

## **Key Elements of Modernism with special reference to T. S. Eliot's *The Waste Land***

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### **Abstract**

This paper deals with the key elements of modernism with special reference to T. S. Eliot's *The Waste Land*. Thomas Stearns Eliot is also known as T. S. Eliot. He was an American-born poet, essayist, publisher, playwright, and critic. He is well known for his contribution and a leader of the modernist movement in poetry. He was awarded Nobel prize for literature in 1948. Modernist Movement started in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. It flourished in Europe and the USA around the beginning of Second World War. The idea of modernism was a radical change in society, new political ideologies, social movements, industrialization, technological advancements, and scientific discoveries along with new ways of thinking and creativity. Modernism, which had an impact on literature, philosophy, design, and art, resulted in a significant shift in culture. This was the new philosophy of arts, music, and culture because each one had its own rules which were formed by the pioneers. The features include a break with tradition, a strong reaction against established religious, political, and social views. It can be categorized into individualism, expressionism, symbolism, imagism, absurdity, and formalism. *The Waste Land* is a representative poem of T. S. Eliot for modern society which indicates prevalent sense of disillusionment, loss of identity, loss of faith in God, loss of humanity, confusion all around the world and colonization that is under threat due to the current situation in the modern society. The objective of this article is to show the modern circumstances and problems which are prevalent in the world. The article also highlights the sense of desolation, uncertainty, futility, and other factors that shaped the modern society.

**Keywords:** Modernist movement, Industrialization, Arts, Music, & Culture, Individualism, Expressionism, and Formalism, Loss of Humanity, Loss of Faith in God, and Colonialization.

**Introduction:** Modernism period marks a transition from old forms to new forms of arts and philosophy in the western world due to industrialization, urbanization, new technologies, and war. Ezra Pound's 1934 proclamation to "Make it New" served as the movement's guiding principle. The techniques and innovations include stream of consciousness, monologue, self-consciousness. Modernists rejected the philosophy of realism as well as enlightenment and some of them also rejected religious belief. These new shorts of trends in culture and society influenced art, design, literature, and philosophy leading an immense cultural transformation.

T. S. Eliot is considered one of the 20th century's major poets and he plays a central role in modernist poetry. As a leader of modernist poetry in works such as *The Waste Land* (1922), *Four Quartets* (1943) and *Tradition and the Individual Talent* (1919), he revived the diction, style, versification through a cycle of critical essays as experiments. He destroyed old orthodoxies and created new ones. The publication of *Four Quartets* led to his recognition as the greatest English poet and a man of letters. He was awarded both the Order of Merit and the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1948. *The Love song of J. Alfred Prufrock* (1915) was his masterpiece in the field of Modernism in English. The poem was followed by *The Waste Land*. These works are remembered in English Literature even now. Therefore, he occupies a very high place in literature.

Eliot developed a close association with the American poet Ezra Pound in 1914. They are called the high priests of modernism as they speak about high modernism in their poetry. Eliot strengthened the use of myths and modern experiences of different voices, tradition and discourses and he focused on form as the carrier of meaning. Eliot utilized his name, fame, and position as an editor of a renowned literary journal named *The Criterion* and as a managing editor of the publishing house Faber and Faber to analyze the standard of literature. Eliot criticized the romantics and Neo-classicists in his critical essays and his poetry. He celebrated Dante and the Elizabethan metaphysical poets. He questioned the central role of 'Tradition' in literature and the cult of individual constructed by the romantics.

**History of Modernism:** The modern age is considered from 1901 to 1945 but generally some historians accepted modern period from 1895 to 1945. It may be political history, literary history, or social history. Every age is modern to a certain extent and the prefix modern for the literary period spanning from 1895 to 1945 itself is a misnomer. There was no movement in the name of Modernism; however, there were little movements more than a dozen during the modern age. The modernists were doing certain things in their own way and so they were very different from the earlier writers. They created new ideas which contributed a lot to literature. This was a new phase in history and known as contemporary. The world had been divided into two worlds that is prewar and postwar. 20<sup>th</sup> century human beings got cut off from their past, history, and tradition where they lost everything. They did not have any hope. It was this kind of feeling because there

was nothing left to fall back upon. There was utter confusion and disillusionment. Thus, this created a sort of panic and anxiety. Therefore, people got disillusioned with the western civilization itself. That's why the idea of the decline of the west came. It is based on the idea of Oswald Spengler's book *The Decline of the West*. T. S. Eliot also shows the idea of decadent Western civilization in his greatest poem *The Waste Land* of the modern age.

