

Notes

Novels, Society and History

IMPORTANT TERMS AND CONCEPTS

1. **Commonality.** Sharing of an attribute, common features.
2. **Serialised Novel.** A novel whose story is published in instalments in a magazine or a journal.
3. **Epic.** A long poem narrating adventures or achievements of a heroic figure or a nation.
4. **Nostalgia.** Having a feeling of home sickness—sentimental yearning of the past.
5. **Novel.** A novel is a modern form of literature. These are in printed form of a book narrating stories.
6. **Manuscript.** Author's copy; document written by hand.
7. **Gentlemanly Classes.** Class of well-bred people. People of good social position and wealth.
8. **Ballads.** A poem or song narrating a story in short stanzas.
9. **Epistolary Novels.** Novels written in the form of series of letters.
10. **Grain Merchant.** A merchant or trader who deals in grain.
11. **Vernacular.** The language spoken by common people.
12. **Hypocrisy.** Insincerity.
13. **Colonialism.** Policy of acquiring or maintaining colonies.
14. **Slave Trader.** A trader who buys and sells slaves.
15. **Native.** Original inhabitant; indigenous.
16. **Primitive.** Ancient; at an early stage of civilisation.
17. **Barbaric.** Primitive; savage.

18. **Domestic Novels.** Novels that depict the inner world of domestic life in contemporary setting, deal with social problem and romantic relationship between men and women.
19. **Historical Novels.** Novels based on historical events.
20. **Kabirlarai.** A Bengali word meaning extempore poetry contests.
21. **Bhadralok.** A Bengali word meaning a gentle man.
22. **Jatra.** Dramatic performance in open theatres. Very popular in rural society of Bengal.
23. **Colloquial.** Belonging to ordinary or familiar conversation; ordinary spoken language, not formal or literary.
24. **Meyeli.** Language associated with women's speech.
25. **Pen-name.** Fictitious name used by an author only for the purpose of writing without exposing one's identity.
26. **Satire.** It is form of representation through writing, drawing, painting etc. which provides a criticism of society in manner that is witty and clever.
27. **Fantasy.** Fanciful composition or writing involving imaginary characters, etc.
28. **Autobiographical Pieces.** Pieces of literature written by an author to narrate the story of his/her own life.
29. **Mallow.** A community of fisher folk who live off fishing.
30. **Protagonist.** Chief person or character in the plot of story. Main character of a novel or a book.