

Literary Analysis

NEOCLASSICISM

The literary style that prevailed in England from the Restoration to nearly the end of the 18th century is referred to as **neoclassicism** or “new classicism.” In this age, many writers intentionally modeled their works on classical Greek or Latin texts, which they had studied in school or university. Neoclassicists believed that such ancient works were valuable because they revealed universal truths of human experience. These authors respected order, reason, and rules and viewed humans as essentially limited and imperfect. Their writing typically reflects the following core ideas and values:

- Society is more important than any individual.
- Reason is more important than emotion.
- Observable facts are more important than opinions.

Directions: In the chart, record at least one example of each aspect of Neoclassical writing from the essay, “Plan and Purpose.”

Aspects of Neoclassical writing	“Plan and Purpose”
Society is more important than any individual.	
Reason is more important than emotions.	
Observable facts are more important than opinions.	