The modern age is characterized by many interesting anecdotes. Different historians have different opinions about periodization. Every age has its own characteristics but there are no specific features in modern age because every writer has his own writing style and ideas. World War took place and therefore, people got very much confused. The common man did not know that what was happening in the world. Depression, chaos, disillusionment etc. was found everywhere. It is said that literature is a mirror of society. What is happening in the society one can see the direct influence on literature. Due to World War, the thinking of the world changed and so literature also changed. Harold Rosenberg's book entitled *The Tradition of the New* throws light on the modern methods. It means something new which never happened. The old tradition got distorted. New techniques were employed during modern age which were not even thought of earlier.

Modernism was a response to so many things that happened in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. In the 16<sup>th</sup> century Humanism and Renaissance changed everything. There was a new hope, a new focus on the greatness of human being, the beauty of human being, and the value of humanity. During the Medieval period everything was dark and at that time human being, and human life was not celebrated. The belief was that human beings were considered sinners. This trend continued in the 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, and 18<sup>th</sup> century. In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, changes came in the idea of humanism. Now humanism did not remain the same. It was not static. They started focusing on human ideas, reason and thinking. They also focused on emotions, beauty, and romanticism. The reason for all these things getting transformed in the 19<sup>th</sup> century was because the conditions of life, society, politics, and economics changed, because of Industrialization and world war.

Industrialization means setting up factories of mass production and prior to that people were making things with their hands. They were living in villages and relationships mattered. Life was not so fast but with the establishment of industries or factories and mass production

started. As a result, a materialist society emerged. This led to even more oppression, injustice and people got divided in many ways. New ideologies came into being resulting in wars, conflicting and political transformation. Therefore, the industries brought inequality, which in turn pitted the rich wealthy factory owner or Bourgeois against the working class or Proletariats. The working classes were exploited to a great extent. They did not have good living conditions. They did not get equal wages which led to rights of social problems and so on.

So, the 19<sup>th</sup> century was a time of radical changes, tumultuous changes, and people lost their beliefs in truth and reality. They lost their beliefs in values and began to question established ideas because of Charles Darwin. He brought a new era with his origin of species. Darwin's evolutionary theory proved that the Bible is not literally true that probably man is not after all made in the image of God. According to the theory, human beings evolved from lesser animals and apes. How would one address those beliefs and earliest established ideas of the 14<sup>th</sup> century of Humanism, when one knows that much of it was probably not true.

The Enlightenment of 18<sup>th</sup> century had brought reason and the idea of progress in the civilization that looked like progress. But it only led to even more misery in some sections of society. Therefore, Industrialization has progress so great. Look at Colonialism and Imperialism, it apparently looked like Imperialism is good that the white is doing their responsibility. The white man's burden of civilizing the rest of the world. But colonies started to clamor for freedom, fight for freedom because they were facing more challenges. They got subjected to oppressions and extreme domination of the colonizer that's why people began to question the West itself. People started to question the values of Imperialism. It looked like things are seriously wrong. At the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, there are Avant-grade movements that questioned realism. It experimented with form, colour and techniques. The Avant-grade movements are experimental movements that broke away from the traditions of art and literature. The avant-garde movements succeeded in unshackling the readers, causing a great reaction in the readers, rejecting mainstream ideas of morality, life, and writing. Therefore, the Avant-grade shook up the Western minds, and the Western culture to a great extent. It looked like life is fragmented that one does not believe in anything permanent. Everything is transient or temporary into this kind of situation comes the World War.

