**REALISM**

**Realism from Britannica Online:**

“Realism rejects imaginative idealization in  
favor of a close observation of outward appearances.”

“Realism…usually stemmed  
either from artists’ desire to present more honest, searching, and  
unidealized views of everyday life or from their attempts to use art  
as a vehicle for social and political criticism.”

“Realism’s emphasis on detachment, objectivity, and  
accurate observation, its lucid but restrained criticism of social  
environment and mores, and the humane understanding that underlay its  
moral judgments…”

**Realism from Webster:**

concern for fact or reality and rejection of the impractical and visionary

(a) a doctrine that universals exist outside the mind; specifically : the conception that an abstract term names an independent and unitary reality

(b) the conception that objects of sense perception or cognition exist independently of the mind — compare Nominalism

fidelity in art and literature to nature or to real life and to accurate representation without idealization

**Romanticism**

**Britanica Online defines Romanticism as:**

“Romanticism emphasized the individual, the subjective, the irrational,  
the imaginative, the personal, the spontaneous, the emotional, the  
visionary, and the transcendental.”

“was marked by emphasis on originality and  
individuality, personal emotional expression, and freedom and  
experimentation of form.”

**Webster defines Romanticism as:**

consisting of or resembling a romance   
having no basis in fact : IMAGINARY

impractical in conception or plan : VISIONARY

(a) marked by the imaginative or emotional appeal of what is heroic, adventurous,  
remote, mysterious, or idealized

(b) often capitalized of, relating to, or having the characteristics of romanticism

(c) of or relating to music of the 19th century  
characterized by an emphasis on subjective emotional qualities and freedom of form;  
also of or relating to a composer of this music   
a : having an inclination for romance : responsive to the appeal of what is idealized,  
heroic, or adventurous”