**Hama Lakhdar University**

**Faculty of Arts and Foreign Languages**

**Department of English**

**Teacher**: Mega Afaf

**Subject**: Contemporary British Literature

**Level**: Master 01

**Course 03**

**III- The Contemporary British Literature**

Elizabeth Angel –Perez (2013) classifies the British postmodern novel according to theme into separate categories:

1. **La Saga**: Represented by:

* Antony Powell ( 1905-2000); A Question of Upbringing.
* C.P. Snow (1905- 1980); Strangers and Brothers ( 1970).
* Lawrence Durrell (1912- 1990); Justine ( 1957), Cléa ( 1960).
* Angus Wilson ( 1913- 1991); No Laughing Matter ( 1967), The Old Man at the Zoo (1961), Such Darling Dodos ( 1950).

This Saga is extended into another category, namely, “de Campus”. It is represented by Malcolm Bradbury (1932-2000), and David Lodge ( 1935-).

1. **Le Roman Psychologique**: It represented through:

* Elizabeth Bowen ( 1899-1980); The Hotel ( 1927).
* Barbara Pym ( 1913-1980); Excellent Women ( 1952), A Few Green Leaves ( 1980).
* Margaret Drabble ( 1939-); She explores the universe of young women confronted to the conventions of the society; The Waterfall ( 1969), The Radiant Way ( 1987).

1. **The Vice and the Moral**: Represented through:

* William Golding ( 1911-1993); Lord of the Flies (1954), Pincher Martin ( 1959), The Spire ( 1965), Rites of Passages (1980).
* Anthony Burgess ( 1917-1993); A Clockwork Orange ( 1962), The Kingdom of the Wicked ( 1985).
* Malcolm Lawry ( 1909- 1957); Under the Volcano ( 1949).
* Will Self ( 1961-); He explores the universe of drugs, and madness..; Dorian ( 2002), Umbrella ( 2012).

1. **Satirical Novels**: Represented through:

* Jonathan Coe ( 1961-); with his social and political satires of Contemporary Great Britain; The Cotler’s Clucb (2001), The Closed Circle ( 2004).

1. **The Experimental Novel**: Displayed through:

* John Fowles ( 1926- 2005); The Collector ( 1958), The French Lieutnant Woman ( 1969).

1. **Writings of Traumatism:** The field of horror is exploited by some writers as:

* Pat Barker ( 1943); Regeneration Tritogy (1991), The Eye on the Poor (1993), The Ghoast Road ( 1995).
* D.M. Thomas ( 1995); He analyses the psychology of individuals when exposed to extreme situations; The White Hotel ( 1981), The Flute Player (1979).

1. **Autobiographic Novels**: They are represented by the Irish Edna O’ Brian ( 1932-); The Country Girl.

**William Golding ( 1911- 1993)**

Golding’s biography is taken from: www. Nobleprize.org. (2017)

William Golding was born in Cornwall in 1911 and was educated at Marlborough Grammar School and at Brasenose College, Oxford. Apart from writing, his past and present occupations include being a schoolmaster, a lecturer, an actor, a sailor and a musician. His father was a schoolmaster and his mother was a suffragette. He was brought up to be a scientist, but revolted. After two years at Oxford he read English literature instead, and became devoted to Anglo- Saxon. He spent five years at Oxford. He published a volume of poems in 1935. He taught at Bishop Wordsworth’s School, Salisbury. He joined the Royal Navy in 1940 and spent six years afloat, except for seven months in New York and six months helping Lord Cherwelt at the Navel Research Establishment. He saw action against battleships, submarines and aircrafts. He finished as a Lieutenant in Command of a rocket ship. After the war, he returned to teaching and began to write again. Lord of the Flies, his first book, was published in 1953. ( www. Nobleprize.org. 2017).

His other works include: ( from: <http://en.wikipedia.org>, 2017).

1. **Poetry**: Poems ( 1934).
2. **Drama**: The Brass Butterflies ( 1958).
3. **Novels**:

* The Inheritors ( 1955).
* Pincher Martin( 1956).
* Free Fall (1959).
* The Spire ( 1964).
* The Pyramid ( 1967).
* The Scorpion God ( 1971).
* Darkness Visible (1979).
* The Paper Men ( 1984).
* To the Ends of the Earth ( Trilogy, 1980, 1987, 1989).
* The Double Tongue ( 1995).

1. **Short Stories**: Envoy Extraordinary ( 1956), The Scorpion God ( 1971), Clonk Clonk ( 1971).
2. **Non-fiction**

* The Hot Gates ( 1965)
* A Moving Target ( 1982).
* An Egyptian Journal ( 1985).

A major theme in Golding’s fiction is that man is savage at heart, always reverting back to an evil and primitive nature ( mural.uv.es).

Golding was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1983. ( www.nobelprize.org,2017).

**References**

-Elizabeth Angel Perez (2013). Histoire de la Litérature Anglaise. 2eme édition. Hachette.

- [www.nobelprize.org,2017](http://www.nobelprize.org,2017).

- mural.uv.es, 2017.

- http://en.wikipedia.org, 2017.