Recently there was a war between Ukraine and Russia. People were watching that they are struggling for their lives and a lots of innocent people are dying. That means war is not a great thing it always leads to destruction and casualties. The First World War was supposed to be the first and last war. People thought, this is good let it come. Patriotism and Nationalism is good. But when the war began, things changed because it was not so easy to fight and kill. Now many people began to realize the pity and horror of war. So, the World War turned out to be a disillusion for people. The World War started from 1914 to 1918 and almost immediately after that in the year 1929 came the Great Depression. There was a crash of the stock markets especially in America which led to terrible disasters like the failure of the American Dream, and American beliefs in progress and success. Everything fails. The Great Depression led to massive unemployment, poverty, suicide, people taking to drugs and getting depression so on and so forth. The world seems to be an immoral waste land. Everywhere people started losing beliefs and social institutions started falling apart. People do not know what to believe anymore. It is indeed metaphorically a waste land. Everything was broken later. Can people imagine a city after war, it is just like waste land. People were dying so where are the values and what is the truth. Where humanity is heading to look at the past, there were a lot of wonderful things in the past, great monuments, great writers, and many things but currently looking at the past from the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, it seems everything is becoming disastrous. How to make sense of the past. How to put everything together once again. How to start a new life this is the problem for the modernists and when the modernists look at the future there is nothing, no hope, no light, and is only uncertainty. Therefore, in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, all these kinds of changes related to Industrial Revolution, the two world wars, and the great depression all these disconcerting events led to uncertainty that people call modernism.

Following the first World War, as people know that many political issues took place at that time when Mussolini in Italy started Fascism then there was Hitler who upheld Nazism or Aryan supremacy which eventually led to the Second World War therefore modernism that came in between the two world wars. People are reacting that these are two political developments which in the beginning look good and they had a lot of hopes, but it went wrong. The western world had already lived through French Revolution and underwent many disastrous consequences. Now the western world was not ready for another disaster. They were anxious and

terrify along with that there was rise of Communism. For the western Capitalists, Communism looked like another disaster. There was revival of Catholicism and Humanism. All these show the desperate attempt of the western thinkers, writers, and the philosophers. They were desperately trying to make sense of the reality. It all reflected in literature. So, Modernism is a reaction to a fragmented world or a society that is fast breaking down and modernism is trying to make sense of it.

This was the time when the margins began to take back to the center. The working classes were gradually coming up. The colonized people were gaining freedom. Women were organizing movements like civil rights movement and suffragette movement. This was also a time when Capitalism was developing even though it had disastrous consequences like the great depression. A complete consumerist society was developing. It was a very chaotic period. Modernism is a very heterogeneous approach which focused on chaos and anarchy. As T. S. Eliot said to make sense of this chaos, writers try to employ techniques like the mythical methods. They recited the symbols of objective correlatives. They tried to bring the mind of the human being into focus like Expressionism, Realism, Surrealism etc. rather than focusing on external reality through techniques like Stream of Consciousness, Epiphany etc. Modernists tried to map the human psyche that's why in modernism there are new forms of expression. There was very strong influence of Sigmund Freud and his understanding of the human minds. There are experiments with metre, rhyme, and page settings. Thus, Modernism tried to represent the complexity of reality and society through these techniques. They attempted to show society as fragmented. They lamented this loss of unity and tried to create a sense of unity among this fragmentation.

In this world of fragmentation and futility, the modernists resorted when back to the classics. The canonical texts, they believed that the classics or the canon has some values that one can learn from and through which one can repair the disasters that people live with. For example, Eliot turned back to the metaphysical poets and their unified sensibility. Penguin, the publisher, was established for the revival of the classics. There were new attempts to embrace the value of humanism in movements like the new humanism. So, when modernism came into being probably somewhere in the 19<sup>th</sup> century between 1850s or 1890s or around December 1910,

human nature changed. December 1910 was the time dramatically given by Virginia Woolf to mark the change in the world. This was the age when liberal humanism weakens the values of human beings, the values of humanist literature are all weakened in modernism. They do not talk about humanism anymore. They talk about chaos, the chaotic experience of war, the slacking of family ties, local, or religious ties all are reflected in the anti-humanistic techniques of modernism.

In modernist literature, there is a great deal of importance given to subjectivity against objectivity, against objective truth, against omniscient third person narrator. Modernism presents subjectivity. It is shown in modernism, fragmentation, self-reflexivity, parody, and pastiche, and other techniques used by modernist writers. Now modernism is no single homogeneous movement. It is a very diverse movement. Within modernism, there are many approaches. D. H. Lawrence wrote very poetic prose and did not formally experiment whereas James Joyce was experimental. E. M. Forster and Virginia Woolf dealt into characters whereas Ezra Pound did not talk about characters very much. He presented the technique of Ideogrammic method, presenting concrete images to represent abstract ideas so modernism is very diverse.

