




## Tess of the d'Urbervilles: (a) Style

 refers to links on [www.crossref-it.info](http://www.crossref-it.info)

- ❖ **Lesson focus:** To examine Hardy's style in the novel.
- ❖ **Opening exercise:** Each student chooses a writer that s/he knows well
  - It might be a good idea to warn students in the previous lesson, and ask them to bring in examples of their chosen writer's work
  - The quality or type does not matter (for example, some sports writers or columnists would work well)
  - Each student should identify two characteristics of their writer's style
    - Try to comment on how well these stylistic features work for the reader
  - Discuss style generally
    - Some students might be able to identify aspects of their own style.
- ❖ **Discussion ideas:** Write the following words on the board (or write them on cards to distribute)
  - Wordy / romantic / realistic / awkward / intense / poetic / visual / formal / simple / humorous / difficult / symbolic / inconsistent
    - 'Vote' on which students think apply to Hardy's style (you could allow 'yes', 'no', or 'sometimes' as responses)
  - Discuss responses, including differences of opinion.
- ❖ **Textual examination:** Look together at Chapter 2
  - Identify as many stylistic features as you can
  - Look, for example, for:
    - Direct, straightforward language
    - Rhythmic sentences
    - Visual description
    - Use of colour
    - Other senses as well as sight
    - Dialogue including dialect
    - Technical terms
    - 'Learned' vocabulary
    - Similes
  -  Narrative in *Tess of the d'Urbervilles* > Style in *Tess of the d'Urbervilles*
  -  Narrative in *Tess of the d'Urbervilles* > Nature as sympathetic or indifferent > Hardy's use of Nature
  -  Imagery and symbolism in *Tess of the d'Urbervilles* > Colour symbolism in *Tess*
  - Also look at the example of style in Chapter 5  Imagery and symbolism in *Tess of the d'Urbervilles* > Hardy's use of imagery in *Tess*.
- ❖ **Recreative task:** Write an account of a day (or part of a day) in your life, in the style of Thomas Hardy
  - Try to include as many of his stylistic features as possible.
- ❖ **Critical task:** Write a commentary on Hardy's style in the passage in Chapter 19 beginning, 'It was a typical summer evening in June...' and ending, '...to pry into each others' history.'
  -  Imagery and symbolism in *Tess of the d'Urbervilles* > Hardy's use of imagery in *Tess*
- ❖ **Extension task:** Examine two or three of Hardy's poems
  - Compare the style and language of Hardy's poetry with that of his prose in this novel.