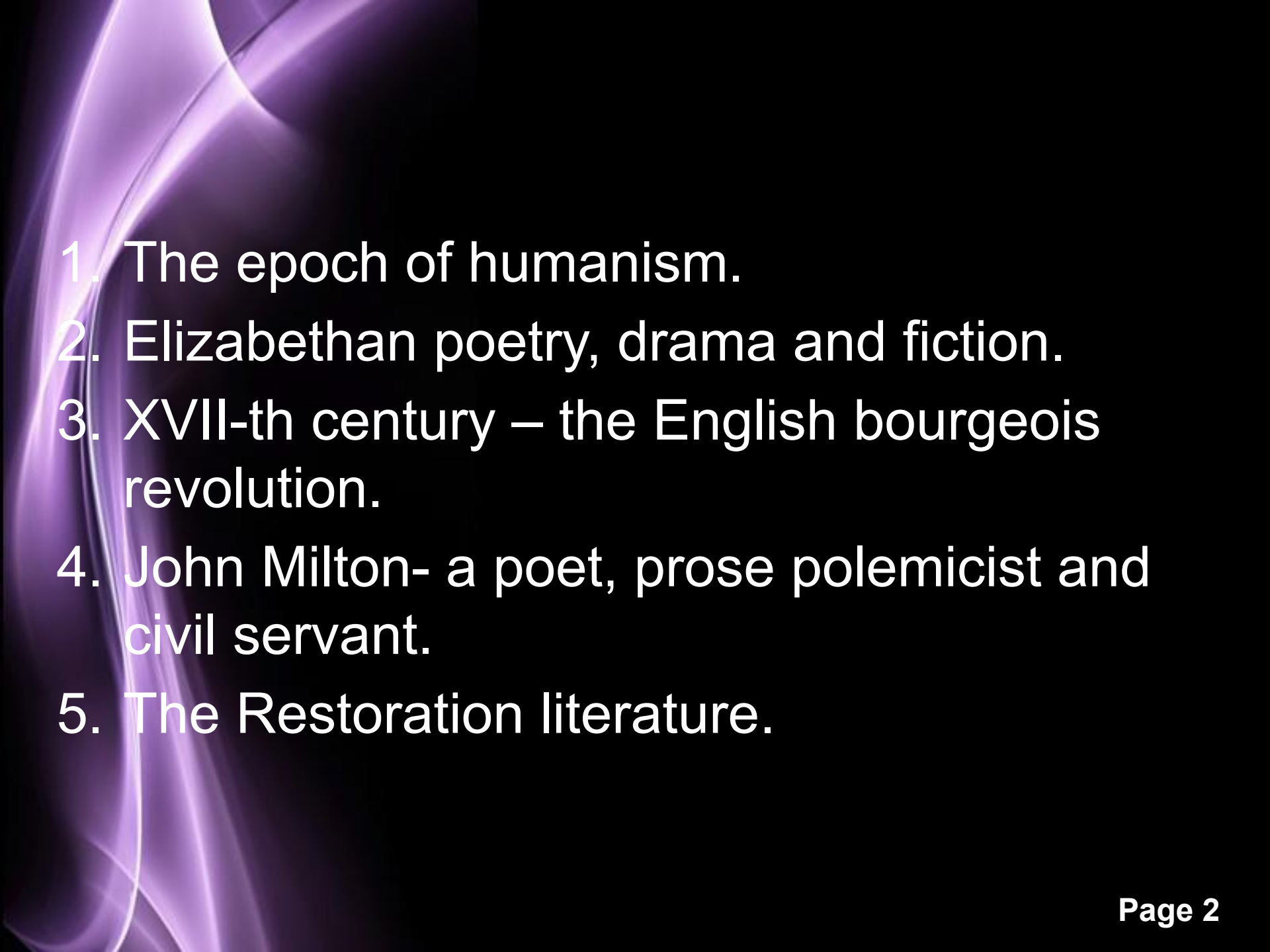


The background of the slide features abstract, flowing lines in shades of purple and white against a black background. These lines create a sense of movement and depth, with some areas appearing more luminous than others.

## *Lecture 2*

# The Renaissance and Restoration

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1. The epoch of humanism.
  2. Elizabethan poetry, drama and fiction.
  3. XVII-th century – the English bourgeois revolution.
  4. John Milton- a poet, prose polemicist and civil servant.
  5. The Restoration literature.

# 1. The Renaissance

- The moral dogmas of church – neglected;
- The human being – of a great interest;
- The mind of the human being – free; new concepts;
- The lack of knowledge – the real data + poetic fantasies.

# Historical background

- 16<sup>th</sup> century – the Renaissance period;
- 1485-1603 – the royal House of Tudor;
- Queen Elizabeth I - 1558-1603;
- The brilliant literary output of the Elizabethan Age;
- 1476 – William Caxton – the first printing press in England;
- More books – at a far lower cost;
- Literacy increased – the desire to read;

# Historical background

- The 1500s – English scholars + European scholars – rediscovered the cultures of ancient Greece and Rome;
- New literary forms: the essay –France, the sonnet - Italy;
- 1588 – the English fleet defeated the mighty Spanish Armada;
- Distant lands – explored and colonized;
- London – a great commercial and cultural center.

