

*An Essay on Criticism* by Alexander Pope  
Pages 614-617

About the Author

1. Why is Pope famous in English literature?
2. How was he educated?
3. When did he write *An Essay on Criticism*?
4. How are the epigrams written?

*An Essay on Criticism*

1. Define epigram.
2. Define couplet.
3. How does the comparison of watches to judgments work?
4. Does Pope believe a person can be a jack-of-all-trades? Why or why not?
5. Why might a little learning be a dangerous thing?
6. How does Pope's conception of beauty reflect his era's love for general principles?
7. The neoclassicists favored human artifice over untamed nature. How does Pope apply this concept?
8. Would Pope agree that writers should use as few words as possible? Explain.
9. What general principles for writing and criticism can you find here?
10. Does Pope follow his own advice?
11. How does this reflect neoclassicism? See pg. 567 for help.

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