Causes of the Rise of Neo-Classical Criticism There are various causes that led to the rise of Neo-Classical criticism in the second half of the 17th century.The principle of follow nature (Nature is the manifestation in the visible creation of the Order and Reason behind all things, a reflection of the medieval view that the likeness of God is imprinted in the very matter and organization of the universe).Their extravagant hyperboles, far-fetched and violent similes and metaphors, and 'conceits' elaborated to a fantastic extent, prepared the ground for neo-classicism with its emphasis on 'correctness', and 'decorum'.The rise of the scientific spirit and the new philosophy with their emphasis on rationalism, reason, clarity and simplicity in thought and expression, and the avoidance of all that was extravagant.The excesses of the Metaphysicals-the followers of John Donne- naturally led to a revolt in favor of order, balance and sanity in literature.Neoclassical critics emphasized that literature should be characterized by order, accuracy, and restraint.Characteristics of Neo-Classical Criticism 1.Correctness,reason,goodsenseareemphasized.Decorum(differenttypesofpoetryhavedifferentstyles).1.2. .3.4.2.3.4.5.6.7.8.9.10

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