In Modernism, there was also high modernism or the high point of modernism. At that time, there were unparallel range and rapidity of change. The high modernists are D. H. Lawrence, Ezra Pound, James Joyce, Virginia Woolf, and T. S. Eliot. All these writers of high modernism employ a very austere style with an anti-humanist vision. They had faith in science and technology to some extent but increasingly they lost that faith too. They employed a fragmented form and disregarded socio-culture and political context because they need new interpretation of reality and life. They completely broke from the prevailing formal techniques and took refuge in a mythical past. T. S. Eliot also talked about the mythical methods. Modernism also focusses on paintings. In Impressionism, it appears for the first time and modernism went on to influence the other arts. Eventually, it was widespread European movement which got disseminated all over Europe. In a couple of decades when Second World War began, modernism had become the mainstream movement in Euro-American academia.

**A Brief Bio-note on T. S. Eliot:** Thomas Stearns Eliot is considered as a pioneer of modernism. He was born at St. Louis, Missouri, in America in 1888. He belongs to New England family. In



17<sup>th</sup> century, his ancestors had come to New England from England in America. Eliot was from that ancestry and wrote about his ancestors in his book *Four Quartets*. He migrated to England to become an English citizen. He settled in England where he was a schoolmaster, a bank clerk and finally literary editor for the publishing house Faber and Faber where later he became a director. He was the editor of the *Egoist* which was a major periodical of that time. He edited an influential literary journal *Criterion* in which he published *The Waste Land*. This is the time when he edited a very fragmented long poem which finally became *The Waste Land* originally the title of the poem was, *He Do the Police in Different Voices*. In 1927, he also converted from Unitarianism to Anglicanism and became the greatest writer of 20<sup>th</sup> century with the publication of the long poem *The Waste Land*. He was a great poet but was also a major critic and a playwright. He was a pioneer author because he encouraged a lot of writers. He established the traditions of modernism inspiring a lot of writers to follow the tradition. He was a student at Harvard university where he studied philosophy. He got inspiration from new humanists like Irving Babbitt. He desires to bring in the entire western tradition into his writing because this was the time when society was degenerated, and literature was fragmented as he depicted in his *The Waste Land*. There were new critics and Eliot was a new critic. New criticism upheld the values of tradition. F. R. Lewis wrote *The Great Tradition*. The new critics had a very formal approach to literature. Eliot also upheld the same approach. He showed that the focus should not be on the poet and artist but on poetry. He described that the impersonality is a need of poetry and criticism he discussed in *Tradition and Individual Talent*. His foundations in philosophy gave him a unique approach to literature, life, and tradition. It was the beginning of first world war. In 1914, He left America and settled in England and at this time he had troubled marriage. His wife Vivian had psychological problems and she was put in an asylum treatment. After her death, Eliot remarried his colleague Valerie who worked with him in Faber and Faber.

*The Waste Land* was edited by Ezra Pound, and he published it in the first edition of the *Criterion* in 1922. Eliot was influenced by Ezra Pound and even by new humanists. There were many philosophers in Harvard like George Santayana who also influenced Eliot. Symbolism was an avant-garde movement in France that led to the foundation of modernism. Charles Baudelaire and Jules Laforgue were symbolists they made major influences on Eliot. These writers also featured in *The Waste Land*. The Symbolist Movement had been introduced into England at this



time by Arthur Symons' book *The Symbolist Movement in Literature*. This book influenced not only Eliot but many other modernists as well as earlier writers like W. B. Yeats. T. S. Eliot worked in close connection with the new critics especially F. R. Lewis.

**Contemporaries of T. S. Eliot:** The contemporaries of T.S. Eliot are Ezra Pound, W. B. Yeats and others including Virginia Woolf, James Joyce, and Marcel Proust. Ezra Pound is generally regarded as one of the most influential and most difficult poets of the 20th century. He made a significant contribution to Modernist poetry. He earlier advocated a lot of avant-garde and Modernist poets to develop essential networks of intellectual and aesthetic exchange between the United States and Europe and promoted many important literary movements. Pound founded the Imagist movement with Richard Adlington, Hilda Doolittle and other writers. He edited its first anthology entitled *Des Imagistes* in 1914. His efforts developed new directions in the arts as the Modernist period. Pound promoted such acclaimed writers as James Joyce, T.S. Eliot, Robert Frost, W.B. Yeats, William Carlos Williams, Marianne Moore, H.D, and Ernest Hemingway.

