom
Searching for your own answers
Controls the mind" To Sir Toby" Philip Freneau
Sees the brutality of slavery
Hell and fear
Torture
Devil" On a Honey Bee" Philip Freneau
Pondering the existence and duties of our lives" Rip Van Winkle" Washington Irving
Myth
Henpecked husband helps everyone but his family
Goes into the woods and falls asleep for 18 years
Comes back and everything has changed
SHORT STORY - NEW GENRE" The Legend of Sleepy Hollow" Washington Irving" Thanatopsis" William Cullen Bryant
Revising our human relationship with death
Unconcerned with what happens afterwards
Nature can help ease dark thoughts
Everyone will die and be reunited in the ground
Death is a happy, dream-filled sleep
" Communion" with Earth's visible features
Meditation on death
Announcement of change - away from rationalism" The Prairies" William Cullen Bryant
As fresh as before Adam sinned
Man has no part in this glorious work
Magnificent earthly creatures
Peace can be broken as easily as it is formed
Alone in the wilderness - experience the beauty
Bees humming - civilization to come
COMMUNION WITH NATURE AND PAST" The Aeolian Harp" Herman Melville" Bartleby, the Scrivener" Herman Melville
ISOLATIONISM IN AMERICA
Bartleby: clinical depression, abandonment from society, worked at Dead Letter Office, repetitive " I prefer not to"
Narrator: feels responsible for him, understand, better interaction, motivation, human nature and caring
What is the meaning of communication?" Fall of the House of Usher" Edgar Allan Poe
Identity: physical vs. mental - self exploration
Fear: fear is scarier than the thing to fear
Isolation: extremely isolated family
House = house AND family" The Tell-Tale Heart" Edgar Allan Poe
Madness is just " over acuteness of the senses"
All of us have good and bad
Logic? sanity vs. insanity" The Raven" Edgar Allan Poe
Grief doesn't end or leave
Trusting perception
Dark bird sitting on the head of the goddess of wisdom" Nature" Ralph Waldo Emerson
1. Nature
2. Commodity
3. Beauty
4. Language
5. Discipline
6. Idealism
7. Spirit
8. Prospects
Purpose: foundation of transcendentalism
Espouses a non-traditional appreciation of nature
Communion with nature - finding God in nature
Kingdom of man over nature - domination" Self Reliance" Ralph Waldo Emerson
self = individuality
Self = unified self - all connected
Trusting yourself
Believing that what's in your heart is the same as everyone else = genius
Virtues are expectations not rules
No law is sacred except for nature
Communion with nature" Resistance to Civil Government" Henry David Thoreau
" That gov't is best which governs least" turns into:
" That gov't is best which governs not at all"
In jail for not paying taxes to support the Mex-US war" Conscience" Henry David Thoreau
Instinct
Feeling and thinking cultivate sin
Earnest, pure, simple life
Complex human emotion vs. simple conscience" My Life has been a Poem" Henry David Thoreau
Short life of 45 years - short poem
Living, not uttering - Transcendentalism
Trying to dictate how your life will go is complicated
Poem of life is an extensive burden
GO LIVE YOUR LIFE DON'T SPEND IT RECORDING IT" Song of Myself" Walt Whitman
Sec 1 : ground rules, I am you, you are me
Sec 2 : you can't learn everything from books, go discover
Sec 3 : all history is history of the present moment
Sec 6 : what is grass
Sec 11 : widow watches men bathe
Sec 20 : mysteries of nature
Sec 21 : poet of the body, poet of the soul
Sec 50 : past and present wilt, he contradicts himself
Sec 52 : proud of himself, waiting for us to catch up" When Lilacs Last in the Dooryard Bloom'd" Walt Whitman
Star : Venus falling in the sky = dead man
Lilacs : full bloomed = vital nature
Hermit Thrust : natural place = pure and holy nature" When I Heard the Learn'd Astronomer" Walt Whitman
GO LEARN SOMETHING FOR YOURSELF
Lectures, charts, diagrams aren't needed sometimes
We would learn better by doing - kinesthetic" Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass" Frederick Douglass
Identity
Quest for freedom
Freedom of the mind leads to freedom of the body
Learnt to read from his mistress and kids on the street
" Brutalize" = make people into brutesPoemsEmily Dickinson
Private poems
Inspired aspiring writers
Seeks authentic " self"
Rebel - the dark was a momentary inspiration
Cliché crazy woman in the attic ONSUMMARY OF AMERICAN LITERATURE I WORKS SPECIFICALLY FOR YOUFOR ONLY$13. 90/PAGEOrder Now