

## Module 6: The Power of the Mind in the Romantic Era


### Topic 2 Content: The Life and Work of Washington Irving

#### Introduction

#### The Life and Work of Washington Irving

##### Introduction

As one of the early writers during the Romantic era, Washington Irving earned international acclaim for his work and inspired later writers of Romanticism. Click on each of the tabs to explore the life of Washington Irving and his contributions to American literature.



1 2 3 4

As one of the early writers during the Romantic era, Washington Irving earned international acclaim for his work and inspired later writers of Romanticism. Click on each of the tabs to explore the life of Washington Irving and his contributions to American literature.


## Module 6: The Power of the Mind in the Romantic Era

### Topic 2 Content: The Life and Work of Washington Irving

#### Contributions

#### The Life and Work of Washington Irving

##### Contributions



Washington Irving was born on April 3, 1783 and named after George Washington. Irving was a lawyer who preferred writing to practicing law. He is most famous for publishing a book of short stories that includes "Rip Van Winkle" and "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow." Additionally, Irving has been credited with developing the first example of the American short story, which utilizes elements of narration such as symbolism, archetypes, irony, humor, imagery, and folklore.

*Image Caption: An illustrated scene from Irving's short story "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow"*

1 2 3 4

Washington Irving was born on April 3, 1783 and named after George Washington. Irving was a lawyer who preferred writing to practicing law. He is most famous for publishing a book of short stories that includes "Rip Van Winkle" and "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow." Additionally, Irving has been credited with developing the first example of the American short story, which utilizes elements of narration such as symbolism, archetypes, irony, humor, imagery, and folklore.

*Image Caption: An illustrated scene from Irving's short story "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow"*

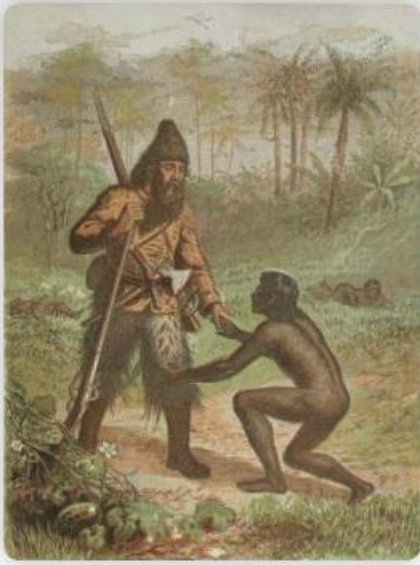
## Module 6: The Power of the Mind in the Romantic Era

### Topic 2 Content: The Life and Work of Washington Irving

#### Early Life

#### The Life and Work of Washington Irving

##### Early Life



As a young man, Irving enjoyed traveling and going on wild adventures. Even though he was a lawyer, his true passions included traveling the world, rebelling against his religious parents, and keeping busy with an active social life. Literature proved to be an important part of his life as he sought inspiration from his favorite book, Daniel Defoe's *Robinson Crusoe*. During the War of 1812, he spent a brief amount of time as an aid to the governor of New York but returned to England upon the conclusion of the war.

*Image Caption: an illustrated scene from Robinson Crusoe by Daniel Defoe*

1 2 3 4

As a young man, Irving enjoyed traveling and going on wild adventures. Even though he was a lawyer, his true passions included traveling the world, rebelling against his religious parents, and keeping busy with an active social life. Literature proved to be an important part of his life as he sought inspiration from his favorite book, Daniel Defoe's *Robinson Crusoe*. During the War of 1812, he spent a brief amount of time as an aid to the governor of New York but returned to England upon the conclusion of the war.

*Image Caption: an illustrated scene from Robinson Crusoe by Daniel Defoe*


## Module 6: The Power of the Mind in the Romantic Era

### Topic 2 Content: The Life and Work of Washington Irving

#### Fame and Embrace of Romanticism

#### The Life and Work of Washington Irving

##### Fame and Embrace of Romanticism



After falling upon hard times, Irving turned to writing to earn an income. His work was well-received, and when he returned to America, he was somewhat of a celebrity. Irving's writing embodies Romantic characteristics by favoring imagination and intuition over reason and logic. His stories are rich with natural imagery of his beloved New York state and infused with themes of rebellion and escapism.

1 2 3 4

After falling upon hard times, Irving turned to writing to earn an income. His work was well-received, and when he returned to America, he was somewhat of a celebrity. Irving's writing embodies Romantic characteristics by favoring imagination and intuition over reason and logic. His stories are rich with natural imagery of his beloved New York state and infused with themes of rebellion and escapism.

## Module 6: The Power of the Mind in the Romantic Era

### Topic 2 Content: The Life and Work of Washington Irving

#### "Rip Van Winkle"

##### The Life and Work of Washington Irving

##### "Rip Van Winkle"



"Rip Van Winkle" belongs to the genre of folklore in which stories are associated with a certain geographic location. Before the advent of the printing press and mass production that made literature accessible to the majority, stories were told orally. Such tales were typically short and humorous and demonstrated a universal theme.

*Image Caption: An illustrated scene from Irving's short story "Rip Van Winkle"*

1 2 3 4

"Rip Van Winkle" belongs to the genre of folklore in which stories are associated with a certain geographic location. Before the advent of the printing press and mass production that made literature accessible to the majority, stories were told orally. Such tales were typically short and humorous and demonstrated a universal theme.

*Image Caption: An illustrated scene from Irving's short story "Rip Van Winkle"*