**A Critical Perspective of The Waste Land:** *The Waste Land* was published in 1922. It is one of the greatest poems in the 20<sup>th</sup> century literature. There were vast major profound changes in modern society. From the Victorian period, there was increasing commercialization and urbanization. Cities were being found and life had become wondering. People came to cities and wondered without roots. They did not belong to the city. They were leading a very mechanized life. Currently, there were many political upheavals and bloody revolutions from the 19<sup>th</sup> century itself. The first world war started. It was a time of great unsettlement. People were migrating from one place to another. The materialist society was ruling the roost. Money determined everything. Age Old values of humanism had all disappeared. Families and societies were breaking down. There was illusion of morality and sex taboos. There were typical modern conditions. All morality and spirituality got eroded from this world. It is a world where meanings of the humanist period were replaced by mechanization and fragmentation. In *The Waste Land* one sees such kind of characters. These characters do not belong to any place. They feel alienated from their background, and they do not have faith in their families. They are living a death in life condition. They are all alive, but they are so alienated and so they fall under the category of hollow men. In other words, they are living a kind of death in life existence. This

death in life existence is represented by the protagonist of *The Waste Land* who is Tiresias. Tiresias does not appear in *The Waste Land* from beginning to end. He was a mythical prophet who lives in between existence. Tiresias is the objective correlative in *The Waste Land*. For all the characters in *The Waste Land*, Tiresias is a symbol or a metaphor. Every character is like Tiresias. *The Waste Land* is completely a mythical poem because it uses the mythical method. The poem is replete with full of mythical references. The most important myths are the myth of the fisher king, the myth of the quest for holy grail etc.

*The Waste Land* displays the sordid reality of the crisis of western civilization that is an outcome of World War I (1914-1918) which was the most destructive war in human history. The poem shows an accusation of the postwar European culture as an expression of disillusionment with contemporary society which Eliot believed was culturally barren. The poem depicts the spiritual and emotional barrenness of the modern world. Men have lost their faith in God and religion and even lost their passion to participate in religion. This decline of faith has resulted in the loss of liveliness, both spiritual and emotional. People also lost their identity, and faith in humanity. It was an age of extreme individualism. There was confusion all-around, and colonization was under threat. Therefore, life in the modern wasteland is a life-in-death, a living death, a life of complete inactivity, listlessness, and apathy. Modern men have lost their sense of good and evil, and this keeps them away from being alive.

The poem is divided into five sections named as “The Burial of the Dead”, “A Game of Chess”, “The Fire Sermon”, “Death by Water”, and “What the Thunder Said.”

In the first section “The Burial of the Dead”, Eliot starts with the recurring imagery of death. According to Eliot:

April is the cruellest month, breeding  
Lilacs out of the dead land, mixing  
Memory and desire, stirring  
Dull roots with spring rain.  
Winter kept us warm, covering  
Earth in forgetful snow, feeding

A little life with dried tubers.  
Summer surprised us, coming over the Starnbergersee  
With a shower of rain; we stopped in the colonnade,  
And went on in sunlight, into the Hofgarten,  
And drank coffee, and talked for an hour.

In these lines, T. S. Eliot concentrates on the contrasting notion of April. He refers to Geoffrey Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*, where April is not the sweet and joyous time of the year but the cruellest. He says that April is the most normal spirited of all the months with all those lilacs blooming out of the lifeless soil as a remembrance of memory and love while spring rain stirs up the painful past. Winter appeared warmer because the snow covered up the ground and life was like dried-up bulbs under the earth: sheltered, suppressed. Summer came suddenly, crossing Lake Starnbergersee in the rain. We sat in the sunny park, drinking coffee and talking.

The second stanza "A Game of Chess" goes on from the narrative of the landscape. It is discussed about the titular waste land having three different settings, and three more different characters. The title is taken from two plays by Thomas Middleton wherein the idea of a game of chess is an exercise in seduction. The section opens and ends with fragments from Shakespeare's plays. The next piece is a sudden switch to the story of Philomel who was raped by a barbarous king Tereus. Then it shifts to a story of a woman with bad nerves. It is apparent that she is waiting for something. Now the verse moves to a scene in a bar where Lil and a friend are talking about Albert who was just released from the army. Albert had given Lil some money for new teeth; however, Lil spent the money on pills that would induce miscarriages. Lil took five of these pills indicating she had five miscarriages. A side effect of these pills was that they added thirty years to Lil's looks.

