High &rew: expert audience and sophisticated readers.
Mid &rew: middle class of people (in the Victorian age, Defoe targeted this class)
Low &rew: semi-literate people and not very educated, so from time to time the writings of the authors was targeted to them.
The audiences are very important because writers wrote according to the taste of the readers.

Although a Victorian...

5. Pessimism and stoicism: Thomas Hardy was very pessimistic in his writing, as well as Housman who wrote very pessimistic poetry. W.E. Henley, Robert Louis Stevenson and R. Kipling in Jungle Book show traces of stoicism.

6. Criticism of the Victorian system of values: this criticism started very early. E.g. Lytton Strachey: Eminent Victorians 1918; Samuel Butler: The Way of All Flesh (harshest attack of Victorian values such as religion, society, community)

7. Position of women in Victorian society: Women in Victorian society were occupied with their social status which was equal to their marital status. At one time, it was very important and women were supposed only to run the house; they had to follow some special codes of behavior, and this was a huge burden for woman who wanted to get married. They were not allowed admission to universities, they were supposed to be well-read and they could work only as governesses.

In the period of modernism, there was an improvement of their position with a piece of legislation called The Married Women's Property Act in 1882. This act allowed women to inherit property and this was a turning point for their position in the society. However, they were not allowed to vote until 1918.

There were several feminists during that period and one of them is Virginia Woolf. She was criticized by the society because she was a writer and she did not have enough money and place to live and exercise her talents. She belongs to the high-modernists and she said that the writer is a writer no matter he is a man or a woman. E.g. in Mrs. Dalloway she presented a passionate kiss between two women, and this could not be seen in Victorian fiction.

8. Colonialism/imperialism: the late Victorian period is known as the peak of the British imperialism and colonialism. (The Boer Wars 1899-1902). After this period, British imperialism starts to decline and many intellectuals are speaking against imperialism and colonialism. During the first half of the 20th century, there is downfall of British imperial domination in the world because of the Association of the British Commonwealth—self-governed countries who pay an amount of money to the British and they are allied to