# Literacy

- Francis Bacon – the founder of materialism and experimenting science;
- The early Renaissance – Thomas More – coined the word “utopia” – “the Utopian alphabet” – an early attempt at cryptography;
- Edmund Spenser – the allegorical representation of the Tudor Dynasty – “Faerie Queene”;
- John Milton – the retelling of mankind’s fall from paradise – “Paradise Lost”

# Literacy

- Christopher Marlowe and William Shakespeare – composed theatrical representations;
- Sonnets – madrigals (songs for several singers without musical instruments);
- Thomas Morley – collections in the Italian manner with a unique Englishness



## 2. Poetry

- The lyric – Thomas Campion, “Books of Airs”
- A short poem with a poet’s personal emotions
- Narrative poetry – William Shakespeare, “Venus and Adonis” and Edmund Spenser, “The Faerie Queene”



## 2. Poetry

- The sonnet – Sir Thomas Wyatt introduced the sonnet; The Earl of Surrey modified the form from Petrarka's ababcdcdcdcedce to ababcdcdefefgg; white verse
- A 14-line poem;
- Italian sonnet and English sonnet – different arrangement of the rhymes

# Sonnet

- William Shakespeare and Edmund Spenser – sonnet sequences – sonnets to ‘a dark lady’; “Amoretti”
- Philip Sidney – a master of sonnet; a cycle “Astrophil and Stella”; “The Countess of Pembroke’s Arcadia” (W. Shakespeare—for “King Lear”) - the Greek model

# Drama

- 1575 – James Burbage – first playhouse, “The Theatre”;
- Thomas Kyd – “The Spanish Tragedy”;
- The “University Wits” – Christopher Marlowe, George Peele, Robert Greene, Thomas Nashe;
- Benjamin Johnson – creator of comedy of manners – the satire of daily life with one feature pointed out;

# Drama

- John Lyly – popularized a highly artificial and elegant style - “The Anatomy of Wit”;
- Pastorals – stories about the romantic adventures of shepherds - Th. Sydney and J. Lyly;
- 1599 - “Globe Theatre”- built by actors for actors - “Julius Caesar”

# William Shakespeare (1564-1616)

- “The Bard of Avon”;
- 4 periods: comedies-tragedies- tragedies – tragicomedies (romances);
- 154 sonnets; two contrasting series – ‘the dark lady’ and ‘the fair youth’;

# William Shakespeare (1564-1616)

- Elaborate metaphors, rhetoric language;
- Standard poetic form – blank verse –  
unrhymed verse with 10 syllables to a line,  
stress on every second syllable;  
composed in iambic pentameter

### 3. XVII-th century – the time of contradictions between classes

- 1603- King James I of England – the House of Stuart;
- 1625- Charles I ascended to the throne – conflicts between the monarchy and Parliament;
- 1642 – Civil War broke out – Cavaliers (the King's followers) and Puritans (Parliament's supporters)



# Literature during the Stuart period

- Metaphysical poets – John Donne, Abraham Cowley, George Herbert, Andrew Marvell – intellect rather than emotions; wit, subtle argumentations; unusual similes and metaphors;
- Cavalier poets – Thomas Carew, Robert Herrick, Richard Lovelace, Sir John Suckling – dashing love poetry;

# Literature during the Stuart period

- Jacobean drama – violent actions and revenge themes – John Webster’s “The Duchess of Malfi”; satirical comedies;
- The quality of drama – declined;
- 1642 – closing of theatres (for 18 years)

# 4. John Milton (1608-1674)

- Poetry and prose – the reflection of deep religious convictions, reacting to contemporary circumstances;
- Epic poem “Paradise Lost” – its sequel “Paradise Regained”;
- The eloquent treatise “Areopagitica”( used during the drafting of Constitution of the USA);
- The influence of Milton’s poetry on the Romantic era (W. Wordsworth, Mary Shelley’ “Frankenstein”);
- Coined many words- dreary, self-esteem, jubilant, acclaim, etc.;
- 1928 – The John Milton Society for the Blind

## 5. The Restoration period (1660-1700)

- A strong reaction against a strict moral code of the Puritans – reflection of relaxed morality in works;
- John Dryden – “Marriage a la Mode” – a comedy, “All for Love” – a tragedy;
- Dryden’s literal criticism – a brilliant analysis of W. Shakespeare’s works

## 5. The Restoration period (1660-1700)

- Theatres – reopened;
- Two types of plays – *the comedy of manners* – witty, cynical (William Wycherley's "The Country Wife", William Congreve's "The Way of the World"); *the heroic tragedy* – a conflict between love and honour; a heroic couplet – a verse form of two rhymed lines of 10 syllables each -J. Dryden;
- Aphra Behn – the first woman playwright;
- John Bunyan – a prose writer, "The Pilgrim's Progress", a popular Christian allegory