"The Fire Sermon" is indicating a change. The nymphs of old are departed, no one believes in them anymore. The Thames is not the same. It is now polluted, losing its sense of serenity. Then it shifts to another reference to the rape of Philomel before changing to the scenes with Tiresias. Tiresias, who is a blind prophet has been both male and female. He describes a story of more devalued sexual relations about a liaison with a typist. The typist, who is supposed

to appear as an erotic object, is somebody without any erotic appeal. Her surroundings are very uninviting. Her “stockings, slippers, camisoles, and stays” are piled on the divan! There is no excitement, no energy. After this scene Eliot shifted back to fragmentary writing. Within these fragments there are some echoes of the typist and then the verse ends with one word, “burning” standing all alone on the page.

In “Death by Water,” is revealed the way of escape from the degradation of society. The protagonist speaks to us of Phlebas the Phoenician who experienced death by water which can be seen as a representation of baptism, the shedding of the sinful nature, and the acceptance of the “Living Water” (KJV Bible, John 7:38) of Christ. Phlebas is now dead to the world. He has forgotten “the cry of gulls, and the deep-sea swell and the profit and the loss” (IV, 313-314). He is no longer affected by the sin of modern society but lives separate from it. The narrator then addresses the reader: “Gentile or Jew you who turn the wheel and look to windward, / Consider Phlebas, who was once handsome and tall as you” (IV, 319-321). With this address, the narrator reminds us that humans are as mortal as Phlebas, and people also require this “Living Water.” This passage is a direct contrast to “The Fire Sermon” where the focus is on quenching the fires of lust with the “Living Water” that provides spiritual cleansing. To truly experience life, our sinful nature must die.

The concluding section “What the Thunder Said” reveals four scenes. The first is that of Gethsemane when Jesus Christ was captured in the dead of night. This shifts into a barren landscape filled with rocks but no water. Blending into it is a scene related to the search for the Holy Grail, with vile, haunting images of towers and broken cities. The voice of the thunder speaks three words, ‘Datta, Dayadhvam and Damyata’ which speak words of wisdom and understanding, which fall upon deaf ears. The Fisher King has no hope of resurrecting his kingdom and is left with crumbling means through which only he will emerge alive. *The Waste Land* is recognized as a major statement of modernist poetics both for its broad symbolic significance and for Eliot’s masterful use of formal techniques.

**Findings:** *The Waste Land* is hailed as a masterpiece because of its relevance in the contemporary world. *The Waste Land* offers a ray of hope to humanity to overcome evils like

lust, immorality, characterlessness, hypocrisy, double standards etc. *The Waste Land* is a mirror of society, and it continues to show mirror towards reality, sorrow, suffering etc. Overall, the literary works continue to inspire humanity and will be a source of inspiration in the years to come. Modernism was a radical change in society which led to new ways of thinking, living, and creativity. Its impact can be seen on literature, philosophy, design, and art, resulted in a significant shift in culture. Modern society shows prevalent sense of disillusionment, loss of identity, loss of faith in God, loss of humanity, confusion all around the globe due to the current situation in the modern society. This presents the modern circumstances and problems which are prevalent in the world. The 20<sup>th</sup> century environment highlights a sense of desolation, uncertainty, futility, and other factors that shaped the modern society.

**Conclusion:** T. S. Eliot's landmark modernist poem *The Waste Land* explores life in London in the aftereffects of the First World War. The poem developed a debate among readers with some critics acknowledging it as a masterpiece that spoke for a generation of lost souls. *The Waste Land* can be identified as a poem about brokenness and loss and Eliot's various allusions to the First World War indicate that the war played a significant part in bringing about this social, psychological, and emotional collapse. The modernists were doing certain things in their own way and so they were very different from the earlier writers. They created new ideas which contributed a lot to literature. This was a new phase in history. Men have lost their faith in God and religion and even lost their passion to participate in religion. This decline of faith has resulted in the loss of progress, both spiritual and emotional. People also lost their identity, and faith in humanity. It was an age of extreme individualism. Modern men have lost their sense of good and evil, and this keeps them away from being alive.

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