

Degree - 1

Paper - 2

English Honors

Session, 2020-23

(135) Topic:

Write a short note on
"Heroic Couplet."

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28.4.21

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Heroic Couplet.

Before discussing Heroic couplet let us first know about couplet. A pair of poetic lines rhyming together is called couplet. Couplet can be classified as open couplet and closed couplet. Open couplets ~~have~~ have complete thoughts that progresses over a pair of lines with punctuation only at the end of second line. Closed couplets have an end stop closing out each line.

Heroic couplet is a specified type of couplet

that discusses heroic theme and that usually uses iambic pentameter. Heroic couplet is a traditional form for English poetry commonly used in epic and narrative poetry. It is much used by Geoffrey Chaucer in Canterbury Tales. It became a dominant form in the mid 17th Century notably found in the work of Alexander Pope and John Dryden. Example -

"All human things are subject to decay
 When fate summons, monarch must obey"

→ MacFlecknoe by
 John Dryden.